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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

Application of Dominion Energy) Docket No. 23-057-19
Utah to Amortize the Conservation)
Enabling Tariff Balancing Account)
)
Application of Dominion Energy) Docket No. 23-057-20
Utah to Amortize the Energy)
Efficiency Deferred Account)
Balance)
)
Application of Dominion Energy) Docket No. 23-057-21
Utah for an Adjustment to the)
Low Income/Energy Assistance Rate)
)
Application of Dominion Energy) Docket No. 23-057-22
Utah to Change the Infrastructure)
Rate Adjustment)

December 19, 2023
9:00 a.m.

Hearing was held via Webex Videoconferencing

Reporter: Melinda J. Andersen
Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public

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A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Company: Jenniffer Nelson Clark
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For the Division: Patrick Grecu
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Hearing Officer: John Delaney

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

2 HEARING OFFICER: Why don't we get going then.
3 It's 9:03. So good everyone. My name is John Delaney and
4 I'm the Commission's presiding officer for this hearing.
5 Today is December 19, 2023 and it's approximately 9:03 a.m.
6 And this is the date and time that is scheduled for the
7 consolidated hearing in four dockets. I'm going to read
8 them all into the record, so sit back.

9 The first docket 23-057-19, the application of
10 Dominion Energy Utah to amortize the conservation enabling
11 tariff balancing account.

12 The second docket is Docket Number 23-057-20.
13 That's the application of Dominion Energy Utah to amortize
14 the energy efficiency deferred account balance.

15 The third docket is Docket Number 23-057-21,
16 application of Dominion Energy Utah for an adjustment to
17 the low income/energy assistance rate.

18 And finally the fourth docket is Docket Number
19 23-057-22, application of Dominion Energy Utah to change
20 the infrastructure rate adjustment.

21 Okay. Unless anybody has any corrections to
22 what I just stated on the record why don't we start with
23 appearances. We will begin with the applicant.

24 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much. My name is
25 Jenniffer Clark. I'm counsel for Dominion Energy. I have

1 with me today Jordan Stevenson. He will be speaking on
2 behalf of the Company for the first three dockets on our
3 agenda today. And then I have Jesse Jackson also with me,
4 and he will speak to the fourth docket.

5 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much. For the
6 Division.

7 MR. GRECU: Good morning. Patrick Grecu,
8 assistant general representing the Division of Public
9 Utilities. The Division's witnesses this morning will be
10 Ryan Daigle speaking for the first and third docket. And
11 then Shauna Benbegnu Springer will be covering the dash 20
12 docket. And Eric Orton will be covering the dash 22
13 docket.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Great. Thank you.
15 Oh, this Eric here on the screen must be Eric Orton. Is
16 that accurate?

17 MR. ORTON: That's accurate.

18 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Great. So all of your
19 witnesses are here. Dominion, all of your witnesses are
20 here. It's 9:06 and we still -- I don't see anybody from
21 the Office of Consumer Services or Mr. Moore. Okay.
22 Preliminary matters, anybody have any? I have a couple.

23 MS. CLARK: None from the Company.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Because of the
25 compressed schedule that we're dealing with in these

1 docket I want to make sure we haven't missed any filings.
2 So the OCS office is not here, so I will not ask them the
3 question I had for them. But I do have a question for
4 Dominion. We don't have a record of any reply comments
5 being filed by Dominion. Is that intentional and we have
6 not missed something?

7 MS. CLARK: That is correct. That was
8 intentional. You have not missed anything.

9 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Then unless anybody
10 objects, and if so I want to know why, but I would like to
11 just proceed in order. So beginning with the 19 docket and
12 proceeding through to the end.

13 I do note the Division did include, I think,
14 that will be Mr. Daigle's testimony according to
15 Mr. Grecu's representation, but I want to treat them
16 separately. So we'll go in order and we will begin with
17 the 19 docket.

18 Ms. Clark, please call your first witness in
19 the 19 docket.

20 MS. CLARK: Thank you. The Company calls
21 Mr. Stevenson.

22 HEARING OFFICER: Good morning, Mr. Stevenson.

23 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Do you swear to tell the
25 truth?

1 THE WITNESS: I do.

2 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Thank you. Please go
3 ahead.

