

# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

Docket No. 22-057-08 and 22-057-09

## HEARING

July 21, 2022

### ADVANCED REPORTING SOLUTIONS

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ADVANCED REPORTING SOLUTIONS  
 A VERITEXT COMPANY

1                   BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

2                                   --oo0oo--

3   In Re:   In the Matter of the)  
4   Pass-Through Application of   )  
5   Dominion Energy Utah for an   )Docket No. 22-057-08 and  
6   Adjustment in Rates and       )22-057-09  
7   Charges for Natural Gas       )  
8   Service in Utah;               )Presiding Officer:  
9   and Application of Dominion   )Yvonne Hogle  
10   Energy Utah for an            )  
11   Adjustment to the Daily       )  
12   Transportation Imbalance     )  
13   Charge.                        )

11                                   HEARING

13                                   Taken on Thursday, July 21, 2022

14   at 1:30 P.M.

18                                   At Public Service Commission of Utah

19   160 East 300 South

20   4th Floor

21   Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

24                                   Reported by:   Kellie Peterson, RPR, CSR

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1 July 21, 2022 1:30 P.M.

2 P R O C E E D I N G S

3 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Good  
4 afternoon, everyone. It is July 21, 2022, and  
5 approximately 1:30, and this is the date and time that is  
6 scheduled for the hearing in two dockets: First, the  
7 pass-through application of Dominion Energy Utah for an  
8 adjustment in rates and charges for natural gas service  
9 in Utah, Docket No. 22-57-08; and second, the application  
10 for an adjustment for the daily transportation imbalance  
11 charge, Docket No. 22-57-09.

12 My name is Yvonne Hogle, and I am the  
13 Commission's designated presiding officer for the  
14 hearing. At this time, I would like to take appearances  
15 for the record, please.

16 MS. CLARK: For the company, I am Jenniffer  
17 Clark, and I have with me company witnesses Jessica Ipson  
18 and Damir Sabanovic.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: The Division,  
20 please.

21 MS. SCHMID: Thank you. Patricia E. Schmid  
22 with the Utah Attorney General's Office for the Division.  
23 The Division's witnesses today are Tyler McIntosh for the  
24 pass -- for the pass-through docket, and Bhavana  
25 Venjimuri for the transportation imbalance charge docket.

1 Thank you.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Would you  
3 like to call your witness?

4 MS. CLARK: I would.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thanks.

6 MS. CLARK: Thanks. In the 22-057-08 docket,  
7 the company calls Jessica Ipson.

8 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Good afternoon.

9 MS. IPSON: Good afternoon.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Do you swear to  
11 tell the truth?

12 MS. IPSON: Yes, I do.

13 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you.

14 DIRECT EXAMINATION

15 JESSICA IPSON,

16 called as a witness, having been first duly sworn,  
17 was examined and testified as follows:

18 BY MS. CLARK:

19 **Q. Ms. Ipson, can you please state your full**  
20 **name and business address for the record?**

21 A. My full name is Jessica Ipson. My business  
22 address is 333 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

23 **Q. And what position do you hold with the**  
24 **Company?**

25 A. I'm a regulatory specialist.

1           **Q.    And did you prepare, or cause to be prepared,**  
2 **the application in this docket, along with accompanying**  
3 **Exhibits 1.1 through 1.8?**

4           A.    Yes.

5           **Q.    And do you adopt their contents as your**  
6 **testimony today?**

7           A.    Yes.

8           MS. CLARK:   The Company moves to admit the  
9 application and accompanying Exhibits 1.1 through 1.8.

10           PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE:   Does the Division  
11 have any objection to that?

12           MS. SCHMID:   No objection.

13           PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE:   Okay.   Thank you.  
14 They're admitted.

15           MS. CLARK:   Thank you.

16 BY MS. CLARK:

17           **Q.    Ms. Ipson, have you prepared a summary of the**  
18 **relief the Company seeks in this docket?**

19           A.    I have.   In Pass-Through Docket No.  
20 22-057-08, Dominion Energy respectfully asks the Utah  
21 Public Service Commission for approval of \$714,769,878 in  
22 Utah gas cost coverage.   This represents an overall  
23 increase of \$93,837,427.

