



Public Service Commission

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State of Utah

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Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

March 16, 2023

Mr. Kelly Mendenhall
Dominion Energy Utah
P.O. Box 45360
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0360

Re: *Application of Dominion Energy Utah for a Change in its Utah Natural Gas Tariff No. 600 to Include the Utility Bill Assistance Program, Docket No. 23-057-T03*

Dear Mr. Mendenhall:

The Public Service Commission (PSC) reviewed Dominion Energy Utah's (DEU) March 10, 2023 Application, including legislative and proposed tariff sheets, DEU Exhibits 1.1 and 1.2 (the "Application"), to revise Utah Natural Gas Tariff No. 600 by creating a new subsection that describes the Utility Bill Assistance Program and provides information related to program eligibility and reporting (the "Tariff"). The Application requests the PSC expedite its review and approve its proposed Tariff, effective March 17, 2023.

DEU explains that the 2023 Utah Legislature passed Senate Bill 288, creating the Utility Bill Assistance Program (the "UBAP").¹ The UBAP is available to electricity and natural gas utilities and provides bill credits to eligible customers to use against utility service account balances. The UBAP Statute provides that a large-scale utility may request PSC approval for a tariff authorizing the utility to provide credits to eligible customers from funds available to the program.² Under the UBAP Statute, a tariff creating a UBAP program that (1) does not result in increased costs to the utility's customers and (2) is found to be in the public interest, "shall" be approved by the PSC. *Id.*, Subsection (4).

The PSC also reviewed the Division of Public Utilities' (DPU) comments filed March 14, 2023. DPU states that it reviewed the Application and has determined that DEU's proposed Tariff is in the public interest and will not result in increased costs to utility customers. DPU also explains that the Utah Department of Commerce and DPU will fund the UBAP and that the funds are additive to the current Low-Income Assistance Program funds.

¹ SB 288 was codified at Utah Code Ann. § 54-4-42 (the "UBAP Statute").

² *Id.*, Subsection (3).

The PSC commends DEU's and DPU's swift collaboration to take advantage of a new program that will provide needed assistance to DEU's qualifying low-income customers. Based on the Application, DPU's comments and recommendations, the parties' representations, the PSC's review of UBAP, and in the absence of any opposition, the PSC finds that the proposed Tariff does not result in increased costs to DEU's customers. The PSC also concludes that the proposed Tariff is in the public interest because the bill credits will assist qualifying customers with their energy bills. Accordingly, the PSC approves the proposed Tariff, effective March 17, 2023.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg

PSC Secretary

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