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MS. CLARK:

6 Q. Thank you. Mr. Stevenson, would you please
7 state your full name and business address for the record?

8 A. Yes. Jordan Stevenson, 333 South State, Salt
9 Lake City, Utah.

10 Q. What position do you hold with the Company,
11 Mr. Stevenson?

12 A. I'm manager of regulation.

13 Q. Mr. Stevenson, in this docket the Company has
14 filed an application along with accompanying exhibits 1.1
15 through 1.5. Were those documents prepared by you or under
16 your direction?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Do you adopt their contents as your testimony
19 today?

20 A. Yes.

21 MS. CLARK: The Company moves to admit the
22 application and accompanying exhibits 1.1 through 1.5.

23 HEARING OFFICER: Any objection from the
24 Division?

25 MR. GRECU: No objection.

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1 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Motion granted.

2 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

3 Q. (By Ms. Clark) Mr. Stevenson, will you please
4 summarize the relief the Company is seeking today in this
5 docket?

6 A. Yes. In this docket the Company is requesting
7 to amortize the conservation enabling tariff, or CET,
8 balancing account. Section 2.08 of the Company's tariff
9 requires the Company to file a CET amortization application
10 at least annually with the Commission and this filing meets
11 that requirement.

12 The Company is requesting to amortize an over
13 collected balance of \$23.3 million. If approved this would
14 result in a decrease of \$17.92, or 1.85 percent, paid by a
15 typical customer using 70 decatherms per year.

16 The proposed rates are just and reasonable and
17 in the public interest. Therefore, the Company requests
18 that the rates be approved with rates going into effect on
19 January 1, 2024.

20 This concludes my summary.

21 Q. Thank you, Mr. Stevenson.

22 MS. CLARK: The Company's witness is available
23 for Commission questions and cross examination.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much. For the
25 Division any questions?

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MR. GRECU: I just have one question.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. GRECU:

Q. In recent years the Company has typically concurrently filed a pass through 191 for the balancing account. With this application, and especially recent years, I'm just wondering if you could explain why the Company hasn't filed a pass through 191 application yet?

A. Yeah, I can speak to it at a high level. In my current role I do not manage or supervise the pass through account, but I can speak to it as I work with the people that do. It was not made in relation to -- that position was not made relation to anything we're talking about with the CET in this docket. But we plan to file the pass through account by the end of the year. The reason we have not filed yet was just due to the high balance that we are still amortizing in that pass through account. There is a large under collected balance related commodity cost that has been around since early this year, late last year that happened in the winter season. We're working through amortizing that balance down.

And so part of the decision to wait was in relation to that balance as well as gas cost today and whether or not we thought it was a prudent time to file. So that decision is made typically independently.

1 You're right. We do normally do couple these
2 to file together and that's actually just out of kind of
3 convenience and updating our billing system. It's not made
4 because there is any need to file these two filings
5 together from a rate taking standpoint, or tariff
6 standpoint. So that decision was made independently of the
7 CET filing.

8 MR. GRECU: Thank you. No further questions.

9 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. I don't have any
10 questions for this witness. Thank you very much.

11 MS. CLARK: The Company has nothing further on
12 this docket.

13 HEARING OFFICER: Let's turn to the Division
14 then.

15 MR. GRECU: The Division calls Ryan Daigle.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Good Morning, Mr. Daigle.

17 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

18 HEARING OFFICER: Do you swear to tell the
19 truth?

20 THE WITNESS: I do.

21 HEARING OFFICER: Great. Thank you. Please
22 proceed.

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. GRECU:

25 Q. Mr. Daigle, could you please state and spell

1 your name for the record?

2 A. Ryan Daigle, R-Y-A-N, D-A-I-G-L-E.

3 Q. By whom are you employed and what is your
4 position?

5 A. The Division of Public Utilities and I am a
6 utility analyst.

7 Q. What is your business address?

8 A. 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah,
9 84114.

10 Q. Could you provide a brief overview of your
11 educational background and relevant work experience?

12 A. I have approximately ten years in oil and gas
13 with approximately five years of that being in regulatory
14 work. And I have a bachelor of science in mechanical
15 engineering.

16 Q. Have you participated in this docket on behalf
17 of the Division?

18 A. I have.

19 Q. Regarding that participation could you describe
20 your activities?

21 A. I reviewed the conservation enabling tariff and
22 low income assistance program applications as well as the
23 accompanying exhibits to confirm adherence to establish
24 Commission orders and to determine if the rates were just,
25 reasonable and in the public interest.

