

Application of Dominion Energy Utah to Amortize the Energy Efficiency Deferred Account Balance	<u>DOCKET NO. 20-057-18</u> <u>REDACTED ORDER SETTING FINAL RATE</u>
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ISSUED: March 9, 2022

BACKGROUND

On September 30, 2020, Dominion Energy Utah (DEU) filed an application (“Application”) with the Public Service Commission of Utah (PSC) requesting approval to amortize the balance of its Energy Efficiency (EE) Account, No. 182.4. The Application proposes to decrease the energy efficiency amortization rate applicable to DEU’s General Service (GS) rate schedule from \$0.26120 to \$0.20678 per dekatherm (Dth). The Application includes all of DEU’s deferred expenses accounting records for each EE program¹ for the October 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020 period (“Review Period”) and DEU’s forecast EE account balance through December 2021.

On October 19, 2020, the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) filed comments recommending the PSC approve the Application on an interim basis, effective November 1, 2020. On October 30, 2020, the PSC issued an order approving DEU’s proposed EE amortization rate, effective November 1, 2020, on an interim basis, pending the final results of DPU’s audit of DEU’s EE Program expenditures (“EE Program Costs”).

¹ DEU is required by PSC order to file account records for all deferred expenses for each EE program. *Approval of the Conservation Enabling Tariff Adjustment Option and Accounting Orders*, Docket No. 05-057-T01, Order Approving Settlement Stipulation issued October 5, 2006.

On December 21, 2021, DPU filed the 2020 Audit Report² and on January 3, 2022, the PSC issued a notice of filing and comment period. No party filed comments by the February 2, 2022 comment deadline or the February 17, 2022 reply deadline.

The 2020 Audit Report explains that DPU's audit consisted of reviewing actual invoices and transactions for specific expenditure categories under the various energy efficiency projects identified in the Energy Efficiency Program Expenditure Report provided by DEU including: ThermWise Home Energy Plan, ThermWise Builder Rebates, ThermWise Appliance Rebates, ThermWise Business Rebates, Market Transformation, Low Income Weatherization, ThermWise Weatherization, and Energy Comparison Report³ (collectively, the "Program Categories").

DPU verified a sampling of expenditures from each of the Program Categories for a total of 24 expenditures that DEU made during the Review Period.⁴ DPU requested "documentation, invoices, and/or schedules to support the transactions reviewed"⁵ and identified two transactions about which it had additional questions.⁶ After further discussing the transactions with DEU, the 2020 Audit Report states that DEU made two adjustments that "did not have a material effect on the deferred amortization rate for 2021 effective November 1, 2020."⁷ The 2020 Audit Report also states that all other transactions reviewed appear to have been recorded correctly, and there were no customer complaints during the Review Period. [REDACTED]

² DPU's Audit of DEU's Energy Efficiency Program Expenditures. *Application of Dominion Energy Utah to Amortize the Energy Efficiency Deferred Account Balance*, Docket No. 20-057-18, Comments from the Division of Public Utilities filed December 21, 2021 (the "2020 Audit Report").

³ 2020 Audit Report, at 3.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ The transactions are confidential and can be found in the confidential version of the Audit Report.

⁷ 2020 Audit Report, at 5.

[REDACTED]

DISCUSSION, FINDINGS, AND CONCLUSIONS

The PSC finds, based on the Audit Report, that DEU recorded EE Program transactions and expenditures with reasonable accuracy and calculated the EE amortization rate correctly. Consequently, the PSC further finds that the amortization rate reasonably reflects DEU's actual EE Program Costs.

Based on the evidence, our review of the Audit Report, DPU's comments and recommendation, and in the absence of any opposition, the PSC concludes that the EE amortization rate of \$0.20678 per Dth is just and reasonable, and in the public interest.

ORDER

The Energy Efficiency amortization rate of \$0.20678 per Dth is approved as final.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, March 9, 2022.

/s/ Yvonne R. Hogle
Presiding Officer

[REDACTED]

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Approved and confirmed March 9, 2022 as the Order of the Public Service Commission of Utah.

/s/ Thad LeVar, Chair

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ Ron Allen, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
PSC Secretary
DW#322845

Notice of Opportunity for Agency Review or Rehearing

Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G-4-301 and 54-7-15, a party may seek agency review or rehearing of this order by filing a request for review or rehearing with the PSC within 30 days after the issuance of the 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 fails to grant a request for review or rehearing within 20 days after the filing of a request for review or rehearing, 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 Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G-4-401, 63G-4-403, and the Utah Rules of Appellate Procedure.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on March 9, 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was delivered upon the following as indicated below:

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