24           The components of the increase are, first, an  
25 increase of \$94,043,676 in commodity costs, and second, a

1 decrease of \$206,249 in supplier non-gas costs. The  
2 increase being proposed is due to higher forecasted gas  
3 costs for the test period.

4           The request includes continuing the  
5 amortization of the commodity portion of the actual  
6 August 2021 under-collected balance of the 191 of  
7 \$65,305,666 by 57.02 cents per dekatherm debit surge  
8 charge. RIN proceeds of \$96,109 were generated through  
9 the Company's CNG stations, decreasing the NGV class  
10 commodity by a credit of 33.95 cents per dekatherm.

11           The Company is also requesting to amortize  
12 the under-collected SNG costs, a balance of 300 -- or  
13 \$3,227,746, which leads to the debit admortization  
14 charges shown on Exhibit 1.5, page 6. The cost of  
15 purchased gas was developed using the forecasted gas  
16 prices from both S&P global plats and IHS market.

17           The LNG facility will be placed into service  
18 during the test period. Those costs associated with LNG  
19 facility have been directly assigned to the FS and GS  
20 classes. If this application is approved, a typical Utah  
21 GS customer using 70 dekatherms per year would see an  
22 increase of about \$57.07, or a total annual increase of  
23 about 8.15 percent.

24           These rates are just, reasonable, and in the  
25 public interest. Therefore, we request the rates



1 proposed in commodity and SNG be allowed to go into  
2 effect on August 1, 2022, on an interim basis.

3 **Q. Does that conclude your summary?**

4 A. Yes.

5 MS. CLARK: Ms. Ipson is available for  
6 cross-examination and questions from the Hearing Officer.

7 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Any  
8 cross-examination from the Division?

9 MS. SCHMID: Yes, one question.

10 CROSS-EXAMINATION

11 BY MS. SCHMID:

12 **Q. Ms. Ipson, on page 7, paragraph 14, beginning**  
13 **on line 6 of the application, it states, "Including these**  
14 **costs," and it's referring to the electricity cost for**  
15 **the LNG, "in the commodity balancing account is**  
16 **consistent with the treatment of these costs and other**  
17 **jurisdictions in the Dominion Energy service territory."**

18 **Did I read that generally correctly?**

19 A. Yes.

20 **Q. Could you please list these other**  
21 **jurisdictions?**

22 A. Yes. So Dominion Energy actually has one  
23 other jurisdiction that owns and operates an LNG facility  
24 like the Utah LNG Magna location. That's in North  
25 Carolina. Back in 2006, in their rate case, the North

1 Carolina Public Service Commission approved the inclusion  
2 of the electric power costs associated with operating the  
3 LNG facility there, and stated it should flow through the  
4 commodity cost of gas.

5           So that sentence that you read from the  
6 application, we probably could have just stated, "North  
7 Carolina." I will mention, however, Dominion Energy Ohio  
8 does use LNG. However, they do not own or operate an LNG  
9 facility. They actually buy it from a third party,  
10 similarly to how we buy clay basin storage from Mountain  
11 West Pipeline.

12           So the Company is proposing to include those  
13 variable electric costs as part of the supplier non-gas  
14 portion of this filing for dollar per dollar recovery  
15 through that liquefaction process, converting the natural  
16 gas to a liquid. We have to use a lot of electricity to  
17 be able to cool it, and then inject it into the storage  
18 tank.

19           So similarly to like underground storage,  
20 when natural gas is injected into clay basin, for  
21 example, we have to pay injection fees to Mountain West  
22 Pipeline to inject it into storage.

23           So since the Company owns the LNG facility,  
24 you can look at those electric cost similarly to be like  
25 an injection fee, so it's necessary for that to happen to

1 be able to inject and store that LNG within the tank.

