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As I continue my internship with Dominion Energy, I've started to notice a big shift not only in what I'm doing day to day, but also in how I view my role in the company. As I get closer to graduating, I was offered a full-time position with Dominion Energy, which made this part of my internship feel a lot more real and important. Instead of just focusing on learning and observing, I'm now starting to think about how I can actually contribute long-term and grow within the company. At the same time, I've been getting more exposure to how the team is working on automating different processes, which has been one of the most interesting parts of my experience so far.

Recently, I've been seeing how a lot of tasks that used to be done manually are now being looked at for automation. This includes things like handling data, updating systems, and making sure outputs are consistent. Before, these tasks would take a lot of time and had more room for small mistakes, but automation is helping reduce that. It's made me realize how important it is for companies to constantly look for ways to improve efficiency, especially when dealing with large amounts of data or repetitive work.

What stood out to me is that automation isn't just about making things faster. There's actually a lot of thought that goes into it. The team has to understand the current process really well before they can automate it. If something is done incorrectly, automating it could just repeat that mistake over and over again, which could cause bigger issues. Because of that, I've seen how important it is to plan things out and make sure everything is working correctly before fully switching over to an automated process.

I've also started to understand how automation helps with scalability. As the company grows or as workloads increase, it would be really hard to keep up if everything was done manually. Automation makes it easier to handle more work without needing to increase effort at the same rate. This is especially important in a large company like Dominion Energy where multiple teams depend on accurate and timely information to do their jobs.

Even though the focus has been more on automation, I've noticed that making sure everything works correctly is still really important. Automated processes still need to be checked and monitored because if something goes wrong, it can affect a lot more at once. This connects back to things like system reliability and making sure outputs are accurate. It showed me that even when using advanced tools, you still need to pay attention to the details.

Getting the full-time offer has also changed how I approach my internship. I feel more motivated to learn as much as I can and to understand not just what I'm doing, but why it's being done that way. I've started to think more about how I can improve processes or be more helpful to the team instead of just completing tasks. It's also made me more confident that the skills I'm learning now will actually be useful for my career after graduation.

Overall, this part of my internship has helped me better understand how automation is used in a real work environment. It's not just about technology, but about improving how work gets done and making systems more efficient and reliable. As I get closer to finishing school and starting full-time, I'm looking forward to continuing to learn more about automation and finding ways to contribute to these kinds of improvements in the future.