

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter, on the Commission's own motion,)	
to implement the provisions of 2013 PA 95.)	Case No. U-17377
_____)	

At the July 27, 2021 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing,
Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Chair
Hon. Tremaine L. Phillips, Commissioner
Hon. Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner

ORDER

Public Act 95 of 2013 (Act 95), MCL 460.9t, created the Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund (LIEAF) within the State of Michigan Treasury. Section 9t(5) of Act 95 provides that money from the LIEAF shall be expended by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services as provided in the Michigan Energy Assistance Act, 2012 PA 615, MCL 400.1231 *et seq.* The Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) provides oversight of the LIEAF. Section 9t(6) of Act 95 provides that the Commission, after an opportunity to comment, may annually approve a low-income energy assistance funding factor no later than July 31 of each year for the subsequent fiscal year. MCL 460.9t(6).

The funding factor is a nonbypassable surcharge to be added to each retail billing meter but no more than one residential meter per residential site. MCL 460.9t(10)(b). The funding factor is payable monthly by every customer receiving retail distribution service from an electric utility, municipally owned electric utility, or cooperative electric utility, regardless of the identity of the

customer's electric generation supplier. *Id.* The funding factor shall be the same across all customer classes, shall not exceed \$1.00, and shall appear as a separate line item on each customer's bill. MCL 460.9t(6).

Electric utilities, including the municipally owned and cooperative electric utilities, may elect not to collect the funding factor by annually filing a notice with the Commission by July 1; however, utilities that do not collect the funding factor shall not shut off service to any residential customer from November 1 to April 15 for nonpayment of a delinquent account. MCL 460.9t(7). Utilities that do not opt out shall annually, by July 1, provide to the Commission the number of retail billing meters served by the utility in Michigan that are subject to the low-income energy assistance funding factor. MCL 460.9t(8). The Commission will thereafter determine the funding factor by July 31, after providing an opportunity to comment on a proposed factor.

Section 9t(6) of Act 95 provides that “[t]he amount used by the public service commission to calculate a low-income energy assistance funding factor during each fiscal year shall not exceed \$50,000,000.00 minus both the amount appropriated from the general fund in that fiscal year for home energy assistance and the amount remaining in the fund from the prior fiscal year.” MCL 460.9t(6).

Based on the information filed this year, the Commission issued an order on July 2, 2021, proposing a funding factor of \$0.87 for September 2021 through August 2022 and providing for the filing of comments through July 9, 2021. The Commission did not receive any comments on the proposed funding factor.

Based upon the utilities' elections, the meter count information, and taking into account the funding target of \$50,000,000, the Commission finds that the LIEAF funding factor shall be \$0.87 per meter per month for the September 2021 through August 2022 billing months. An electric utility, municipally owned electric utility, or cooperative electric utility that collects money under

Act 95 shall remit that money to the State Treasurer for deposit in the fund on a monthly basis no later than 30 days after the last day of each calendar month. MCL 460.9t(6). Utilities that have elected to participate and need further assistance on how to arrange for remittances to the LIEAF may contact Cheryl Rojas in the Commission's MEAP Section at rojasc@michigan.gov or (517) 284-8225.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. The Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund funding factor is \$0.87 per meter per month for the September 2021 through August 2022 billing months. Utilities that have elected to participate shall begin collecting the nonbypassable surcharge in the September 2021 billing month. Utilities that have opted out of collection of the surcharge shall not shut off service to any residential customer from November 1, 2021, to April 15, 2022, for nonpayment of a delinquent account.

B. Utilities whose rates are regulated by the Commission and who opted to collect the surcharge shall, within 30 days of the date of this order, file a tariff sheet with the Commission reflecting the surcharge.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, under MCL 462.26. To comply with the Michigan Rules of Court's requirement to notify the Commission of an appeal, appellants shall send required notices to both the Commission's Executive Secretary and to the Commission's Legal Counsel.

