

State of Utah

Department of Commerce Division of Public Utilities

MARGARET BUSSE Executive Director

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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
 Eric Orton, Utility Technical Consultant
- Date: March 1, 2022
- **Re: Docket No. 22-057-T01** In the Matter of the Application of Dominion Energy Utah to Modify its Tariff to Address Meter Protection.

Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends that the Public Service Commission of Utah (Commission) acknowledge Dominion Energy Utah's (Dominion) tariff change to Section's 8.01, 9.04 and the Glossary of its Utah Natural Gas Tariff effective April 1, 2022. The updated tariff complies with the Settlement Stipulation and the Commission's order.

Issue

In compliance with the Commission's Order, dated January 20, 2022, in Docket No. 21-057-24, Dominion filed proposed tariff language dealing with required protection for its gas meters. The Commission directed the Division to review the proposed language for compliance with its prior orders Dominion's Exhibit AU contains proposed Tariff changes in legislative format, and Exhibit BU contains the proposed Tariff in final format.

DPU Action Request Response Docket No. 22-057-T01 March 1, 2022

Background

On October 1, 2021, Dominion submitted a Settlement Stipulation in Docket No. 21-057-24. The Settlement Stipulation described an incident that occurred on February 16, 2019, and required, among other things, that Dominion take certain steps to "assess meters on its system and place snow protection on those that were likely to benefit from protection."

On December 14, 2021, the Commission held the hearing wherein Dominion represented that "it intended to update its Tariff to reflect the plans related to meter protection described in the Settlement Stipulation." On January 20, 2022, the Commission issued its Order and gave Dominion 60 days to "file its updated tariffs consistent with the Settlement and this Order". On January 27, 2022, Dominion filed its progress report. On February 14, 2022, the Division filed an Action Request Response addressing Dominion's progress.

On February 18, 2022, Dominion filed its proposed tariff sheets as mentioned above. On that same day the Commission issues its Action Request to the Division directing it to review the tariff filing for compliance. On February 22, 2022, the Commission issued its Notice of Filing and Comment period directing parties that initial comments will be due on or before March 7, 2022, with reply comments due on or before March 14, 2022.

On February 28, 2022, Dominion filed a Motion to Update Exhibits A&B. In this filing, Dominion stated that it provided a copy of the February 18, 2022, application to the Utah Homebuilder's Association (HBA). Subsequently HBA contacted Dominion "with some suggested changes and clarifications to the proposed exhibits." As a result of this input Dominion is now recommending some "modifications to the changes it originally proposed". The modified tariff language proposals are labeled as "DEU Exhibits AU and BU". In this updated application, Dominion asked that the Commission "accept the updated exhibits and replace the originally filed exhibits with those attached" stating that it did "not believe that permitting the update of the referenced exhibits warrants any change in the schedule for this matter." Dominion also stated that other parties it contacted do not oppose this motion. The modified language helps clarify the intent of the Settlement Stipulation and therefore, the Division supports its substitution.

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This represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request and its Comments, including the updated filing.

Discussion

The updates to the tariff language are minor clarifications and are agreeable to Dominion and the HBA. The Division has reviewed the attached updated exhibits and has determined that they include modified tariff language sufficient to fulfill the requirements contained within the Settlement Stipulation and the Commission's Order.

Conclusion

The Division finds that the updated revised tariff language is compliant with the Commission's directive and the Settlement Stipulation. Therefore, the Division recommends that the Commission approve the proposed tariff sheets with an effective date of April 1, 2022.

Cc: Kelly Mendenhall, Dominion Energy Utah Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Service