

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF THE PASSTHROUGH
APPLICATION OF DOMINION ENERGY
UTAH FOR AN ADJUSTMENT IN RATES
AND CHARGES FOR NATURAL GAS
SERVICE IN UTAH

Docket No. 17-057-20

**REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM F. SCHWARZENBACH III
FOR DOMINION ENERGY UTAH**

May 9, 2018

DEU Exhibit 3.0R

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is William Frederick Schwarzenbach III. My business address is 333 South State
3 Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

4 **Q. Are you the same William Frederick Schwarzenbach III that filed direct testimony in**
5 **this docket?**

6 A. Yes.

7 **Q. Attached to your testimony are DEU Exhibits 3.10 through 3.12. Were these prepared**
8 **by you or under your direction?**

9 A. Yes.

10 **Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony in this Docket?**

11 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to rebut the direct testimony of Mr. Wheelwright,
12 Mr. Orton, and Mr. Lubow. I also show that Dominion Energy Utah (DEU or the Company)
13 contracts for Firm Peaking Services with Kern River Gas Transmission (KRGH) and
14 Dominion Energy Questar Pipeline (DEQP) are necessary, and that the Company's decision
15 to contract for such services was prudent.

16 **Q. Mr. Wheelwright states that he has "general concerns with the application" and**
17 **specifically cites a concern regarding DEU Exhibit 3.4. In lines 53-55 of his testimony**
18 **he states: "While this exhibit is intended to support the need for peak hour service, the**
19 **footnote on this exhibit states 'volumes depicted are approximate and are for**
20 **illustrative purposes only'." Did the Company provide an updated version of this**
21 **exhibit to the Division during the discovery process?**

22 A. Yes. Originally, the footnote was included because some of the data in DEU Exhibit 3.4
23 included estimates. The Company provided updated information to the Division in response
24 to a data request. The update did not include estimates. The Data Request response with the
25 updated information is attached as DEU Exhibit 3.10.

26 Mr. DiPalma included this updated response in his testimony as Chart DPU-FTD-1 and
27 confirms the Company's position. He notes on Lines 530-533 of his testimony that, "as the
28 load on DEU's system has increased, the actual hourly deliveries have started to exceed the
29 RDC even though the daily deliveries do not. Any deliveries that exceed the RDC are
30 subject to pipeline operational capacity availability and are not available on a firm basis."

31 **Q. Mr. Wheelwright also states in lines 73-76 that, "In prior years, Dominion Energy**
32 **Questar Pipeline (DEQP) has allowed the Company to draw the additional gas during**
33 **peak hours without a formal contract agreement but will no longer provide this service**
34 **on a firm basis." Do you agree with this?**

35 **A.** No. Mr. Wheelwright does not distinguish between firm and interruptible service when he
36 makes this statement. The additional gas available during peak hours in the past was
37 provided on an "operationally available" basis and not on a firm basis. The analysis work
38 done as part of the Joint Operating Agreement process between DEU and DEQP shows that
39 the capacity availability is no longer adequate to meet the peak hour demands of the DEUWI
40 system without the additional services included as part of the Firm Peaking Service.

41 **Q. In lines 276-288 of his testimony, Mr. Lubow argues that DEU is not required to flow**
42 **on a ratable basis from DEQP's system. Do you agree?**

43 **A.** Yes. However, this argument misses the point. Any flows above the RDC will not be
44 provided on a firm basis. Because the Company must provide its customers with reliable
45 firm service, it cannot plan to have insufficient gas during the peak hour.

46 **Q. On lines 90-92 of his testimony, Mr. Wheelwright states: "[T]he Company should have**
47 **purchased additional firm transportation capacity instead of peak hour contracts."**
48 **Would this have been the most cost-effective solution?**

49 **A.** No. Purchasing additional firm transportation capacity would be a far more expensive
50 solution. The combined annual cost of the Firm Peaking Services (DEQP and KRGT) for
51 2017-2018 was \$2,220,908. These services provided over 350,000 Dth/day of transportation
52 service over the peak hours. As shown in DEU Exhibit 3.8, the estimated cost for equivalent

53 Firm Transportation service would have been between approximately \$20 million and \$30
54 million per year. The Firm Peaking Service contracts provide the firm upstream capacity
55 when it is needed, at the lowest cost.