2 So that's a long response, but I guess North  
3 Carolina is the jurisdiction that is like us.

4 Q. Thank you. The Division has no further  
5 questions.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you.

7 EXAMINATION

8 BY PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE:

9 Q. Ms. Ipson, did you have an opportunity to  
10 read the Division recommendation in this case?

11 A. I did.

12 Q. Okay. I'm wondering what DEU's position is  
13 on the specific recommendation of the Division that they  
14 made. And I am looking at their redacted -- I guess it  
15 doesn't matter, but either the confidential or redacted  
16 version of their recommendation comments at the bottom of  
17 page 7, going on to the top of page 8, dealing with  
18 filling the LNG tank, and as to specifically the timing  
19 of that.

20 And I'm wondering what DEU's position is on  
21 that, given the likely decrease in costs that doing it  
22 the way that the Division proposes would result.

23 A. Yeah, okay. I think, I guess, the  
24 Company -- the LNG facility will be placed into service  
25 during this test period. The LNG facility is intended to

1 be, like, for supplier reliability, to be able to have  
2 supplier reliability, just in case there is some sort of  
3 an event that happens during the winter season so we have  
4 that reliability.

5 I understand how, like, market prices have  
6 been -- are very volatile. We don't really know what  
7 will happen in the winter, if costs will be extremely  
8 high or lower. I think what we would suggest, or what  
9 the Company would like to do, is probably fill the LNG  
10 storage to, I guess, whatever -- I mean, we would like to  
11 fill it all the way, because if there is an event, the  
12 LNG storage could be used. And if there was an event,  
13 the market price during that period of time would be  
14 considerably higher than like -- but then we can't  
15 predict that.

16 So, I guess, if it comes a point where market  
17 gas prices are -- become too expensive, whatever that  
18 amount is, I would assume Kelly Mendenhall would have  
19 conversations with both the Division and the Office to  
20 see what -- what is appropriate, and then we would have  
21 to discuss with our president of the Company to see how  
22 much they feel comfortable filling the LNG facility.

23 And so possibly what we have submitted within  
24 this pass-through filing might not actually be what is  
25 actually injected into the tank, depending on, I guess,

1 the market and situations that could arise.

2 Q. Okay. Well, it's a pass-through account.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Right?

5 A. Uh-huh.

6 Q. So whatever happens, it's going to get  
7 squared?

8 A. That's true.

9 Q. Okay. All right. I just -- I was intrigued  
10 by the recommendation, because if it does, you know,  
11 based upon the projected costs, then it would be quite a  
12 bit less expensive to wait.

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. Okay. That's the only question I have.  
15 Thank you, Ms. Ipson.

16 A. Thank you.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Why don't we  
18 go to the Division. You can call your first witness.  
19 Thank you.

20 MS. SCHMID: Thank you. The Division would  
21 like to call Tyler McIntosh.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Good afternoon. Do  
23 you swear to tell the truth?

24 MR. MCINTOSH: I do.

25 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you.

1 DIRECT EXAMINATION

2 TYLER MCINTOSH,

3 called as a witness, having been first duly sworn,

4 was examined and testified as follows:

5 BY MS. SCHMID:

6 Q. Please state and spell your full name for the  
7 record.

8 A. My name is Tyler McIntosh. That's T-Y-L-E-R,  
9 M-C, capital I, N-T-O-S-H.

10 Q. What is the name of your employer, and what  
11 is your business address?

12 A. So I work with Utah Division of Public  
13 Utilities, State of Utah, and we are at 160 East 300  
14 South, and that is in Salt Lake City.

15 Q. What position do you hold with the Division?

16 A. I am a utility analyst.

17 Q. In conjunction with your employment by the  
18 Division, have you participated on behalf of the Division  
19 in this docket?

20 A. I have.

21 Q. Did you assist in the preparation and filing  
22 of the Division's July 7, 2022, comments or action  
23 request response in both redacted and confidential form?

24 A. I did.

25 Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to

1 **those comments?**

2 A. I do not.

3 **Q. Do you adopt those comments as part of your**  
4 **testimony today?**

5 A. Yes.

6 MS. SCHMID: The Division would like to move  
7 for the admission of the Division's comments in the  
8 pass-through docket dated July 7, 2022.

9 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Does DEU  
10 have any objection to that?

11 MS. CLARK: No objection.

12 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: They're admitted.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. SCHMID: Thank you.