1 Q. Did you prepare or cause to be filed or
2 participate in the preparation of the filing of the
3 Division's action request response filed on December 15,
4 2023 in this docket?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to that
7 filing?

8 A. I do not.

9 Q. Do you adopt the contents of that filing as
10 part of your testimony today?

11 A. I do.

12 Q. Based on your review would approval of this
13 application be just, reasonable and in the public interest?

14 A. Yes, I believe it would.

15 MR. GRECU: I would like to move the Division's
16 action request response filed on December 15, 2023.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Any objections from Dominion?

18 MS. CLARK: No.

19 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Your motion is
20 granted.

21 MR. GRECU: Thank you.

22 Q. (By Mr. Grecu) Mr. Daigle, do you have a
23 summary to share today?

24 A. I do.

25 Q. Please proceed.

1 A. On December 1, 2023 Dominion filed its
2 application to amortize the conservation enabling tariff
3 balancing account in this docket number 23-057-19.

4 The conservation enabling tariff is designed to
5 allow Dominion to collect a commission authorized revenue
6 per customer. In its application Dominion requests to
7 amortize the October 2023 over collected balance of
8 approximate \$23.3 million.

9 Their previous filing, which was docket number
10 22-057-15 requested to amortize the under collected amount
11 of approximately \$4.1 million.

12 If approved, independent of the other
13 concurrently filed applications, the typical GS residential
14 customer using 70 decatherms per year will receive a
15 reduction to their annual bill of \$17.92, or 1.85 percent.
16 The proposed change is in the public interest and
17 represents just and reasonable rates.

18 As it is not subject to Division audit, the
19 Division recommends the Commission approve the requested
20 change in docket 23-057-19 as a final rate with an
21 effective date of January 1, 2024.

22 This concludes my summary.

23 MR. GRECU: The witness is now available for
24 cross examination and questions from the hearing officer.

25 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Dominion, any

1 questions for this witness?

2 MS. CLARK: No questions. Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. I do have a
4 question for you, Mr. Daigle. In the Division's comments,
5 were you the author of those comments?

6 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

7 HEARING OFFICER: In those comments on page 2,
8 the comments specifically note the over collection was
9 consistent and it happened in 11 of 12 months.

10 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

11 HEARING OFFICER: The comments they offer some
12 likely explanations as to why this occurred, and it also
13 further notes that there have been discussions between the
14 Division and Dominion, and that the Division will continue
15 to review and monitor both programs, the programs noted in
16 the comments, or the conservation enabling tariff, and the
17 weather normalization program. Are you with me so far?

18 THE WITNESS: Yes, I am.

19 HEARING OFFICER: How is DPU, or how is the
20 Division planning on doing those two things? How is it
21 going to review and monitor both programs and how often?
22 Give me some context and some color on that topic please.

23 THE WITNESS: I would say through
24 correspondence with the Company we will continue to monitor
25 those programs within the first quarter of next year to

1 make sure that the rates effectively bring that over
2 collection down. I believe the Company has also agreed to
3 more closely scrutinize that account to make sure that
4 those programs are functioning correctly.

5 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. And that belief is
6 based on your conversations that are alluded to in the
7 comments?

8 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

9 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. That's the only
10 question I have for this witness.

11 Dominion, do you have any follow-up questions
12 for this witness on the line of questions I just raised?

13 MS. CLARK: No. Thank you.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Great. Then I have
15 nothing further. Thank you.

16 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Why don't we move on
18 to the next docket then. Is there anything else on the 19
19 docket?

20 MS. CLARK: No.

21 HEARING OFFICER: Let's move on to the dash 20
22 docket. That is 23-057-20. Ms. Clark, would you like to
23 call your first witness?

24 MS. CLARK: Thank you. The Company once again
25 calls Mr. Stevenson.

1 HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Stevenson, you're still
2 under oath, but good morning again.

3 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MS. CLARK:

6 Q. Mr. Stevenson, I will -- we all know who you
7 are and who you work for and what you do. Let me ask this.
8 In this second docket on the agenda today, 23-057-20, the
9 Company submitted an application along with accompanying
10 exhibits 1.1 through 1.6. Were all of those documents
11 prepared either by you or under your direction?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Do you adopt their contents as your testimony
14 today?

15 A. I do.

16 MS. CLARK: The Company would move for the
17 admission of the application in this matter along with its
18 accompanying exhibits 1.1 through 1.6.

19 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Division, any
20 objection to that motion?

