Dominion Energy Utah's Gas Line Coverage Letter DOCKET NO. 18-057-07

ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION AND TARIFF MODIFICATIONS

ISSUED: September 6, 2019

## **BACKGROUND**

On October 4, 2018, the Public Service Commission of Utah (PSC) issued a Report and Order in this docket ("Order") in which we prospectively suspended Section 8.08 of Dominion Energy Utah's (DEU) Utah Natural Gas Tariff PSCU 500 ("Tariff") for new customers. Per our Order, the suspension was to be effective unless or until the PSC revokes or modifies it.<sup>2</sup>

On August 14, 2019, after other proceedings related to this docket occurred,<sup>3</sup> DEU filed a settlement stipulation ("Stipulation") requesting the PSC reinstate the Tariff with modifications ("Modified Tariff"). DEU, the Division of Public Utilities (DPU), and the Office of Consumer Services (collectively, the "Parties") executed the Stipulation. The Modified Tariff is attached to the Stipulation. DEU requests the PSC approve the Modified Tariff pursuant to the Stipulation. The Parties agree, among other things, that the Modified Tariff is just, reasonable, and in the public interest.<sup>4</sup> Likewise, the Parties agree that the Modified Tariff is a full and final resolution of issues identified in the Stipulation.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Order at 13-14, 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See id. at 16, ¶ 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See, e.g., Proposed Rulemaking Concerning Utility/Customer Relations Regarding Third-Party Solicitations (Docket Nos. 18-R460-01, 18-057-19, and 18-035-40), and Utah Admin. Code R746-460, entitled "Rules Governing Customer Information and Marketing for Large-Scale Electric and Gas Utilities."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Stipulation at 3, ¶ 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See id. at  $\P$  7.

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On August 15, 2019, the PSC issued a notice of filing and comment period pertaining to the Stipulation. On August 29, 2019, the DPU filed comments supporting the Stipulation and Modified Tariff as a fair and reasonable resolution of issues in this docket. The DPU adds that the Modified Tariff is consistent with PSC rules; is just and reasonable in result; and in the public interest. Accordingly, the DPU recommends the PSC approve the Stipulation and Modified Tariff.

No other comments were filed, and no objection has been raised to the PSC adopting the Stipulation as just and reasonable in result.

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Settlements of matters before the PSC are encouraged at any stage of a proceeding. 6 In considering whether to adopt a settlement proposal, we must find that the settlement, as a whole, is just and reasonable in result and that the record evidence supports this finding.<sup>7</sup>

The record evidence in this docket is uncontested. The Parties agree in paragraph 6 of the Stipulation "that settlement . . . is just and reasonable in result and in the public interest." No other party intervened in this docket, and no comments were filed opposing the PSC's adoption of the Stipulation as just and reasonable in result.

Based on the record evidence before us in this docket, and the absence of opposition to our adoption of the Stipulation as proposed, we find the Stipulation is just and reasonable in result and the record supports this finding. We also conclude that the Modified Tariff is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Utah Code Ann. § 54-7-1(3)(a).

<sup>7</sup> See Utah Code Ann. § 54-7-1(3)(d)(i)(A)-(B).

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consistent with Utah Admin. Code R746-460. Accordingly, we approve the Settlement Stipulation, including the Modified Tariff, as just and reasonable, and in the public interest.

## **ORDER**

- 1. We approve the Settlement Stipulation.
- 2. We approve the Modified Tariff attached to the Settlement Stipulation, effective the date of this order.
- We direct DEU to make a compliance filing showing the effective date of the Modified Tariff as the date of this order.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, September 6, 2019.

/s/ Melanie A. Reif Presiding Officer

Approved and Confirmed September 6, 2019, as the Order of the Public Service Commission of Utah.

/s/ Thad LeVar, Chair

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ Jordan A. White, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg PSC Secretary DW#309947

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# Notice of Opportunity for Agency Review or Rehearing

Pursuant to §§ 63G-4-301 and 54-7-15 of the Utah Code, an aggrieved party may request agency review or rehearing of this written Order by filing a written request with the PSC within 30 days after the issuance of this Order. Responses to a request for agency review or rehearing must be filed within 15 days of the filing of the request for review or rehearing. If the PSC does not grant a request for review or rehearing within 20 days after the filing of the request, it is deemed denied. Judicial review of the PSC's final agency action may be obtained by filing a petition for review with the Utah Supreme Court within 30 days after final agency action. Any petition for review must comply with the requirements of §§ 63G-4-401 and 63G-4-403 of the Utah Code and Utah Rules of Appellate Procedure.

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### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on September 6, 2019, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the following as indicated below:

## By Electronic-Mail:

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