



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: February 3, 2022

Re: **Docket Nos. 22-057-01 and 20-057-20**, 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) report on Energy Efficiency (EE) Programs for the period ending November 30, 2021. The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge DEU's notification of the ThermWise® Weatherization Program surpassing ninety percent (90.7%) of its 2021 budget of \$7.8 million.

Issue

On January 7, 2022, DEU filed with the Commission notification that the ThermWise® Weatherization Program was spending over ninety (90%) of its 2021 budget. The Commission issued an Action Request on January 7, 2022, requesting the Division review for compliance and

make any recommendations by February 7, 2022. This memorandum addresses the Commission's request.

Background

The Commission's order in Docket No. 05-057-T01 issued on January 16, 2007, states that Questar (currently DEU) shall report to the Commission when any EE program reaches ninety (90%) of its budget along with a projected spending need for the end of the year. Should the projected spending exceed the annual budget amount, Questar must seek approval from the Commission for the estimated spending level. On January 7, 2022, DEU reported that the ThermWise® Weatherization Program had spent \$7.1 million or ninety percent (90.7%) of its budget by November 30, 2021. DEU provided a forecasted \$602,743 for December 2021, thus estimating a \$7.7 million spending level needed for its 2021 annual year.

Discussion

DEU noted that at the end of October 31, 2021, the ThermWise® Weatherization Program had expenses of \$6.3 million or eighty percent (80.4%) of its 2021 budget of \$7.8 million. DEU had good participation in Attic Insulation, Air Sealing, and R5 Window installations. These higher natural gas-saving measures equaled 70% of the Weatherization program's dekatherm savings. DEU forecasts that the ThermWise® Weatherization Program will not exceed 100% of its budget. DEU reports that all other EE programs are predicted to spend less than 100% of their annual budgets. DEU has agreed to continue monitoring and managing participation and spending for all ThermWise® programs. DEU will provide the EE program year-end report to the Commission and the Division within the first 45 days of 2022.

Conclusion

DEU complied with the Commission's order. The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge DEU's reporting of the ThermWise® Weatherization Program surpassing ninety percent (90.7%) of its 2021 budget of \$7.8 million.

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