21 MR. GRECU: No objection.

22 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Motion granted.

23 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

24 Q. (By Ms. Clark) Mr. Stevenson, will you please
25 summarize the relief the Company seeks in the second

1 docket?

2 A. Yes. In this docket the Company seeks for
3 approval to adjust the amortization rate of the energy
4 efficiency deferred account balance.

5 As of September 30, 2023 the deferred account
6 balance amounted to an over collected balance of
7 \$2,482,566. With this adjustment to the rate based on
8 forecast of 2024 plus expenditures and projected volumes
9 for the 2024 test period, the Company will collect the
10 necessary revenue to support the energy efficiency program
11 while minimizing interest expense for customers and the
12 Company.

13 If approved this will result in a decrease of
14 \$3.08 per year, or .32 percent paid by a typical customer
15 using 70 decatherms per year.

16 The proposed rates are just and reasonable and
17 in the public interest and the Company requests that the
18 rates be approved on an interim basis with rates coming
19 into effect on January 1, 2024.

20 This concludes my summary.

21 MS. CLARK: Mr. Stevenson is available for
22 cross examination and also any questions from the hearing
23 officer.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.
25 Mr. Grecu, any questions for the Division from this

1 witness?

2 MR. GRECU: The Division has no questions.

3 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. I have no questions
4 either.

5 MS. CLARK: Thank you. The Company has nothing
6 further.

7 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much. For the
8 Division, please call your witness on this docket.

9 MR. GRECU: The Division would like to call
10 Shauna Benbegnu Springer.

11 HEARING OFFICER: Good morning, Ms. Springer.
12 Do you swear to tell the truth today?

13 THE WITNESS: Good morning. Yes, sir.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Please go ahead.

15 DIRECT EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. GRECU:

17 Q. Could you please state and spell your name for
18 the record?

19 A. Shauna Benbegnu-Springer, S-H-A-U-N-A,
20 B-E-N-B-E-G-N-U, S-P-R-I-N-G-E-R.

21 Q. By whom are you employed and what is your
22 position?

23 A. I am employed by the Utah Division of Public
24 Utilities as a utility technical consultant.

25 Q. What is your business address?

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1 A. Heber Wells Building, Fourth Floor, 160 East
2 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114.

3 Q. Could you provide a brief overview of your
4 educational background and relevant work experience?

5 A. I have a bachelor of science degree in
6 management and a bachelor of science in accounting. I also
7 have three years in government administration and
8 accounting, plus 16 years of utility regulation.

9 Q. Have you participated in this docket on behalf
10 of the Division?

11 A. Yes, I have.

12 Q. Regarding your participation in this docket
13 could you briefly describe your activities?

14 A. I have reviewed the application that was
15 submitted by the Company, made comparisons to previous
16 applications and delved into the various components of the
17 application such as the balances and expenditures and
18 revenue. I have done some analysis on various rates to see
19 what would be the most optimized rate for the program in
20 order to meet the objective of collecting funds to cover
21 the expenses and minimizing the amount of interest.

22 Q. Did you prepare and cause to be filed or
23 participate in the preparation in the filing of the
24 Division's action request response filed December 15, 2023
25 in this docket?

1 A. Yes, I have.

2 Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to that
3 filing?

4 A. No, I do not.

5 Q. Do you adopt the contents of that filing as
6 part of your testimony today?

7 A. Yes, I do.

8 Q. Based on your review, would approval of this
9 application on an interim basis be just, reasonable and in
10 the public interest?

11 A. Yes, it will.

12 MR. GRECU: I would like to move to admit the
13 Division's action request response filed December 15, 2023.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.
15 Dominion, any objections to that motion?

16 MS. CLARK: No.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. The motion is granted.

18 MR. GRECU: Thank you.

19 Q. (By Mr. Grecu) Do you have a summary to share
20 today?

21 A. I do. On December 1st Dominion Energy filed
22 its application to amortize the energy efficiency deferred
23 account balance to decrease the energy efficiency rate and
24 have the new rates effective January 1, 2024.

25 The current established position of energy

1 efficiency program shows a negative balance of
2 approximately \$2.5 million resulting from an over
3 collection from rate payers.

4 The objective is to calculate a new rate for
5 collecting of funds to cover the expenses of the energy
6 efficiency program and marketing the initiative while
7 minimizing the amount of interest income collected or paid
8 by the Company. The account balance fluctuates above or
9 below zero dollars of interest income during the year
10 within an intended net interest close to zero.