15 BY MS. SCHMID:

16 **Q. Have you prepared a summary of these comments**  
17 **to present today?**

18 A. I have.

19 **Q. Please proceed.**

20 A. Okay. Docket No. 22-057-08, known here as  
21 the 191 Pass-Through Application, asks the Commission  
22 approval for an interim rate increase of 94 million in  
23 the commodity component and an interim rate decrease of  
24 206,000 in the supplier non-gas component of natural gas  
25 rates for a net increase of 93.8 million.

1           The driving force behind the requested rate  
2 increase is a significant increase in the forecasted gas  
3 costs for the test period. The gas price forecast is  
4 based on estimates from two independent agencies.

5           The electricity cost and the commodity cost  
6 for the liquified natural gas, LNG facility, are new in  
7 this pass-through. The LNG facility is scheduled to be  
8 completed and placed into service in the fourth quarter  
9 of 2022. The application assumes that the LNG tank will  
10 be filled from September to January, for a total cost of  
11 \$6,669,593, and would be available to use during the  
12 2022-2023 winter heating season.

13           The LNG facility will require a significant  
14 amount of electricity to cool and liquify the natural  
15 gas. For the test year, electricity costs of LNG plant  
16 are estimated to be \$2,025,096 and are included in the  
17 SNG costs of this application. The costs of the  
18 electricity that will be needed to run the LNG facility  
19 will likely fluctuate from year to year, based on the  
20 amount of liquefaction that takes place each year.

21           The LNG facility will only serve the Utah  
22 jurisdiction, which means all the costs that are  
23 associated with this facility will be directly assigned  
24 to Utah. If the electric cost of the LNG facility is  
25 approved in this docket, the Division will verify that



1 the amount is removed from the general rate case filing.

2 The Division supports the Company's request  
3 to include the cost of the electricity for the LNG plant  
4 in the 191 Pass-Through, since the LNG resource is not  
5 intended to be used on a regular and constant basis.

6 If the purpose and use of the LNG plant  
7 changes and the resources used on a regular basis, the  
8 Division may change its position and recommend including  
9 the costs in a future general rate case. If the  
10 Commission approves the inclusion of the electricity  
11 costs in this filing, the Company will remove the amount  
12 from the general rate case.

13 For the test period, it is anticipated that  
14 approximately 45 percent of the total gas requirement  
15 will be satisfied from the Wexpro cost of service gas  
16 production, 21 percent will be satisfied from current  
17 purchase contracts, and 33 percent will be purchased with  
18 future contacts and spot market transactions.

19 If the requested increase is approved, a  
20 typical residential customer using 80 dekatherms per year  
21 will see an increase in their total bill of \$65.20, or  
22 8.2 percent.

23 The Division recommends that the proposed  
24 rate be approved in an interim basis until a full audit  
25 of the 191 account can be completed. The Division

1 believes that the requested increase is in the public  
2 interest and will result in just, reasonable rates. The  
3 Division requests that the proposed rate changes be  
4 approved with an effective date of August 1, 2022. That  
5 concludes my summary.

6 Q. I have just a few clarifying questions.

7 A. Okay.

8 Q. Is the Division requesting that the rate  
9 changes be approved on an interim basis?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Were you present in the hearing room when  
12 Ms. Ipson was asked about the statements in the  
13 Division's comments on page 8, that address delaying  
14 building the LNG facility?

15 A. I was present.

16 Q. Do our comments say that filling the LNG  
17 facility must be delayed or that it may be advantageous  
18 to delay filling the LNG facility?

19 A. If I recall, it doesn't say it must be  
20 delayed, but it states that it's -- would be a good idea,  
21 I guess, in around -- I don't know exact terminology, but  
22 yes.

23 Q. I'm going to read something, and then I'm  
24 going to ask you --

25 A. Okay.

1 Q. -- if you recall this is what it said in our  
2 comments.

3 A. Okay.

4 Q. And I'm just starting at the top of page 8,  
5 the first full sentence, and I will start in the middle  
6 of that. "It may be advantageous to delay filling the  
7 LNG facility."

