

169 FERC ¶ 61,093
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

November 5, 2019

In Reply Refer To:
Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc.
Dominion Energy Cove Point LNG, LP
Dominion Energy Carolina Gas Transmission, Inc.
Docket No. RP19-1607-000

Dominion Energy Services, Inc.
Law Department
120 Tredegar Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Waiver of Certain North American Energy Standards Board
Standards, Commission Regulations, and Tariff Provisions

Attention: Shelby Provencher, Senior Counsel
Dominion Energy Services, Inc.

Dear Ms. Provencher:

1. On September 26, 2019, the above captioned companies (collectively, Dominion Energy) filed a request for waiver regarding an unplanned outage experienced by Dominion Energy's customer electronic bulletin board (EBB) website systems on September 23, 2019. On October 8, 2019, Dominion filed supplemental information specifying the particular North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) Standards,¹

¹ Dominion Energy requests waiver of NAESB Standards 0.3.1 through 0.3.29 relating to additional standards, Standards 2.3.1 through 2.3.66 relating to flowing gas; Standards 3.3.1 through 3.3.26 relating to invoicing; Standards 1.3.2(vi) through 1.3.82 relating to nominations, Standards 4.3.1 through 4.3.106 relating to electronic delivery mechanisms; Standards 5.3.1 through 5.3.73 relating to handling of capacity release transactions; and Standards 10.3.1 through 10.3.27 relating to internet electronic transport.

Commission regulations,² and tariff provisions,³ for which Dominion Energy is requesting waiver. Dominion Energy also requests that the Commission grant any other waivers that may be deemed necessary as a result of the unintentional, limited suspension of its website communication tools. As discussed below, and for good cause shown, we grant Dominion Energy's request for waiver.

2. Dominion Energy states that it first became aware of the interruption of electronic services late on September 23, 2019, and that Dominion Energy was able to bring the systems back up with full functionality at approximately 9:00 p.m. on September 24, 2019 (Outage Period). According to Dominion Energy, the outage occurred unexpectedly during the relocation of equipment from one building to another at its headquarters location.

3. Dominion Energy states that, during the Outage Period, shippers were not able to view informational postings, make nominations, engage in capacity release transactions, or perform electronic data interchange (EDI) transactions. Dominion Energy states that it was also not able to update its customer internet websites to reflect updated nomination data.

4. Dominion Energy states that as soon as its communication system would allow it, Dominion Energy notified its customers via telephone, email, or informational website postings.⁴ Dominion Energy states that it worked diligently with its customers to handle customer scheduling and nomination requests during the Outage Period.

5. Dominion Energy argues that good cause exists to grant any necessary waivers because Dominion Energy did not interrupt any natural gas transportation or storage services during this event. Dominion Energy further argues that it took reasonable steps to provide notice to affected customers as the outage occurred.

² Dominion Energy requests waiver of section 284.12 of the Commission's regulations (18 C.F.R. § 284.12 (2019)) governing the standards for pipeline business operations and communications, and section 284.13 of the Commission's regulations (18 C.F.R. § 284.13 (2019)) governing the reporting requirements for interstate pipelines.

³ See Dominion Energy Supplemental Filing at n.2.

⁴ See Dominion Energy Filing, Attachment A.

6. Public notice of the filing was issued on October 3, 2019. Interventions and protests were due as provided in section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations.⁵ Pursuant to Rule 214,⁶ all timely filed motions to intervene and any unopposed motion to intervene out-of-time filed before the issuance date of this order are granted. Granting late intervention at this stage of the proceeding will not disrupt the proceeding or place additional burdens on existing parties. No protests or adverse comments were filed.

7. For good cause shown, we grant Dominion Energy's unopposed request for waiver of the NAESB standards, Commission regulations, and tariff provisions as discussed above, for the limited purpose of covering the unplanned outage on September 23-24, 2019.

By direction of the Commission.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

⁵ 18 C.F.R. § 154.210 (2019).

⁶ 18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2019).