56 **Q. On lines 95-132 of his testimony, Mr. Wheelwright states that he has concerns**
57 **regarding the way the Company is modeling the Lake Side Generation Facility and**
58 **implies that the facility will burn more than its contract amount during peak hours of a**
59 **peak day. Are these concerns well founded?**

60 A. No. While the actual daily usage may not match the usage limit on Lake Side's contract, the
61 Company is still obligated to meet the contractual requirements. The Company should not
62 rely on a belief that Lake Side will burn less than that contract requirement during a peak
63 hour. The Company must be prepared to serve the Lake Side power plant, up to the amount
64 stated in the contract, even during a peak hour.

65 **Q. Mr. Wheelwright states on lines 196-198 of his testimony: “[T]he Company currently**
66 **has no-notice transportation service in place for 203,542 Dth. It is not clear to the**
67 **Division why both contracts are necessary or if the amount of no-notice transportation**
68 **is still appropriate with peak hour service”. Can you clarify the difference between No**
69 **Notice Transportation (NNT) and Firm Peaking Services?**

70 A. Yes. It may be helpful to discuss this question in terms of daily gas flow vs. hourly gas flow.
71 NNT allows the Company to deliver above or below the amount of gas it has nominated (and
72 confirmed by the pipeline) on a *daily* basis by up to 203,542 Dth. This basically eliminates a
73 nomination imbalance at the end of each day.

74 The Firm Peaking Service, on the other hand, addresses gas flow on an hourly basis. As I
75 discussed in my Direct Testimony, the Company is required by upstream pipelines to take the
76 gas it has nominated each day on a “ratable basis,” or at an even flow throughout the day. In
77 reality, our customers do not use gas evenly throughout the day, as I demonstrate in DEU
78 Exhibit 3.5. As you can see in that exhibit, there is a morning peak when customers wake
79 up, furnaces turn on, and customers take showers. There is a second peak in the evening,

80 when customers return from work, turn up their furnaces, cook and engage in activities at
81 home. Sometimes those hourly peaks exceed the scheduled quantity. Historically, the
82 upstream pipelines have had sufficient capacity to absorb these hourly fluctuations in flow to
83 accommodate these usage patterns. That is no longer the case.

84 The Firm Peaking Service is a service by which the upstream pipelines take whatever steps
85 they need to take to ensure that capacity is available to absorb those hourly fluctuations, and
86 continue to provide DEU with firm reliable deliveries, even when those deliveries are not
87 made on a ratable basis.

88 **Q. On lines 262-292 of his testimony, Mr. Orton states that “NNT is a firm service”, the**
89 **DEQP tariff “leaves room for misunderstandings”, and DEQP handles the gas**
90 **nominations for the Company and is not limited by the Shipper’s RDC”. Do you agree**
91 **with these statements?**

92 **A.** I agree that NNT is a firm service as long as nominations are high enough for the adjustment
93 to be made in the downward direction. The DEQP tariff is clear that NNT does not reserve
94 any capacity on the pipe above the firm upstream contract RDC.

95 I do not agree that the DEQP tariff “leaves room for misunderstandings”. This tariff has
96 been in place for many years and was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory
97 Commission (FERC). The NNT conditions of service clearly state: “Upon the request of
98 shipper, if capacity is available and if system integrity is not jeopardized, Questar will receive
99 from or deliver to a shipper a quantity of gas in excess of the RDC specified in the shipper's
100 service agreement, subject to the terms of §§ 9 and 11 of the General Terms and Conditions
101 of Part 1. The service (i) shall be available only to the extent it does not impair Questar's
102 ability to provide service under any other rate schedule (including service up to shipper's
103 RDC under this rate schedule), (ii) is interruptible, and (iii) is subject to the authorized
104 overrun charge.”