8 Does that refresh your recollection about  
9 what our comment said?

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. Thank you.

12 MS. SCHMID: The Division has no further  
13 questions, and Mr. McIntosh is available for  
14 cross-examinations and questions from the Presiding  
15 Officer.

16 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you. Any  
17 cross-examination from DEU?

18 MS. CLARK: No, none from DEU. Thanks.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you.

20 EXAMINATION

21 BY PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE:

22 Q. I just have one question --

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. -- Mr. McIntosh, I'm looking at your comments  
25 on page 4, and this is the -- one paragraph just above

1 the section "RIN proceeds," up from CNG. Do you see  
2 that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Okay. So the second sentence, you refer to  
5 \$1.3 million for estimated LNG costs, and you say, "This  
6 filing is adding \$1.3 million for estimated LNG costs."

7 What is the relationship of that amount to  
8 the \$6.6 million that is referenced roughly by the  
9 Company in LNG costs?

10 A. Hold on here, so Exhibit 1.5, page 1, let me  
11 look through the exhibits here. I'm going off  
12 recollection, because, obviously, I don't have that  
13 exhibit in front of me, because it says it's from Exhibit  
14 1.5, page 1, line 2 and 3 -- oh, thank you.

15 Okay. So this number that -- the 1.3 million  
16 that I -- that is in our testimony is actually from the  
17 exhibit that was given to us from Dominion Energy, and  
18 from what I can see here, it's just another added cost  
19 that LNG would -- would be, I guess, if that's the best  
20 way to put that. So like I said, Exhibit 1.5, page 1,  
21 line 2 and 3.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. I am not sure if that answered your question,  
24 but that is where that came from.

25 Q. Okay. The price and the calculation, yes. I

1 just thought, I'm not sure how that is related to the  
2 \$6.6 million. So perhaps I can ask that question of DEU  
3 witness Ms. Ipson.

4 Those are all the questions -- that's all the  
5 questions that I have for you.

6 A. Okay.

7 Q. Thank you very much.

8 A. Yup.

9 FURTHER EXAMINATION

10 BY PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE:

11 Q. And I guess, Ms. Ipson, you are back on the  
12 stand.

13 If you don't mind explaining how that \$1.3  
14 million is related to the 6.6 million that is mentioned  
15 in the application for LNG costs?

16 A. Okay. So if you turn to DEU Exhibit 1.2,  
17 page 6 --

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. All right. So this is a brand new exhibit,  
20 and this lists all the commodity-related items related to  
21 LNG. So on line 1, the 6.6 is listed there, which you  
22 refer to, which that would be if we were to purchase gas  
23 and fill the tank up completely, it would cost us the 6.6  
24 million.

25 And then if you go down to line 4, the

1 storage adjustment of negative 5.6 million, that is if  
2 you take the difference between the 6.6 and the 5.6,  
3 that -- that total would equal the amount of LNG that  
4 would be, I guess, used during this test period. So we  
5 do not charge the ratepayer for the actual gas until it's  
6 actually used.

7 So I guess the \$5.6 million worth of gas  
8 would be just sitting in the storage tank, but that \$5.6  
9 million worth of gas, we're able to earn a return on  
10 that, so line 18 calculates what the return would be on  
11 the -- on that gas that is sitting in the tank.

12 So if you add up from Column B, line 1, the  
13 6.6, plus the storage adjustment of the negative \$5.6  
14 million, and then on line 18, Column D, the 274,000 for  
15 the return, that gets you the 1.2 or 3 -- well, I guess  
16 1.3 million that's listed on Exhibit 1.5, page 1, line 2.  
17 Does that make sense?

18 **Q. I am trying to wrap my head around that.**

19 **Hold on a minute.**

20 A. And then it might be easier to look at  
21 Exhibit 1.1, page 2. This is just the summary page. So  
22 the three highlighted items under "Commodity" are  
23 those -- if you add up those three amounts for Utah, it  
24 gets you the \$1.3 million, which would be charged to the  
25 FS and GS classes.

