



State of Utah

Department of Commerce
Division of Public Utilities

MARGARET W. BUSSE
Executive Director

CHRIS PARKER
Director, Division of Public Utilities

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director

Artie Powell, Manager

Brenda Salter, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Jeff Einfeldt, Utility Technical Consultant

Trevor Jones, Utility Analyst

Date: May 3, 2021

Re: **Docket Nos. 17-057-20, 18-057-04, 18-057-14, 19-057-04, 19-057-18, 20-057-07, & 20-057-14**, Dominion Energy Utah 191 Pass-Through.

Recommendation (No Action Required)

The Division of Public Utilities (“Division”) proposes the following schedule for audits of Dominion Energy Utah’s (“DEU”) 191 Pass-Through Dockets referenced above. The Division’s audit of 2018 was recently completed and filed with the Commission on April 27, 2021, recommending final approval of Docket Nos. 17-057-20 and 18-057-04. The Division recently began the audit of 2019 encompassing Docket Nos. 18-057-14 and 19-057-04 and anticipates completing the audit by the end of September 2021. The Division will then commence the audit of 2020 encompassing Docket Nos. 19-057-18 and 20-057-07 and anticipates completion by December 31, 2021. Docket 20-057-14 will be subject to the 2021 audit to commence during the second quarter of 2022.

Issue

On April 7, 2021, the Public Service Commission of Utah (“Commission”) issued an Action Request seeking an update of the Division’s schedule to complete its reviews and make recommendations for setting final rates in each of the 191 Pass-Through dockets listed above. The Division’s response is due by May 7, 2021. This memorandum represents the Division’s response.

Discussion

The Division recently completed the Pass-Through audit for the 2018 year and filed the report and accompanying exhibits with the Commission on April 27, 2021. Based on its audit, the Division recommended the Commission make the interim rates final in Docket Nos. 17-057-20 and 18-057-04.

During the 2018 audit, the Division dealt with a number of unique complexities including a conversion of DEU accounting data to a new accounting software related to the merger of Questar Gas with Dominion Energy. This conversion affected the mapping and reporting of related 191 accounts and also affected the referencing and interfacing of the underlying accounts with the Division’s internal models previously developed to aid in an efficient audit. The Division also experienced some significant personnel turnover directly related to the 191 audit process, and the COVID 19 pandemic injected certain complexities regarding communication and availability between DEU and the Division.

The Division believes a number of these complexities have been resolved or mitigated going forward, and believes the audits going forward will be more streamlined, allowing the Division to become current in its 191 Pass-through Audits by the end of 2021.

The Division has commenced the audit process for 2019 comprising Docket Nos. 18-057-14 and 19-057-04 and anticipates completion of its audit package by the end of September 2021.

The Division anticipates beginning the audit of the 2020 Pass-Through upon the substantial completion of the 2019 audit in September and anticipates completion of the 2020 audit by the end of the year 2021. The 2020 audit will comprise Docket Nos. 19-057-18 and 20-057-07.

The Division anticipates commencing the audit of the 2021 Pass-Through during the second quarter of 2022 which will include Docket No. 20-057-14 and the first related docket filed in 2021.

Conclusion

The Division recently filed its audit results and accompanying documents for 2018 and recommended acceptance of interim rates as final. The Division anticipates completion of the 2019 and 2020 191 Pass-Through audits by the end of 2021, bringing the audit schedule current. The Division recommends the Commission take no further action regarding this supplemental action request.

Cc: Kelly Mendenhall, Dominion Energy Utah
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services