105 The fact that these conditions state that NNT “shall be available only to the extent it does not
106 impair Questar's ability to provide service under any other rate schedule” and that it “is
107 interruptible” leave no room for misunderstandings.

108 Also, while the NNT service does allow DEQP to make nomination adjustments above the
109 Company’s RDC, the conditions of the service do not allow this on a firm basis, as described
110 above. This means the nomination adjustments are only made if additional capacity is
111 available. Therefore, even on days when NNT adjustments are made to bring nominations
112 above the RDC, that was done on an interruptible basis. DEQP through the JOA process has
113 made it clear to the Company that excess capacity will likely not be available on a Design
114 Peak Day.

115 **Q. Also in regards to NNT, on Lines 294-295 of his testimony, Mr. Orton states that DEQP**
116 **has "provided more gas for DEU . . . [than] its NNT maximum". Is this true?**

117 A. No. Any volume over the NNT amount is treated as an imbalance, not NNT service.

118 **Q. In lines 135-143 of his testimony, Mr. Orton suggests that DEQP does not need to do**
119 **“anything” in order to provide Firm Peaking Service and that its “Control Room**
120 **Operations . . . will not operate any differently with or without this agreement.” Do**
121 **you agree?**

122 A. No. The Division’s own expert, Mr. DiPalma, addressed this issue and refutes Mr. Orton’s
123 statement. On lines 591-602 of his testimony, he states: “Dominion Energy Questar Pipeline
124 states that it utilizes capacity on the Overthrust Pipeline to provide its firm peaking service as
125 well as the dedicated use of injection/withdrawal capacity at the Aquifer Storage. The cost
126 for this capacity is included in the cost of Dominion Energy Questar’s Firm Peaking Service
127 contract. The pipeline company further states that without DEU’s need for Firm Peaking
128 Service, the Overthrust capacity would not have been acquired and the Aquifer Storage flows
129 would only be available when operationally available (not on a firm basis).”

130 Mr. DiPalma also points out that, “Kern River Pipeline states that it utilizes capacity in its
131 pipeline by allowing DEU to store gas through line-pack and withdraw that supply from line-

132 pack during peak hours on a firm basis. Both the Dominion Energy Questar Pipeline and
133 Kern River Pipeline interconnections with DEU are flow controlled, so the Firm Peaking
134 Service can provide for a set flow increase during peak hours.”

135 Mr. Orton himself seems to understand that DEQP must take steps in order to provide the
136 service and details some of the components of the Firm Peaking Service on lines 148 through
137 154 of his testimony. Plainly, DEQP must enter into agreements, reserve capacity on the
138 Overthrust Pipeline, and reroute the gas flow to provide the Firm Peaking Service. It is also
139 important to note that the Firm Peaking Service, and the rate to be charged for the service,
140 was approved by the FERC. It is inaccurate to suggest that DEQP can charge FERC-
141 approved rates for doing “nothing” as Mr. Orton suggests.

142 **Q. On lines 161-163 of his testimony, Mr. Orton states that he believes that the utilization**
143 **of capacity on Dominion Energy Overthrust Pipeline (Overthrust) will "make more**
144 **capacity available on DEQP's system." He then implies DEQP is planning to sell this**
145 **capacity for additional revenue. Is this true?**

146 A. No. The use of Overthrust capacity will create more capacity on the DEQP system. That
147 capacity is what DEU is contracting for as part of the Firm Peaking Service, therefore it will
148 not be available for other shippers to reserve.