11 The Company provided two rate analysis
12 scenarios. Scenario A, a rate with no change. And
13 scenario B, a rate that decreases to 0.1597. The Division
14 conducted a third analysis, scenario C, at a rate of
15 0.18000 that was in the middle. Scenarios A and C resulted
16 both over collecting and paying interest income.

17 As proposed by Dominion, scenario B should be
18 the new proposed rate because over collecting and under
19 collecting will be balanced throughout the year. The
20 proposed rate decrease would minimize the net interest
21 amount from the period of January 1, 2024 through December
22 31, 2024.

23 Based on the projected balances a new proposed
24 rate will help meet financial goals of the energy
25 efficiency programs. The energy efficiency amortization

1 rate from 0.2321 to 0.15907 for a decrease of 0.0414
2 decatherms will equate to a typical residential customer
3 using 70 decatherms a year seeing \$3.09 decrease in their
4 annual bill, or .32 percent decrease independent of any
5 other decreases that the Company may -- increases or
6 decreases the Company may provide to their rate.

7 The Division supports the Company's request to
8 amortize the energy efficiency deferred account balance and
9 decrease their rate and recommends the Commission to
10 approve the application on an interim basis until the
11 Division completes a more thorough review and audit of the
12 programs at issue. There are eight programs and one market
13 initiative that need to be reviewed in depth. Final
14 recommendations will be provided at a later date.

15 Based on the Division's initial review the
16 proposed rate is in the public interest and represents a
17 just and reasonable rate for Utah and customers. The
18 Division will continue to monitor the overall program and
19 individual measures. I would like to add that we do that
20 not only quarterly the reports that the Company submits,
21 but also through an advisory board that the Company holds
22 meetings with on a consistent basis to determine the
23 efficiency and improvement that they may need to consider.

24 This concludes my summary. Thank you.

25 MR. GRECU: The witness is now available for

1 cross examination and questions from the hearing officer.

2 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.

3 Dominion, any questions for this witness?

4 MS. CLARK: We have no questions. Thanks.

5 HEARING OFFICER: I do have one question,
6 Ms. Springer. In the Division's comments, were you the
7 author of those comments?

8 THE WITNESS: I was.

9 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Thank you. On page 2
10 in the first bullet point the comment says that exhibits
11 1.1 and 1.2 purport to meet the requirements of a previous
12 Commission order. The use of the word purport caught my
13 attention. I have to ask you, was there an issue or
14 problem with exhibits 1.1 and 1.2?

15 THE WITNESS: Not to my knowledge.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Yeah. I was just curious
17 because the word purport suggests that there may be some
18 dispute about whether or not they actually do what they're
19 supposed to do. And so as the author of those comments and
20 your use of the word purport, your testimony is you didn't
21 have a problem or an issue with what is represented in
22 exhibits 1.1 and 1.2 of Dominion's application?

23 THE WITNESS: Correct.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Great. Thank you.
25 That's the only question I had.

1 THE WITNESS: Okay.

2 HEARING OFFICER: Anything further on this
3 docket from anybody then?

4 MR. GRECU: Nothing from the Division.

5 MS. CLARK: No.

6 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Great. Thank you very
7 much. Thank you for your testimony. Let's move to the
8 next docket, which is 23-057-21. Dominion, please proceed.

9 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much. We once again
10 and final time call Mr. Stevenson.

11 HEARING OFFICER: Please go ahead.
12 Mr. Stevenson, you're still under oath.

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MS. CLARK:

15 Q. Mr. Stevenson, in this docket, the third on our
16 agenda today, the Company filed an application with the
17 accompanying exhibits 1.1 through 1.5. Were those
18 documents also prepared by you or under your direction?

19 A. Yes, they were.

20 Q. Do you adopt the contents of those documents as
21 your testimony today?

22 A. I do.

23 MS. CLARK: The Company would move for the
24 admission of the application in docket 23-057-21 along with
25 the accompanying exhibits 1.1 through 1.5.

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1 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.

2 Mr. Grecu, any objection?

3 MR. GRECU: No objection.

4 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Motion granted.

5 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much.

6 Q. (By Ms. Clark) Mr. Stevenson, can you please
7 summarize the relief that the Company is seeking in this
8 docket?

9 A. Yes. In this docket the Company requests an
10 adjustment to the energy assistance fund rate. This will
11 result in an annual decrease of 12 cents for a typical
12 customer per year and allow the program to maintain the
13 funding level of \$1.5 million per year.

