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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of Consumer Services

MICHELE BECK
Director

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Office of Consumer Services
Michele Beck, Director
Cheryl Murray, Utility Analyst

Date: January 9, 2019

Subject: Office of Consumer Services Comments:
Docket No. 18-057-02 - Dominion Energy Utah's Energy Efficiency Reports, 2018

Docket No. 17-057-22 - Dominion Energy Utah's Application for Approval of the 2018 Year Budget for Energy Efficiency Programs and Market Transformation Initiative.

Background

On December 11, 2018, Dominion Energy Utah (Company) filed with the Public Service Commission of Utah (Commission) a report on Energy Efficiency expenditures and decatherm (Dth) savings to date (Report). The Report was filed pursuant to the Commission's order in Docket No. 05-057-T01, issued on January 16, 2007. On December 12, 2018, the Commission issued a Notice of Filing and Comment Period for the Report establishing January 10, 2019 and January 25, 2019 as the dates by which interested parties may submit comments and reply comments, respectively. Accordingly, the Office of Consumer Services (Office) submits the following comments.

Discussion

As noted above the Report is filed pursuant to the Commission's order in Docket No. 05-057-T01, specifically, paragraph 4 which reads:

Questar¹ shall report to the Commission when the amount spent for any program reaches ninety percent of the budgeted amount, with an estimate of the projected spending needed for the remainder of the year. To the extent the projected spending exceeds the original budgeted amount Questar must seek Commission approval for the higher projected levels of spending.

¹ Questar is now Dominion Energy Utah.

The Company reports that “in the month of September 2018 actual spending for the Builder Program reached ninety-six percent (96.9%) of the 2018 budget,” whereas in September the Builder Program was at eighty-four percent of the 2018 budget. (Report at page 1)

The Company explains that the Builder Program increases were driven by higher than anticipated customer participation in the 95% efficient furnace for both single and multi-family measures is higher than anticipated as well as higher-than-projected customer participation in the R-5 Wall measure for single family dwellings.

Attachment 1 to the Report, reproduced below, provides a list of approved Programs including actual and forecast expenditures as of September 30, 2018.

**Dominion Energy Utah
ThermWise® Programs
Actual and Forecast Expenditures
As of September 30, 2018**

| Program | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | (E) | (F) |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|-------------------|------------|
| | Year-to-Date August 2018 | September 2018 Results | Year-End 2018 Forecast | YTD as of September 30, 2018 plus Forecast | | |
| | Actual | September Expenditures | Forecast | TOTAL | | |
| | Actual plus Forecast | Budget | % of Budget | | | |
| ThermWise® Appliance Program | 3,556,987 | 283,356 | 1,580,115 | 5,420,458 | 5,431,650 | 100% |
| ThermWise® Builder Program | 3,854,387 | 561,680 | 1,372,022 | 5,788,089 | 4,559,088 | 127% |
| ThermWise® Business Program | 1,219,890 | 270,244 | 996,711 | 2,486,845 | 3,564,234 | 70% |
| ThermWise® Home Energy Plan | 276,218 | 39,514 | 105,244 | 420,976 | 685,265 | 61% |
| ThermWise® Weatherization Program | 4,663,251 | 523,249 | 1,728,833 | 6,915,333 | 7,555,172 | 92% |
| ThermWise® Energy Comparison Report | 178,349 | 138,673 | 205,674 | 522,696 | 600,000 | 87% |
| Market Transformation | 912,014 | 61,639 | 324,551 | 1,298,204 | 1,320,000 | 98% |
| Low Income Weatherization | 613,758 | 875 | 204,878 | 819,510 | 829,426 | 99% |
| TOTAL | 15,274,853 | 1,879,230 | 6,518,027 | 23,672,110 | 24,544,835 | 96% |

As shown in Attachment 1 the Company expects to be over budget in the Builder Program (127% of budget) but overall energy efficiency programs and Market Transformation Initiatives are projected to be at 96% of budget at Year-End 2018. The Company states that it will continue to closely monitor customer participation and manage spending for all ThermWise® Programs and the Market Transformation initiative.

The Company requests that the Commission approve the higher budget level for the Builder rebates program, to the extent the increased spending level needs approval.

Office Recommendations

The Office recommends that the Commission approve Dominion Energy Utah's Report as meeting the requirements of Docket 05-057-T01. The Office further recommends that the Commission approve the Company's request to increase the budget level for the ThermWise® Builder Program to cover forecast expenditures through the end of 2018.

CC. Dominion Energy Utah
Kelly Mendenhall
Jenniffer Nelson Clark

Division of Public Utilities
Chris Parker, Director