Electronic notifications should be sent to the Executive Secretary at mpscedockets@michigan.gov and to the Michigan Department of the Attorney General - Public Service Division at pungp1@michigan.gov. In lieu of electronic submissions, paper copies of such notifications may be sent to the Executive Secretary and the Attorney General - Public Service Division at 7109 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Daniel C. Scripps, Chair

Tremaine L. Phillips, Commissioner

Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner

By its action of July 27, 2021.

Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

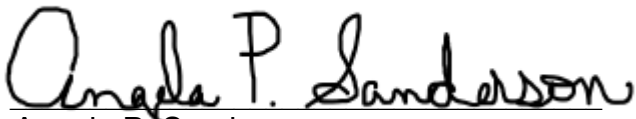
Case No. U-17377

County of Ingham)

Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on July 27, 2021 A.D. she electronically notified the attached list of this **Commission Order via e-mail transmission**, to the persons as shown on the attached service list (Listserv Distribution List).


Brianna Brown

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 27th day of July 2021.



Angela P. Sanderson
Notary Public, Shiawassee County, Michigan
As acting in Eaton County
My Commission Expires: May 21, 2024

GEMOTION DISTRIBUTION SERVICE LIST

kadarkwa@itctransco.com	ITC
sejackinchuk@varnumlaw.com	Energy Michigan
awallin@cloverland.com	Cloverland
bmalaski@cloverland.com	Cloverland
mheise@cloverland.com	Cloverland
vobmgr@UP.NET	Village of Baraga
braukerL@MICHIGAN.GOV	Linda Brauker
info@VILLAGEOFCLINTON.ORG	Village of Clinton
jgraham@HOMEWORKS.ORG	Tri-County Electric Co-Op
mkappler@HOMEWORKS.ORG	Tri-County Electric Co-Op
psimmer@HOMEWORKS.ORG	Tri-County Electric Co-Op
frucheyb@DTEENERGY.COM	Citizens Gas Fuel Company
mpsc.filings@CMSENERGY.COM	Consumers Energy Company
jim.vansickle@SEMCOENERGY.COM	SEMCO Energy Gas Company
kay8643990@YAHOO.COM	Superior Energy Company
vickie.nugent@wecenergygroup.com	Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation
jlarsen@uppc.com	Upper Peninsula Power Company
estocking@uppc.com	Upper Peninsula Power Company
dave.allen@TEAMMIDWEST.COM	Midwest Energy Coop
bob.hance@teammidwest.com	Midwest Energy Coop
tharrell@ALGERDELTA.COM	Alger Delta Cooperative
tonya@CECELEC.COM	Cherryland Electric Cooperative
bscott@GLEENERGY.COM	Great Lakes Energy Cooperative
sculver@glenergy.com	Great Lakes Energy Cooperative
kmarklein@STEPHENSON-MI.COM	Stephenson Utilities Department
debbie@ONTOREA.COM	Ontonagon County Rural Elec
ddemaestri@PIEG.COM	Presque Isle Electric & Gas Cooperative, INC
dbraun@TECMI.COOP	Thumb Electric
rbishop@BISHOPENERGY.COM	Bishop Energy
mkuchera@AEPENERGY.COM	AEP Energy
todd.mortimer@CMSENERGY.COM	CMS Energy
igoodman@commerceenergy.com	Just Energy Solutions
david.fein@CONSTELLATION.COM	Constellation Energy
kate.stanley@CONSTELLATION.COM	Constellation Energy
kate.fleche@CONSTELLATION.COM	Constellation New Energy
mpscfilings@DTEENERGY.COM	DTE Energy
bgorman@FIRSTENERGYCORP.COM	First Energy
rarchiba@FOSTEROIL.COM	My Choice Energy
greg.bass@calpinesolutions.com	Calpine Energy Solutions
rabaey@SES4ENERGY.COM	Santana Energy
cborr@WPSCI.COM	Spartan Renewable Energy, Inc. (Wolverine Power Marketing Corp)
gpirkola@escanaba.org	City of Escanaba
crystalfallsmgr@HOTMAIL.COM	City of Crystal Falls
felice@MICHIGAN.GOV	Lisa Felice
mmann@USGANDE.COM	Michigan Gas & Electric
mpolega@GLADSTONEMI.COM	City of Gladstone
dan@megautilities.org	Integrays Group
lrgustafson@CMSENERGY.COM	Lisa Gustafson