14 The Company is also proposing to adjust the
15 current annual energy assistance credit to \$91 per
16 qualifying customer per year. This credit is based on an
17 ongoing annual participation level of 22,499 participants.

18 In addition, the Company proposes a
19 contribution of \$250,000 to the Utah Department of
20 Workforce Services, Housing and Community Development,
21 Weatherization Assistance Program over the next 12 months.
22 Depending on how actual participation shakes out over the
23 coming months, the Company will fine tune these amounts and
24 propose adjusting accordingly in its next filing that
25 covers this program.

1 The proposed rates are just, reasonable and in
2 the public interest. Therefore, the Company requests that
3 the rates be approved with going into effect on January 1,
4 2024.

5 This concludes my summary.

6 MS. CLARK: Mr. Stevenson is now available for
7 cross examination and any questions that the hearing
8 officer may have.

9 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.
10 Mr. Grecu, any questions of this witness for the Division?

11 MR. GRECU: No questions for the Division.

12 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. And I have no
13 questions for this witness either. Thank you.

14 MS. CLARK: Thank you. The Company has nothing
15 further on this docket.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Mr. Grecu, for
17 the Division.

18 MR. GRECU: The Division would like to call
19 Ryan Daigle again.

20 HEARING OFFICER: Hello again, Mr. Daigle. You
21 are still under oath, so go for it.

22 THE WITNESS: Thank you. On December 1, 2023
23 Dominion filed its application for an adjustment to low
24 income/energy assistance rate in this docket number
25 23-057-21. The low income/energy assistance program

1 provides an annual credit for enrolled low income
2 customers.

3 In this docket Dominion requests a rate change
4 to credit the \$105,332 of over collection in excess of the
5 target funding amount of \$1.5 million. The Company
6 estimates that approximately 22,499 heat qualifying
7 customers will apply for the credit, as not all customers
8 qualify for this credit, and request to provide a credit of
9 \$91 per eligible customer.

10 If approved, independent of the other
11 concurrently filed applications the typical GS residential
12 customer using 70 decatherms per year will receive a
13 reduction to their annual bill of 12 cents. The \$250,000
14 contribution to DWS for the weatherization program is
15 similar to the contribution of previous filings.

16 The proposed change is in the public interest
17 and represents just and reasonable rates. Because it is
18 not subject to a Division audit, the Division recommends
19 the Commission approve the requested rate change in this
20 docket to the low income/energy assistance program as a
21 final rate with an effective date of January 1, 2024.

22 This concludes my summary.

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. GRECU:

25 Q. Mr. Daigle, just to clarify, have you

1 participated in this docket on behalf of the Division?

2 A. I did.

3 Q. And did you prepare and cause to be filed or
4 participate in the preparation of the filing of the
5 Division's actual request response filed in December of
6 2023?

7 A. Yes, I did.

8 Q. And do you adopt the contents of that filing as
9 part of your testimony today?

10 A. I do.

11 Q. And based on review would approval of this
12 application be just, reasonable and in the public interest?

13 A. It would.

14 Q. At this point I would like to move the
15 Division's action request response filed December 15, 2023.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Dominion, any
17 objections to the motion?

18 MS. CLARK: No objection.

19 HEARING OFFICER: I'll grant the motion and
20 also apologize for directing the witness to begin before
21 you did what you wanted to do, Mr. Grecu. Motion is
22 granted.

23 MR. GRECU: No problem. Thank you. I think
24 that is it for this docket. The witness is available for
25 cross examination and questions from the hearing officer.

1 HEARING OFFICER: Dominion, any questions of
2 this witness?

3 MS. CLARK: No questions. Thanks.

4 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Mr. Daigle, I
5 have no questions for you either. Thanks for participating
6 today.

7 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Anything else on the dash 21
9 docket?

10 MR. GRECU: Nothing from the Division.

11 MS. CLARK: Nothing.

12 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Why don't we move to
13 the last docket, docket 23-057-22. Call your first
14 witness.

15 MS. CLARK: Thank you. The Company will call
16 Jesse Jackson.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Good morning, Mr. Jackson.

18 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

19 HEARING OFFICER: Do you swear to tell the
20 truth today?

21 THE WITNESS: Yes.

22 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much. You're
23 sworn.

