



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

Doug Wheelwright, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Bob Davis, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: October 19, 2021

Re: **Docket No. 21-057-22, Recommendation (Approval)** - Application of Dominion Energy Utah to Modify the Sustainable Transportation and Energy Plan Surcharge.

Recommendation (Approval)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) has reviewed Dominion Energy Utah's (DEU) Sustainable Transportation and Energy Plan (STEP) Surcharge modification filing. The Division's review of DEU's filing concludes that its proposed surcharge modification and tariff sheets comply with the Public Service Commission of Utah's (Commission) Order approving Docket No. 19-057-02 dated February 25, 2020. Based on its review, the Division concludes the STEP Surcharge rate change represents a reduction of \$0.02 per year for a typical GS customer and recommends the Commission approve DEU's STEP surcharge modification and tariff sheets.

Issue

On October 1, 2021, DEU filed with the Commission its STEP Surcharge Modification and Exhibits.¹ On the same day, the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division asking it to review the application and make recommendations. The Commission asked the Division to report back by November 1, 2021. On October 4, 2021, the Commission issued its Notice of Virtual Consolidated Scheduling Conference to be held on October 5, 2021, for this docket and concurrently filed Docket Nos. 21-057-17, 21-057-18, 21-057-19, 21-057-20, 21-057-21, and 21-057-23 (Concurrent Dockets) in DEU's Application.² On October 6, 2021, the Commission issued its Scheduling Order and Notice of Virtual Consolidated Hearing for the Concurrent Dockets asking for initial comments on or before October 19, 2021 and reply comments on or before October 22, 2021. The hearing is set for October 25, 2021.³

Background

The Commission's Report and Order in Docket No. 19-057-33, dated August 31, 2020, approved a Settlement Stipulation between DEU and other parties to provide funding of \$500,000 per year to the Intermountain Industrial Assessment Center (IIAC) for a two-year pilot period. The Commission determined that in light of the Signatories' agreement at hearing, that the STEP balancing account, carrying charge, and associated tariff changes, should be resolved in a future proceeding.⁴ On October 30, 2020, the Commission issued its Order in Docket No. 20-057-19, approving DEU's STEP balancing account, carrying charge, and associated tariff changes.⁵

¹ Dominion Energy of Utah Application, Docket No. 21-057-22, October 1, 2021, and Exhibits 1.1 to 1.5,

² See Commission, Notice of Virtual Consolidated Scheduling Conference, October 5, 2021, <https://pscdocs.utah.gov/gas/21docs/2105717/3205712105717,2105718,2105719,2105720,2105721,2105722,2105723.and1905702novcsc10-4-2021.pdf>.

³ See Commission, Scheduling Order and Notice of Virtual Consolidated Hearing, October 6, 2021, <https://pscdocs.utah.gov/gas/21docs/2105717/3206102105717,2105718,2105719,2105720,2105721,2105722,2105723.and1905702soanovch10-6-2021.pdf>.

⁴ See Commission's Order, Docket No. 19-057-33, August 31, 2020, page 6, <https://pscdocs.utah.gov/gas/19docs/1905733/3152031905733oass8-31-2020.pdf>.

⁵ See Commission's Order, Docket No. 20-057-19, October 30, 2020, <https://pscdocs.utah.gov/gas/20docs/2005714/3161992005714,2005715,2005716,2005717,2005718,and2005719o10-30-2020.pdf>.

The Commission's Report and Order in DEU's General Rate Case, Docket No. 19-057-02, dated February 25, 2020, approved DEU's Application to Increase Distribution Rates and Charges and Make Tariff Modifications.⁶ The Commission's Order approved a revenue increase of \$2,680,013 over three steps.⁷ This filing and DEU's Concurrent Filing represents Step three of the Commission's Order and ensuing adjustments to the STEP Surcharge.

Discussion

The Division has reviewed DEU's Application to Modify the STEP Surcharge along with Exhibits 1.01 through 1.05, corrected Exhibit 1.03C,⁸ and its Concurrent Filing. The Division concludes DEU's filing complies with the Commission's Orders to modify the STEP surcharge concurrent with the Step three Infrastructure Rate Adjustments.

Conclusion

The Division's review of DEU's filing concludes that its proposed STEP Surcharge modifications and tariff sheets are just and reasonable and in the public interest and comply with the Commission's Orders in Docket Nos. 19-057-02 and 19-057-33. Based on its review, the Division recommends the Commission approve DEU's modified surcharge and tariff sheets.

cc: Jenniffer Clark, DEU
Michele Beck, OCS

⁶ See Commission's Report and Order, Docket No. 19-057-02, February 25, 2020, <https://pscdocs.utah.gov/gas/19docs/1905702/3122301905702rao2-25-2020.pdf>.

⁷ *Id.*, pgs. 45-46, ¶ 6.

⁸ See Dominion Energy Utah Corrected Exhibit 1.03C – Effect on GS Typical Customer, October 6, 2021, <https://pscdocs.utah.gov/gas/21docs/2105722/320609DEUCrctdExh1.03CEfctGSTypclCstmr10-6-2021.pdf>.