149 Mr. Orton cites a presentation made on DEQP’s website on September 27, 2017. This
150 presentation is attached as DEU Exhibit 3.11. This presentation described a tariff filing
151 DEQP was making to change the procedures in how it sells firm pipeline transportation
152 services. Its previous process required DEQP to hold an e-bay style bid every month that
153 closed on the 8th to last business day. This wasn’t customer friendly, as customers could bid
154 on capacity and then be required to wait several weeks until a bid closed. This tariff filing
155 updated DEQP’s processes so it could sell firm pipeline capacity on a first come, first-served
156 basis, and also retained the ability to hold auctions if it felt that doing so was appropriate.
157 This basically matched the standard with interstate pipelines in the region in how firm
158 pipeline transport is sold. There was a FERC filing changing the tariff language and it went

159 through with no Shipper protests and went into effect December 1, 2017. This presentation
160 did not address additional available capacity because of DEU's utilization of Overthrust
161 capacity as claimed.

162 **Q. On lines 184-194 of his testimony, Mr. Orton suggests that transportation rates should**
163 **be reduced because gas will be flowing on Overthrust instead of DEQP, and Overthrust**
164 **has lower rates. Do you agree?**

165 A. No. Again, The DEUWI system is not directly connected to Overthrust. In order to get from
166 Overthrust to the DEUWI system, the gas must travel on DEQP. Even if capacity is being
167 routed on Overthrust for a portion of the path, it still must all go through the DEQP system to
168 be delivered to the DEUWI system. Ordinarily, if the gas traveled on two different interstate
169 pipelines, DEU would have to pay a transportation rate for each pipeline. This is commonly
170 referred to as "stacking rates." The rate for Firm Peaking Service includes all of the costs,
171 including the rate for capacity on Overthrust.

172 **Q. On lines 197-201 of his testimony, Mr. Orton points out that DEU "already has the**
173 **rights to and pays for" the 45 Mdt/d of aquifer withdrawal that is included as part of**
174 **the Firm Peaking Services. Is this true?**

175 A. While the Company does have rights to the withdrawal from the Aquifers, Mr. Orton is
176 missing the important fact that this right does not provide the *transportation capacity*
177 required to move the full withdrawal volumes from the Aquifers to the DEUWI system. The
178 use of the Firm Peaking Service provides additional transportation for those volumes, and
179 uses these withdrawals to increase flow to its system during the peak hours.

180 **Q. On lines 204-207 of his testimony, Mr. Orton argues that the Company already has the**
181 **ability to "pack-and-draft DEQP's system". Is this true?**

182 A. Not on a firm basis. Without the Firm Peaking Service, DEU can only pack and draft DEQP
183 system on an *interruptible* basis. The Firm Peaking Service contract makes this available on
184 a *firm* basis.

185 **Q. On lines 107-131 of his testimony, Mr. Orton discusses the Company’s use of backhaul**
186 **transportation service to meet peak-hour demand requirements. He questions the**
187 **“supply concerns” the Company has in regard to this option. Can you provide more**
188 **information on this option?**

189 A. Yes. As discussed in DEU Exhibit 3.8, the Company has a few concerns regarding this
190 option. The primary concern is supply availability. To utilize this option, the Company must
191 be able to buy a significant amount of gas supply at Goshen. While volumes are often
192 available at this point, Goshen is a key point on the path of capacity to serve Southern
193 California and Nevada. When those areas experience high demand, the availability at
194 Goshen becomes limited and prices rise dramatically. To mitigate the risk associated with
195 the availability of supplies at Goshen, the Company signed peaking supply deals for the
196 Goshen point. The high cost of gas and the demand charges for these peaking deals,
197 however, makes this option significantly more expensive than other options.

198 This option is also much riskier. As I mentioned before, supply at this point is limited when
199 demand in California and Nevada increases. Additionally, any gas flowing under this option
200 would be flowing on an interruptible basis on DEQP.

201 **Q. Mr. Lubow, on lines 120-12 of his testimony, implies that, since the provisions in Kern**
202 **River’s tariff were issued in 2010, the Company should not be concerned with meeting**
203 **these provisions. Do you agree?**

204 A. No. Like all shippers, DEU must observe and be bound by the provisions set forth in Kern
205 River’s FERC-approved Tariff. Additionally, Kern River has been issuing warnings
206 regarding meeting these provisions more frequently.

