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UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Division of Public Utilities

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Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director
Brenda Salter, Assistant Director
Abdinasir Abdulle, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor
Shauna Benvegnu-Springer, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: February 13, 2024

Re: **Docket No(s). 24-057-01 & 22-057-18**, Dominion Energy Utah's Report on Energy Efficiency Expenditures and Dekatherm Savings to End of November 2023

Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends the Public Service Commission of Utah (Commission) acknowledge Dominion Energy Utah's (Company) report of the ThermWise® Builder and Low-Income Program's compliance with reporting of ninety percent (90%) spending over the approved budget.

Issue

On January 16, 2024, the Company filed its Report on ThermWise® and Low-Income Program's energy efficiency expenditures for November 2023 with the Commission. The Company reported spending of \$6.64 million or eighty percent (80.5%) of the ThermWise® Builder budget and \$0.65 million or eighty-nine percent (89.5%) for the Low-Income Program by the end of October 2023. The Company reported that in November 2023, the Builder and Low-Income Program's year-to-date costs totaled \$7.73 million or ninety-three

Division of Public Utilities

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percent (93.7%) and 0.67 million or ninety-one percent (91.4%), respectively, of the 2023 program budgets.

On January 17, 2024, the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division requesting the reports and documentation be reviewed for compliance and to make any recommendations by February 15, 2024.

Background

The Commission's Order issued in Docket No. 09-057-15, dated January 12, 2010, stated the current requirement for the Company (Questar Gas at the time) was to report to the Commission when any energy efficiency program costs reach ninety percent (90%) of its budget, and if any energy efficiency program costs reach fifty percent (50%) of its budget before June 30 each year, or if any energy efficiency program costs are eighty percent (80%) of the budget by August. This memorandum addresses the Division's review and recommendations.

Discussion

The Company stated that the ThermWise® Builder Program has "experienced good participation" in programs such as Pay-for-Performance, fuel utilization efficiency, furnaces, and tankless water heating. The Low-Income Program experiences the majority of its costs through the semi-annual payments of \$250,000 for a total of \$500,000 paid annually to the State of Utah Weatherization Agency before the end of the year.

The Company has forecasted that the ThermWise® Builder costs will exceed its budget by spending one hundred and three percent (103.%) of the program budget at the end of the year. The Company further estimates that the Low-Income Program will finish by spending ninety-three percent (93%) of its budget by the end of the year.

The Division discussed the program's progress with the Company. The Company stated that the end-of-year reports would be submitted on or near February 15, 2024, and that the overall spending finished at 94% under budget.

Conclusion

The Company has complied with the Commission's Order and reported the appropriate information as required. The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge the Company's report of the ThermWise® Builder and Low-Income Programs spending of its relative budgets.

cc: Michael A. Orton, Dominion Energy Utah
Travis Willey, Dominion Energy Utah
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services