1 Q. Okay. I'm in 1.1, page 2. Which line did  
2 you say, or lines?

3 A. So the highlighted lines in --

4 Q. Oh, I see.

5 A. -- the "Commodity" section, so lines 7, 9 and  
6 11. So if you add up those totals for Utah, that would  
7 get you the 1.3 million that the Division referenced.

8 Q. Okay. So does that mean that then the -- it  
9 is not actually 6.6 million; it's actually going to be  
10 net 1.3 million?

11 A. So that would be the net, but yes, because  
12 then we do not charge the ratepayer for natural gas until  
13 it's used. So if we -- if we -- like, in this  
14 pass-through, we are intending to fill the tank  
15 completely, which would cost the 6.6 million, we have to  
16 cycle through about 15 percent of the --

17 Q. Right.

18 A. -- capacity for -- per year. So we're -- we  
19 will be -- we would be withdrawing some. So the  
20 difference between the purchase to fill the LNG facility,  
21 less what is still in the tank.

22 Q. Which is 5.6 million --

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- worth of -- okay.

25 A. And then that LNG working cost is just that

1 return that we're allowed to -- I guess, we're allowed to  
2 earn a pretax rate of return on, like stored gas, so  
3 that's the 275,000 listed. So the 1.3 is what would  
4 be -- I guess, ratepayers would be charged that during  
5 this test period for this pass-through.

6 Q. Okay. Assuming you filled it --

7 A. Yeah, that --

8 Q. Okay. Thank you. I just -- I wasn't quite  
9 understanding that, but now I do. Thank you.

10 A. Okay. You're welcome.

11 Q. Okay. I don't have any other questions, so  
12 thank you, Ms. Ipson and Mr. McIntosh.

13 And I think we can move to our next docket.  
14 Yes?

15 MS. CLARK: The Company would call Damir  
16 Sabanovic.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Hello,  
18 Mr. Sabanovic.

19 MR. SABANOVIC: Hello.

20 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Do you swear to  
21 tell the truth?

22 THE WITNESS: I do.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay, thank you.

24 DIRECT EXAMINATION

25 DAMIR SABANOVIC,



1 called as a witness, having been first duly sworn,  
2 was examined and testified as follows:

3 BY MS. CLARK:

4 Q. Mr. Sabanovic, can you please state your full  
5 name and business address for the record?

6 A. Yes. My name is Damir Sabanovic, and my  
7 business address is 333 South State Street, Salt Lake  
8 City, Utah.

9 Q. And what position do you hold with the  
10 Company?

11 A. I am a regulatory analyst III.

12 Q. And, Mr. Sabanovic, did you prepare or cause  
13 to be prepared the application and accompanying exhibits  
14 1.1 and 1.3?

15 A. I did.

16 Q. And do you adopt the contents of those  
17 documents as your testimony today?

18 A. Yes.

19 MS. CLARK: The Company moves for the  
20 admission of the application and the accompanying  
21 Exhibits 1.1 through 1.3.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Any objection?

23 MS. SCHMID: No objection.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you.  
25 They are admitted. Thank you.

1 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

2 BY MS. CLARK:

3 Q. Mr. Sabanovic, can you please summarize the  
4 relief the Company seeks in this docket?

5 A. Yes. In Docket No. 22-57-09, the Company  
6 requests an adjustment to the transportation imbalance  
7 charge to appropriately collect costs associated with  
8 managing imbalanced dekatherms transported on the  
9 Company's distribution system.

10 The proposed imbalance charge reflects costs  
11 borne by the Company to manage net imbalance dekatherms  
12 of transportation service customers divided by the  
13 imbalance dekatherms over the 5 percent tolerance  
14 threshold. The resulting imbalance rate of 8.59 cents is  
15 2 percent higher than the previous transportation  
16 imbalance charge. This charge will only be applied to  
17 transportation volumes that differ from the nomination  
18 volumes by more than the 5 percent stated.

19 The transportation imbalance charge continues  
20 to serve its intended purpose, and is just, reasonable,  
21 and in the public interest. And the Company requests  
22 approval of these interim rates effective August 1, 2022.  
23 This concludes my summary.