24 **

25 DIRECT EXAMINATION

1 BY MS. CLARK:

2 Q. Mr. Jackson, would you please state your full
3 name and business address for the record please?

4 A. Yes. My name is Jesse Jackson. My business
5 address is 333 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

6 Q. What position do you hold with the Company
7 Mr. Jackson?

8 A. I am a regulatory specialist.

9 Q. In this final docket on the agenda today,
10 Mr. Jackson, the Company has an application along with
11 accompanying exhibits 1.1 through 1.6. Did you prepare
12 those documents or were they prepared under your direction?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Do you adopt the contents of those documents as
15 your testimony today?

16 A. I do.

17 MS. CLARK: The Company would move for the
18 admission of the application and the accompanying exhibits
19 1.1 through 1.6.

20 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.

21 Mr. Grecu, any objection to that motion?

22 MR. GRECU: No objection.

23 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. The motion is granted.

24 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

25 Q. (By Ms. Clark) Mr. Jackson, can you please

1 summarize the relief the Company seeks in this docket?

2 A. Yes. In this docket the Company seeks to
3 adjust the infrastructure tracker placement rate to include
4 investment related to replacement funds as of November 30,
5 2023.

6 In the last generate rate case in docket number
7 23-057-03, the Commission ordered that the tracker
8 investment amount to be reset to zero dollars and also
9 required the Company to accumulate \$84.7 million in
10 investment on or after January 1, 2022 before requesting an
11 infrastructure tracker filing and rate increase again.

12 As of November 30, 2023 the Company has reached
13 and surpassed that threshold. The Company is requesting
14 \$2.1 million in annual revenue related to this investment.

15 If approved this would result in an increase of
16 \$1.21 per year, or .13 percent paid by a typical customer
17 using 70 decatherms per year.

18 The proposed rates are just, reasonable and in
19 the public interest. Therefore, the Company requests that
20 the rates be approved on an interim basis with an effective
21 date of January 1, 2024.

22 This concludes my summary.

23 MS. CLARK: Mr. Jackson is now available for
24 cross examination and questions from the hearing officer.

25 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.

1 Mr. Grecu, any questions of this witness for the Division?

2 MR. GRECU: No questions from the Division.

3 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. And Mr. Jackson, I
4 have no questions for you. Thank you.

5 MS. CLARK: The Company has nothing further on
6 this final docket.

7 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much. To the
8 Division.

9 MR. GRECU: The Division calls Eric Orton.

10 HEARING OFFICER: Good morning, Mr. Orton.

11 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

12 HEARING OFFICER: Do you swear to tell the
13 truth?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

15 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.

16 DIRECT EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. GRECU:

18 Q. Mr. Orton, could you please state and spell
19 your name for the record?

20 A. My name is Eric Orton, E-R-I-C, O-R-T-O-N.

21 Q. By whom are you employed and what is your
22 position?

23 A. I am employed by the Utah Division of Public
24 Utilities. I'm a utility technical consultant.

25 Q. What is your business address?

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1 A. 160 East 300 South in Salt Lake City. I'm in
2 the Heber Wells building.

3 Q. Could you provide a brief overview of your
4 educational background and relevant work experience?

5 A. Sure. I have a master's degree in business
6 administration. I've been in utility regulation for the
7 State for over 25 years.

8 Q. Have you participated in this docket on behalf
9 of the Division?

10 A. I did.

11 Q. Resulting your participation in this docket,
12 can you describe your activities?

13 A. Sure. I reviewed the application as well as
14 any accompanying exhibits, compared that to the fund
15 requirements in the appropriate section of the tariff, and
16 I also referenced past year's filings and did my analysis
17 and proposed comments.

18 Q. Did you prepare and cause to be filed or
19 participate in the preparation of the filing of the
20 Division action request response filed on December 15, 2023
21 in this docket?

22 A. I did.

23 Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to that
24 filing?

25 A. I do have one correction. In the section

1 entitled issues, the last sentence, that first paragraph
2 which is on the second page, first line of the second page
3 it says 2023. It should read 2024.

4 Q. With that correction do you adopt the contents
5 of that filing as part of your testimony today?

6 A. I do.

7 Q. Based on your review would approval of this
8 application on an interim basis be just, reasonable and in
9 the public interest?

10 A. It would.

11 MR. GRECU: With that noted correction I would
12 like to move to admit the Division's action request
13 response filed December 15, 2023?