GEMOTION DISTRIBUTION SERVICE LIST

daustin@IGSENERGY.COM	Interstate Gas Supply Inc
krichel@DLIB.INFO	Thomas Krichel
cityelectric@BAYCITYMI.ORG	Bay City Electric Light & Power
jreynolds@MBLP.ORG	Marquette Board of Light & Power
bschlansker@PREMIERENERGYLLC.COM	Premier Energy Marketing LLC
ttarkiewicz@CITYOFMARSHALL.COM	City of Marshall
d.motley@COMCAST.NET	Doug Motley
mpauley@GRANGERNET.COM	Marc Pauley
ElectricDept@PORTLAND-MICHIGAN.ORG	City of Portland
kd@alpenapower.com	Alpena Power
dbodine@LIBERTYPOWERCORP.COM	Liberty Power
leew@WVPA.COM	Wabash Valley Power
tking@WPSCI.COM	Wolverine Power
ham557@GMAIL.COM	Lowell S.
BusinessOffice@REALGY.COM	Realgy Energy Services
landerson@VEENERGY.COM	Volunteer Energy Services
cmcarthur@HILLSDALEBPU.COM	Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities
mrzwiern@INTEGRYSGROUP.COM	Michigan Gas Utilities/Upper Penn Power/Wisconsin
Teresa.ringenbach@directenergy.com	Direct Energy
christina.crable@directenergy.com	Direct Energy
angela.schorr@directenergy.com	Direct Energy
ryan.harwell@directenergy.com	Direct Energy
johnbistranin@realgy.com	Realgy Corp.
kabraham@mpower.org	Katie Abraham, MMEA
mgobrien@aep.com	Indiana Michigan Power Company
mvorabouth@ses4energy.com	Santana Energy
suzy@megautilities.org	MEGA
tanya@meagutilities.org	MEGA
general@itctransco.com	ITC Holdings
lpage@dickinsonwright.com	Dickinson Wright
Deborah.e.erwin@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy
mmpeck@fischerfranklin.com	Matthew Peck
CANDACE.GONZALES@cmsenergy.com	Consumers Energy
JHDillavou@midamericanenergyservices.com	MidAmerican Energy Services, LLC
JCAltmayer@midamericanenergyservices.com	MidAmerican Energy Services, LLC
LMLann@midamericanenergyservices.com	MidAmerican Energy Services, LLC
karl.j.hoesly@xcelenergy.com	Northern States Power
kerri.wade@teammidwest.com	Midwest Energy Coop
dixie.teague@teammidwest.com	Midwest Energy Coop
meghan.tarver@teammidwest.com	Midwest Energy Coop
sarah.jorgensen@cmsenergy.com	Consumers Energy
Michael.torrey@cmsenergy.com	Consumers Energy
adella.crozier@dteenergy.com	DTE Energy
camilo.serna@dteenergy.com	DTE Energy
Michelle.Schlosser@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy
dburks@glenergy.com	Great Lakes Energy
kabraham@mpower.org	Michigan Public Power Agency

GEMOTION DISTRIBUTION SERVICE LIST

shannon.burzycki@wecenergygroup.com

kerdmann@atcllc.com

handrew@atcllc.com

phil@allendaleheating.com

tlundgren@potomaclaw.com

lochappelle@potomaclaw.com

Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation

American Transmission Company

American Transmission Company

Phil Forner

Timothy Lundgren

Laura Chappelle