

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

Motion of Dominion Energy Utah for Approval to Deviate from Applicable Tariff Provisions and Commission Rules in Response to COVID-19	<u>DOCKET NO. 20-057-T03</u> <u>ORDER GRANTING MOTION</u>
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ISSUED: March 16, 2020

On March 16, 2020, Dominion Energy Utah (DEU) filed a Motion and Request for Expedited Treatment (“Motion”) with the Public Service Commission (PSC). In the Motion, DEU requests PSC approval to temporarily deviate from certain provisions of its Utah Natural Gas Tariff No. 500 (“Tariff”) and Utah Administrative Code R746 in response to the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”) pandemic. The basic purposes of the temporary deviations are to allow DEU to continue to provide service in circumstances that would otherwise require termination and to minimize exposure risk to its customers and employees.

According to DEU: 1) its Tariff requires the imposition of connection fees and security deposits, and subjects customers to discontinuance of service for nonpayment;¹ 2) Utah Admin. Code R746-200-3 in some circumstances requires payment of security deposits; and 3) Section 2.13 of the Tariff states DEU will offer in-house Home Energy Plans for a fee. DEU requests leave to deviate from these provisions, or any other applicable Tariff provisions or PSC rules consistent with the Motion, during the pendency of the COVID-19 state of emergency,² in order to take steps identified in the Motion to ensure the safety of its customers and employees.

DEU states it will commence the actions identified in the Motion, effective March 16, 2020, and will notify the PSC in this docket when it intends to resume its normal business

¹ See Dominion Energy Utah Natural Gas Tariff No. 500, Sections 8.03 and 9.08.

² On March 6, 2020, Utah Governor Gary Herbert declared a state of emergency in Utah related to COVID-19. Governor Herbert has encouraged those who can to work from home and has ordered schools to close.

practices. DEU states it has communicated with the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) and the Office of Consumer Services (OCS) and both agencies support the Motion.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on our review of the Motion, the exigent circumstances regarding the COVID-19 pandemic including the current state of emergency, and DEU's statement that DPU and OCS support the Motion, we find the Motion is in the public interest therefore we approve it. We also find DEU's Motion is consistent with Paragraph 10 of the Settlement Stipulation the PSC approved on December 10, 2019 in Docket No. 19-057-25.³

ORDER

Therefore:

- 1) We approve the Motion as filed, effective March 16, 2020, and
- 2) DEU shall timely notify the PSC when it intends to resume its normal business practices.

³ *Informational Filing of Dominion Energy Utah Concerning the Transponder Replacement Program and Request for a Waiver of Applicable Commission Rules* (December 10, 2019 Order Approving Settlement Stipulation); Docket No. 19-057-25.

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DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, March 16, 2020.

/s/ Thad LeVar, Chair

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ Jordan A. White, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg

PSC Secretary

DW#312551

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 written 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 16, 2020, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was delivered upon the following as indicated below:

By Email:

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