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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
Artie Powell, Manager
Brenda Salter, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor
Shauna Benvegna-Springer, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: August 11, 2022

Re: **Docket Nos. 21-057-25 and 22-057-01** Dominion Energy Utah's Report on Demand Side Management Expenditures for the period ending June 30, 2022

Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends the Public Service Commission of Utah (Commission) acknowledge Dominion Energy Utah's (Company) report of the Market Transformation Initiative Program surpassing fifty percent (50%) of its 2022 budget of \$1.32 million.

Issue

On July 15, 2022, the Company filed with the Commission its Report on Demand Side Management (DSM) Expenditures for the period ending June 30, 2022. The Company reported spending of \$0.53 million or forty percent (40%) of the Market Transformation Initiative Program (MTI) budget by the end of April 2022. The Company reported that in May 2022, the MTI Program's year-to-date costs totaled \$0.78 million or fifty-nine percent (59%) of the 2022 program budget. On July 18, 2022, the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division requesting the reports and documentation be reviewed for compliance and to make any recommendations by August 17, 2022.

Division of Public Utilities

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Background

The Commission's Order issued in Docket No. 09-057-15, dated January 12, 2010, stated the current requirement for the Company (Questar Gas at the time) was to report to the Commission when any DSM program costs reach ninety percent (90%) of its budget, and if any DSM program costs reach fifty percent (50%) of its budget before June 30 each year, or if any DSM program costs are eighty percent (80%) of the budget by August. This memorandum addresses the Division's review and recommendations.

Discussion

The Company stated that historically, most of the costs for the MTI Program occur during the first or fourth quarters of the calendar year. January through March is the high heating season when the ThermWise programs are broadcast through Utah media. Payment of these expenses occurs in April and May. October through December is when the ThermWise production crews are producing the broadcast for the next heating season. From 2007 through 2021, the MTI Program has repeated this spending pattern. The Company has forecasted that the 2022 MTI Program costs will not exceed its budget of \$1.32 million. The Company further estimates that the ThermWise/DSM programs will not exceed the total budget of \$30.20 million.

The Division reviewed the prior years' spending. It noted that during the first quarter of 2021, the MTI Program costs were \$0.57 million or forty-three percent (43%) of the 2021 budget of \$1.32 million compared to \$0.53 million or forty percent (40%) for the first quarter of 2022. The Company has not exceeded its budget for the MTI Program over the years. The Company has agreed to continue to monitor participation and manage spending for all the ThermWise/DSM programs, along with providing detailed quarterly reports to the Division.

Conclusion

The Company has complied with the Order and reported the appropriate information as required. The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge the Company's report of the MTI Program surpassing fifty percent (50%) of its 2022 budget of \$1.32 million.

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