

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF QUESTAR GAS COMPANY d/b/a)
DOMINION ENERGY WYOMING FOR)
APPROVAL OF THE 2020 YEAR BUDGET)
FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS)

Docket No. 30010-186-GT-19
(Record No. 15381)

ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION
(Issued January 22, 2020)

This matter is before the Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) upon the Application of Questar Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Wyoming (Dominion or Company), for approval of its 2020 year budget for Energy Efficiency Programs.

1. Dominion is a public utility as defined by Wyo. Stat. § 37-1-101(a)(vi)(D), subject to the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to Wyo. Stat. § 37-2-112.

2. On October 31, 2019, Dominion submitted its Application requesting approval of its 2020 year budget and modification to the ThermWise® Energy Efficiency Programs pursuant to Wyo. Stat. § 37-2-121, Commission Rule Chapter 3, Section 21, and the Commission's *Order* issued on February 6, 2013 (Docket No. 30010-119-GT-12).

3. Dominion proposes continuing the five existing ThermWise® Energy Efficiency Programs (Programs): [i] Appliance Rebates Program; [ii] Builder Rebates Program; [iii] Business Rebates Program; [iv] Home Energy Plan Program; and [v] Weatherization Rebates Program.

4. The Company proposes to change the Appliance Rebates Program by eliminating the 95% and 98% annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) furnaces, which currently include an additional \$50 rebate for electrically commutated motors (ECM) as rebate-eligible. Because of the elimination of the ECM, the Company proposes to rebate >95% and >98% AFUE furnaces at \$300 and \$350 respectively in 2020. The Company also proposes making smart water heater controllers rebate-eligible in the Appliance Program in 2020. The Company proposes a \$50 rebate for smart water heater controllers that meet the equipment specifications outlined in the Company's Tariff. These two proposals also apply to the Builder Rebates Program.

5. Under the Business Rebates Program, the Company will offer rebates to commercial GS customers who purchase and install qualifying natural gas efficiency measures. The Company proposes to continue this program with the elimination of the \$50 ECM rebate and to establish the tiered rebate amounts for >95% and >98% AFUE furnaces at \$300 and \$350, respectively, in 2020. The Company also proposes to add one new tier of high efficiency boiler and one new tier of tankless water heaters to the list of current rebate-eligible equipment in the 2020 ThermWise® Business Program. The Company also proposes to introduce a pilot midstream incentive in 2020. Under this rebate method, the Company would pay rebates to boiler distributors, rather than directly to customers, as it has historically.

6. The Company proposes no major changes to the Home Energy Plan or the Weatherization Rebates Program.

7. Dominion projects the total 2020 budget for the Programs and Market Transformation Initiative to be \$211,964, a decrease of 3% from the 2019 budget. Dominion states the requested budget decrease results from lower expected participation in the 2020 Weatherization Program, as well as expected reductions in administrative and rebate processing costs in 2020. The Company estimates a total natural gas savings at 7,994 Dth/year, 2% below the projected 2019 estimate.

8. On November 6, 2019, the Commission issued its *Notice of Application*, which described the Application and provided an intervention deadline of December 6, 2019. The *Notice* was published in newspapers in Dominion's service area. The Commission received no comments or intervention petitions.

9. The Commission considered Dominion's Application at its properly noticed Open Meeting on December 23, 2019. Michael Orton, Director of Energy Efficiency, appeared by telephone on behalf of Dominion. Mr. Orton provided a summary of the Application, generally describing the information set forth in paragraphs 2 through 7, above. Commission Staff recommended the Commission approve the Application.

7. The Commission finds and concludes that Dominion's Application conforms to the requirements of Commission Rule Chapter 3, Section 21, Wyo. Stat. §37-2-121 and previous *Orders* of the Commission. The Commission further finds that approval of Dominion's Application is in the public interest.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. Pursuant to Open Meeting action taken on December 23, 2019, the Application of Questar Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Wyoming for approval of the 2020 budget for Energy Efficiency Programs is approved.

2. This *Order* is effective immediately.

MADE and ENTERED at Cheyenne, Wyoming, on January 22, 2020.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING



KARA B. FORNSTROM, Chairman



MARY A. THRONE, Deputy Chair



MICHAEL M. ROBINSON, Commissioner



Attest:


JOHN S. BURBRIDGE, Assistant Secretary