24 MS. CLARK: Mr. Sabanovic is available for  
25 cross-examination and the Hearing Officer's questions.



1 record?

2 A. My full name is Bhavana Venjimuri,  
3 B-H-A-V-A-N-A V-E-N-J-I-M-U-R-I.

4 Q. Thank you. What is the name of your  
5 employer, and what is your business address?

6 A. State of Utah, and my business address is 160  
7 East 300 South, Salt Lake City.

8 Q. What position do you hold with the Division?

9 A. Utility analyst.

10 Q. In conjunction by -- with your employment by  
11 the Division, have you participated on behalf of the  
12 Division in this docket?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did you assist in the preparation and filing  
15 of the Division's comments made on July 7, 2022, in both  
16 redacted and confidential form?

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to  
19 those comments?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Do you adopt these comments or as -- does the  
22 title of those comments reflect the action request  
23 response as part of your testimony today?

24 A. Yes.

25 MS. SCHMID: The Division would like to move

1 for the admission of the Division's July 7, 2022, action  
2 request response filed in this docket.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you. Any  
4 objection?

5 MS. CLARK: No objection. Thank you.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. The comments  
7 are admitted. Thank you.

8 BY MS. SCHMID:

9 Q. Have you prepared a summary to present today?

10 A. Yes, I did.

11 Q. Please proceed.

12 A. The transportation imbalance charge here  
13 address in Docket No. 22-057-09 was established to charge  
14 transportation customers for the supplier non-gas  
15 services that are being used on the Company's natural gas  
16 distribution system.

17 The calculation of this rate is based on the  
18 methodology approved in Docket No. 14-057-31, and is to  
19 be adjusted with each pass-through filing in the next  
20 general rate case. In this docket, the proposed change  
21 represents an increase from 8.424 cents per dekatherm to  
22 8.592 cents per dekatherm and is calculated based on the  
23 actual volumes of transportation customers for the 12  
24 months ending April 30, 2022.

25 This rate applies to customers that are



1 Q. I do -- I just -- I think I've -- we've  
2 reviewed several of these since I first started here, and  
3 every time, the Division seems to be concerned about the  
4 accuracy of the gas nomination process and the impact of  
5 transportation customers on DEU's distribution system.

6 Assuming that that continues, does the  
7 Division maybe foresee making some suggestions or  
8 recommendations on how to deal with that?

9 A. Maybe in the near future, we would, if that  
10 continues.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. Yeah, depending -- yeah, maybe we would. I  
13 don't know.

14 Q. Okay. I've just taken note of that, and I'm  
15 just wondering if, you know, it continues to be a  
16 concern, are there any recommendations or any suggestions  
17 that the Division might provide to assist in -- you know,  
18 assist DEU to perhaps remedy that, that concern, or at  
19 least mitigate it in a way that the Division is no longer  
20 concerned about the gas nomination process?

21 A. I think the Division would want to think  
22 about it and make a recommendation.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. Maybe in the future, but nothing right now.

25 Q. Okay. I appreciate it. Thank you.

1                   Okay. That is everything I have. Thank you  
2 so much.

3                   PRESIDING OFFICER HOGLE: I believe that's  
4 it. I know that we have an order that we will issue  
5 prior to the proposed effective date of August 1st, so  
6 just so you know, we were aware of that deadline and we  
7 will do that.

8                   Does anybody have anything else?

9                   Well, thank you for your time, and I hope  
10 people get better, if they have COVID, or people around  
11 them. Please take care of yourself. Thank you.

12                  MS. SCHMID: Thank you.

13                  MS. CLARK: Thank you.

14                  (The hearing was concluded at 2:10 P.M.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

State of Utah                    )  
  )  
County of Salt Lake        )

I hereby certify that the witness in the foregoing hearing were duly sworn to testify to the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the within-entitled cause;

That said hearing was taken at the time and place herein named;

That the testimony of said witness was reported by me in stenotype and thereafter transcribed into typewritten form.

I further certify that I am not of kin or otherwise associated with any of the parties of said cause of action and that I am not interested in the events thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I set my hand this 4th day of August, 2022.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Kellie Peterson, RPR

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