



State of 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

Artie Powell, Manager

Brenda Salter, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Shauna Benvegna-Springer, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: July 8, 2021

Re: **Docket Nos. 20-057-20 and 21-057-02**, Dominion Energy Utah's Application for Approval of the 2021 Year Budget for Energy Efficiency Programs and Market Transformation Initiative AND Dominion Energy Utah's Energy Efficiency Reports, 2021.

Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) provides these comments to the Public Service Commission (Commission) regarding Dominion Energy Utah's (DEU) Energy Efficiency report for the period ending April 30, 2021. The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge the DEU's reporting of the Market Transformation Initiative Program surpassing fifty percent (50%) of its 2021 budget of \$1.3 million.

Issue

On June 10, 2021, DEU filed with the Commission notification of the Market Transformation Initiative Program spending over fifty (50%) of its 2021 budget. The Commission issued an Action Request to the Division on June 10, 2021, requesting to review the notification for

compliance and to make any recommendations by July 9, 2021. This memorandum addresses the Commission's request.

Background

The Commission's order in Docket No. 10-057-15, Questar Gas DSM Budget for 2011, states that Questar report to the Commission when any DSM program reaches ninety (90%) of its budget, and if any DSM program reaches fifty percent (50%) of its budget before June 30 each year. DEU reported on June 10, 2021 that the Market Transformation Initiative Program had spent fifty-seven percent (57%) of its budget by the end of April 2021.

Discussion

DEU noted that at the end of the first quarter of 2021, the Market Transformation Initiative Program had expenses of \$0.57 million or forty-three percent (43%) of its 2021 budget of \$1.3 million. DEU traditionally spends the majority of costs for this program in the first and fourth quarters. This is when the marketing of the ThermWise programs is at its peak and coincides with the heating season. DEU forecasts that the Market Transformation Initiative Program will not exceed 100% of its budget. DEU has agreed to continue to monitor and manage spending for all ThermWise programs and the Market Transformation Initiative Program and provide detailed quarterly reports to the Division.

Conclusion

The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge the DEU's reporting of the Market Transformation Initiative Program surpassing fifty percent (50%) of its 2021 budget of \$1.3 million.

cc: Michael A. Orton, Dominion Energy Utah
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services