14 HEARING OFFICER: Dominion, any objection to
15 that motion?

16 MS. CLARK: No, no objection.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much. The
18 motion is granted.

19 Q. (By Mr. Grecu) Mr. Orton, do you have a
20 summary to share today?

21 A. I do. Thank you. Based on preliminary review
22 of the application the Division recommends the Commission
23 approve the proposed rates in this infrastructure rate and
24 adjustment filing as requested by Dominion on an interim
25 basis with an effective date of January 1, 2024.

1 The purpose of this filing is for Dominion to
2 seek to modify the infrastructure rate adjustment tracker
3 to the distribution non-gas cost portion achieved on
4 natural gas rate schedules pursuant to section 2.07 percent
5 of its tariff.

6 The current proposal represents revenue
7 requirement increase of \$2.121 million. If approved the
8 typical GS customer would see an annual increase of \$1.21,
9 or 0.13 percent. This application complies with past
10 Commission orders.

11 The Division recommends the Commission approve
12 the proposed rates order. The Division recommends the
13 Commission approve the proposed rates on an interim basis
14 until the Division can complete its audit review, at which
15 time it will make a final recommendation to the Commission
16 to include any prudently incurred costs in the
17 infrastructure rate adjustment tracker in general rates as
18 part of the next general rate case.

19 If all four dockets addressed in this hearing
20 today are approved, the typical GS customer using 70
21 decatherms per year would see an increase of \$19.92 a year,
22 or 2.06 percent.

23 This concludes my comments. Thank you.

24 MR. GRECU: The witness is available for cross
25 examination and questions from the hearing officer.

1 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Any questions of
2 this witness by Dominion?

3 MS. CLARK: No, Dominion has no questions.

4 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Mr. Orton, I don't any
5 questions for you either. Thank you for appearing today.

6 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER: Anything else with respect to
8 the dash 22 docket?

9 MS. CLARK: Nothing from the Company.

10 MR. GRECU: Nothing from the Division.

11 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Then I believe that's
12 it. We've run through all four dockets and we're mindful
13 of the requested effective date of January 1, 2024. We
14 will issue appropriate orders in due course. If there is
15 nothing else we will be adjourned.

16 (The hearing concluded at 9:50 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF UTAH)
:
COUNTY OF SALT LAKE)

I, Melinda J. Andersen, Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the County of Salt Lake and State of Utah, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place herein set forth, and were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter transcribed into typewritten under my direction and supervision:

That the foregoing 35 pages contain a true and correct transcription of my shorthand notes so taken.

WITNESS MY HAND and official seal at Salt Lake City,

Utah this 5th day of January, 2024.

Melinda J Andersen

My Commission Expires: Melinda J. Andersen, C.S.R.
February 22, 2026

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[due - fund]

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[south - truth]

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Utah Rules of Civil Procedure
Part V. Depositions and Discovery

Rule 30

(E) Submission to Witness; Changes; Signing.

Within 28 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available, a witness may sign a statement of changes to the form or substance of the transcript or recording and the reasons for the changes. The officer shall append any changes timely made by the witness.

DISCLAIMER: THE FOREGOING CIVIL PROCEDURE RULES
ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.
THE ABOVE RULES ARE CURRENT AS OF APRIL 1,
2019. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPLICABLE STATE RULES
OF CIVIL PROCEDURE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

VERITEXT LEGAL SOLUTIONS

COMPANY CERTIFICATE AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Veritext Legal Solutions represents that the foregoing transcript is a true, correct and complete transcript of the colloquies, questions and answers as submitted by the court reporter. Veritext Legal Solutions further represents that the attached exhibits, if any, are true, correct and complete documents as submitted by the court reporter and/or attorneys in relation to this deposition and that the documents were processed in accordance with our litigation support and production standards.

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in encrypted form and are transmitted in an encrypted fashion to authenticated parties who are permitted to access the material. Our data is hosted in a Tier 4 SSAE 16 certified facility.

Veritext Legal Solutions complies with all federal and State regulations with respect to the provision of court reporting services, and maintains its neutrality and independence regardless of relationship or the financial outcome of any litigation. Veritext requires adherence to the foregoing professional and ethical standards from all of its subcontractors in their independent contractor agreements.

Inquiries about Veritext Legal Solutions' confidentiality and security policies and practices should be directed to Veritext's Client Services Associates indicated on the cover of this document or at www.veritext.com.