207 **Q. On lines 223-230 of his testimony, Mr. Lubow implies that, since the Company has not**
208 **had a Design Peak Day in the last 50 years, it does not need Firm Peaking Services. Is**
209 **this sound reasoning?**

210 A. No. The Company has a responsibility to provide gas on a Design Peak Day when it occurs.
211 Planning only for historical usage would not be prudent as the data show higher demand days

212 are possible. In addition to meeting the daily Design Peak Day demand, the Company must
213 also determine the amount the demand will increase during the peak hours of a Design Peak
214 Day. In order to be prudent, the Company must also plan to meet these demand increases.

215 **Q. On lines 476-481 of his testimony, Mr. Lubow also states that, in his experience, "LDCs**
216 **generally rely upon upstream pipelines to continue to provide service, whether they are**
217 **contractually obligated to do so or not". Is this approach prudent?**

218 A. No. Simply relying on upstream pipelines to provide sufficient firm service during a peak
219 hour is not reasonable, particularly when those pipelines are warning the Company *not to*
220 *engage in that very practice.*

221 **Q. On Lines, 377-393 of his testimony, Mr. Lubow discusses recent options provided by**
222 **Magnum Energy and implies that they should have been considered to meet peak-hour**
223 **demand requirements. Do you agree?**

224 A. No. First, certain of the Magnum Energy proposals were not received until long after the
225 contracts for Firm Peaking Services were signed. Second, the costs presented in Magnum
226 Energy's most recent proposals are significantly higher than the cost of the Firm Peaking
227 Services.

228 **Q. On lines 406-419 of his testimony, Mr. Lubow calculates that, limiting the usage of the**
229 **13 largest customers (excluding Lake Side) would result in a reduction of 193,470 Dth**
230 **during a peak hour. Do you agree?**

231 A. No. Mr. Lubow includes interruptible demand in his calculations. These customers will be
232 interrupted on a Design Peak Day and are not included in the model. There is also no
233 guarantee that these customers will be delivering gas on the day to meet their full contractual
234 limits.

235 **Q. On lines 256-264 of his testimony Mr. Lubow states that DEU will build an LNG**
236 **facility to meet its peak-day needs going forward. Does the Company plan to build an**
237 **LNG facility to meet peak-hour demand requirements?**

238 A. No. The Company evaluated an LNG facility as an option to meet peak-hour demand but
239 determined that Firm Peaking Service contracts were a more cost effective solution. Use of
240 Firm Peaking Services in the last winter heating season has proven it to be a reliable resource
241 and they are currently available. An LNG facility would not be in service for several years.

242 **Q. Is the use of Firm Peaking Services the lowest cost option that meets the peak-hour**
243 **demand requirements?**

244 A. Yes. As shown in Proprietary DEU Exhibit 3.12, the use of Firm Peaking Services is
245 expected to be the lowest-cost option. While demand charges for the use of backhaul
246 transportation and additional purchases at Goshen are lower, the volumetric charges
247 associated with supply purchases and transportation usage on days additional supply is
248 needed would make the total cost of this option significantly higher.

249 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

250 A. Yes.

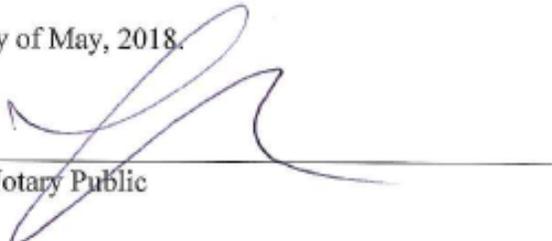
State of Utah)
) ss.
County of Salt Lake)

I, William F. Schwarzenbach III, being first duly sworn on oath, state that the answers in the foregoing written testimony are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. Except as stated in the testimony, the exhibits attached to the testimony were prepared by me or under my direction and supervision, and they are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. Any exhibits not prepared by me or under my direction and supervision are true and correct copies of the documents they purport to be.



William F. Schwarzenbach III

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO this 9th day of May, 2018.



Notary Public

