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## UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Division of Public Utilities

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## Action Request Response

**To:** Public Service Commission of Utah

**From:** Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director  
Brenda Salter, Assistant Director  
Doug Wheelwright, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor  
Eric Orton, Utility Technical Consultant  
Jeff Einfeldt, Utility Technical Consultant

**Date:** July 20, 2023

**Re:** **Docket No. 19-057-T04**, Dominion Energy Utah's GreenTherm Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2022: Application of Dominion Energy Utah for the Creation of a Voluntary Renewable Natural Gas Program.

## Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities ("Division") reviewed Dominion Energy Utah's ("DEU" or "Company") GreenTherm Annual Report ("Report") for the year ending December 31, 2022, and determined it contains the required information listed in the Order issued on July 30, 2019 ("Order"). Therefore, the Division recommends the Public Service Commission of Utah ("Commission") acknowledge the Report.

## Background

DEU submitted its original application on March 29, 2019, seeking to create the GreenTherm program which would allow ratepayers the opportunity to purchase Renewable Natural Gas ("RNG") credits. The Division was initially opposed to the GreenTherm program but supported a settlement agreement after working with DEU and other parties. As part of the agreement, DEU agreed to file annual reports describing the status of the GreenTherm program.

Division of Public Utilities

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DEU filed its third annual report of the GreenTherm program with the Commission on June 30, 2023, for the year ending December 2022. On June 30, 2023, the Commission issued an Action Request directing the Division to evaluate the Report for tariff compliance, with a due date of July 31, 2023. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.

## **Discussion**

The Order approving the Settlement Stipulation was issued on July 30, 2019. As part of that Order, DEU was required to: "...report annually to the Commission about the GreenTherm program. The Company's annual report to the Commission will contain details about the number of participating customers, the amount of RNG purchased, the number of RNG blocks sold, the total customer contributions, and program expenses. The Company will also provide program participants with a link to the Company's annual report to the Commission." The Report contains the required update on renewable natural gas verification standards, results of the Company's annual internal audit, and program marketing materials.

The Division reviewed the Report and compared it to the appropriate tariff section, the Settlement Stipulation, and the Order and determined that the GreenTherm Report is compliant. The number of participants and customer activity is similar to the prior year with only a slight increase in participants. The increase in program expense relates primarily to the purchase of RNG green attributes that are, in turn, sold by DEU to GreenTherm participants. The GreenTherm program has 255,500 green attribute blocks as of the end of 2022, sufficient to supply participant purchases at the current activity rate for just under four years. The Program will be able to meet its identified costs with the revenues collected from participants going forward, even after taking into account the remaining attribute inventory at year-end.

The Order also directed DEU to "provide GreenTherm program participants a link to the Company's annual report to the Commission." DEU maintains the following URL link that is available to anyone: <https://www.dominionenergy.com/utah/save-energy/greentherm>.

## **Conclusion**

The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge DEU's Report as compliant with tariff section 8.09, the Settlement Stipulation, and Commission order. This filing does not request any change in the Company's current rates.

cc: Kelly B. Mendenhall, Dominion Energy Utah  
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services