

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

Application of Dominion Energy Utah to Increase Distribution Rates and Charges and Make Tariff Modifications	<u>DOCKET NO. 22-057-03</u>  <u>ORDER</u>
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ISSUED: June 26, 2023

**SYNOPSIS**

The Public Service Commission (PSC) grants Dominion Energy Utah's (DEU) Motion to Implement Step 2 Increase in Rates<sup>1</sup> filed in the referenced docket.

**BACKGROUND**

On December 23, 2022, the PSC issued an Order (the "GRC Order")<sup>2</sup> in this Docket authorizing a distribution non-gas rate ("DNG") revenue requirement increase of \$47,756,054 for DEU.

As applied here, the GRC Order provides:

Given the consensus, or lack of opposition, among the parties for some form of rate mitigation, the PSC finds that it is just and reasonable to provide a three-step rate mitigation process for the new transportation classes. ... We specify that the revenue requirement for the entire transportation service (TS) class will be set equal to the cost of service determined in this docket. Then full cost of service rates (COSR) will be determined for each sub class within the TS (TSS, TSM, and TSL) class. A portion of the increase for the TSL customers will be implemented on the effective date of the order. A second portion will be implemented on July 1, 2023, and the remaining portion on July 1, 2024. ...<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> DEU's filing is styled as a motion and seeks to be adjudicated by July 1, 2023, thirty days from the filing date. However, R746-301 of the Utah Administrative Code generally requires at least twenty-five days of response and reply time from the date of filing motions, resulting in the pleadings not closing until June 26, 2023. The PSC then requires a reasonable amount of time after the close of pleadings to fully resolve motions. Although the PSC is accommodating DEU's requested timing in this filing, DEU is advised to file any similar future request with the foregoing deadlines and time frames in mind.

<sup>2</sup> On January 3, 2023, the PSC also issued an Errata Order to correct two tables in the GRC Order (the "Errata Order"). For simplicity, the Errata Order and the GRC Order are collectively referred to herein as the GRC Order.

<sup>3</sup> See GRC Order at 49-50.

In accordance with the GRC Order, on June 1, 2023, DEU filed a Motion to Implement Step 2 Increase in Rates along with updates to its Utah Natural Gas Tariff No. 600, styled as “Legislative Rate Schedules”, attached as DEU Exhibit 1.01, and “Proposed Rate Schedules”, attached as DEU Exhibit 1.02 (“DEU Motion”). DEU states that the Step 2 changes reflected in the DEU Motion<sup>4</sup> modify the base DNG rates for the TBF, TSS, TSM, and TSL rate classes in accordance with the rates established in the Errata Order.<sup>5</sup>

The PSC issued an Action Request on June 1, 2023, and the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) filed comments on June 12, 2023 (“DPU Comments”). No other comments and no opposition to the DEU Motion were filed.

***DPU Comments***

DPU states it reviewed DEU’s proposed tariff modifications reflecting the approved rate changes in the GRC Order. DPU further states it compared the proposed rate changes in the DEU Motion with those approved in the GRC Order and found no differences. Finally, DPU notes that DEU omitted a statement to satisfy Utah Administrative Code R746-405-2(D)(3)(g) but concludes that the DEU Motion does not appear to violate any statute or rule.<sup>6</sup> Thus, DPU recommends the PSC approve DEU’s rate revisions with an effective date of July 1, 2023.

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<sup>4</sup> See DEU Exhibits 1.01 and 1.02.

<sup>5</sup> See Errata Order, table 9.

<sup>6</sup> See DPU Comments at 2.

**DISCUSSION, FINDINGS OF FACT, AND ORDER**

Based on the GRC Order, the DEU Motion, and no opposition thereto, and DPU's Comments, we find and conclude DEU's proposed tariff sheets reflect the Step 2 rate increase as approved in our GRC Order. We request DEU file a cover letter with a statement to satisfy Utah Administrative Code R746-405-2(D)(3)(g) within ten days of the date of this Order. We approve the Step 2 rate increase as reflected in DEU Exhibit 1.02, as submitted with the DEU Motion, effective July 1, 2023.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, June 26, 2023.

/s/ John E. Delaney  
Presiding Officer

Approved and confirmed June 26, 2023, as the Order of the Public Service Commission of Utah.

/s/ Thad LeVar, Chair

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ John S. Harvey, Ph.D., Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg  
PSC Secretary  
DW#328571

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 30 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 June 26, 2023, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was delivered upon the following as indicated below:

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