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 2, 2024 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing, Michigan.

> PRESENT: Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Chair Hon. Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner Hon. Alessandra R. Carreon, Commissioner

ORDER AND NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

Public Act 95 of 2013 (Act 95), MCL 460.9t, created the Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund within the State Treasury. Act 95 provides that the Commission may, "after an opportunity to comment, 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 not charged on more than one residential meter per residential site), payable monthly by every customer that receives 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. MCL 460.9t(10)(b). 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 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 of the respective year for nonpayment of a delinquent account. MCL 460.9t(7). Further, the statute requires that the Commission, together with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, "ensure that all money collected for the fund from a geographic area is returned, to the extent possible, to that geographic area." MCL 460.9t(5). Utilities that do not opt out annually by July 1 shall 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 thereafter determines the funding factor by July 31, after providing an opportunity to comment on the proposed factor.

On May 23, 2024, the Commission issued an order reminding all affected utilities of the need to file the required information in this docket by 5:00 p.m. (Eastern time (ET)) on July 1, 2024.

The following utilities filed notices of their intent to participate in the Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund and their respective meter counts:

- Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association;
- Alpena Power Company;
- Village of Baraga;
- Bay City Electric Light and Power;
- Consumers Energy Company;
- Croswell Light and Power Department;
- City of Crystal Falls;
- City of Dowagiac;

- DTE Electric Company;
- City of Gladstone;
- Great Lakes Energy Cooperative;
- City of Hart Hydro;
- Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities;
- HomeWorks Tri-County Electric Cooperative;
- Indiana Michigan Power Company;
- Lansing Board of Water and Light;
- City of Marshall Electric Department;
- Midwest Energy and Communications;
- Negaunee Department of Public Works;
- Newberry Water and Light Board;
- Niles Utilities Department;
- Northern States Power Company;
- City of Norway;
- City of Petoskey;
- Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op;
- City of St. Louis;
- Thumb Electric Cooperative;
- Union City Electric Department; and
- Upper Peninsula Power Company.

The following utilities filed notices of their intent to opt out:

• Bayfield Electric Cooperative;

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- City of Charlevoix;
- Chelsea Department of Electric and Water;
- Cherryland Electric Cooperative;
- Village of Clinton;
- Cloverland Electric Cooperative;
- Coldwater Board of Public Utilities;
- Daggett Electric Department;
- City of Eaton Rapids;
- City of Escanaba;
- Grand Haven Board of Light and Power;
- City of Harbor Springs;
- Holland Board of Public Works;
- Village of L'Anse;
- Lowell Light and Power;
- Marquette Board of Light and Power;
- Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association;
- Village of Paw Paw;
- City of Portland;
- City of Sebewaing;
- City of South Haven;
- City of Stephenson;
- City of Sturgis;
- Traverse City Light and Power;

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- Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation;
- City of Wakefield;
- Wyandotte Department of Municipal Service; and
- Zeeland Board of Public Works.

The Commission reminds those utilities choosing to opt-out of contributing to the Low-

Income Energy Assistance Fund that they shall not shut off service to any residential customer

from November 1, 2024 to April 15, 2025, for non-payment of a delinquent account.

MCL 460.9t(7). The Commission further cautions those utilities choosing to opt-out that they may

be jeopardizing the ability of their customers to access programs that provide assistance for both

electric and home heating bills, given the statutory requirement that funds collected from a

geographic area are returned, to the extent possible, to that geographic area. MCL 460.9t(5).

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.

The Commission is informed by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs that the amount remaining in the fund from the prior fiscal year is \$282,889. MCL 460.9t(4). Thus, in reliance on the information that has been filed in this docket, the Commission calculates a funding factor of \$0.87 per meter per month for the coming fiscal year and invites comment on that factor.

Any person may submit written and electronic comments regarding the proposed funding factor. The comments should be paginated and reference Case No. U-17377 and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. (ET) on July 15, 2024. Written comments should be mailed to: Executive

Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 30221, Lansing, MI 48909. Electronic comments should be e-mailed to: <u>LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov</u>. If any person requires assistance prior to filing, they may contact the Commission Staff at (517) 284-8090 or by e-mail at <u>LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov</u>. All information submitted to the Commission in this matter will become public information available on the Commission's E-dockets website (either under the Filings or Case Comments section) and will be subject to disclosure; and all comments will be filed in Case No. U-17377.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that any person may file written comments regarding the calculated proposed funding factor of \$0.87 per meter per month. To be considered, all comments must be received at the Commission no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern time) on July 15, 2024, and should be paginated and reference Case No. U-17377.

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, pursuant to 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 <u>LARA-MPSC-</u> <u>Edockets@michigan.gov</u> and to the Michigan Department of Attorney General - Public Service Division at <u>hugheys@michigan.gov</u>. 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

Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner

Alessandra R. Carreon, Commissioner

By its action of July 2, 2024.

Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

Case No. U-17377

County of Ingham

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Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on July 2, 2024 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

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of July 2024.

Angela P. Sanderson Notary Public, Shiawassee County, Michigan As acting in Eaton County My Commission Expires: May 21, 2030

GEMOTION DISTRIBUTION SERVICE LIST

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Abraham, Katie - MMEA **AEP Energy** Alger Delta Cooperative Alpena Power American Transmission Company American Transmission Company **Bay City Electric Light & Power Bishop Energy** Brauker, Linda bp Energy Retail Company, LLC **Calpine Energy Solutions** Chappelle, Laura **Cherryland Electric Cooperative Citizens Gas Fuel Company** City of Crystal Falls City of Escanaba City of Gladstone City of Marshall City of Portland Cloverland Cloverland CMS Energy **Consumers Energy Company Consumers Energy Company Consumers Energy Company Consumers Energy Company Consumers Energy Company Constellation Energy** Constellation Energy **Constellation New Energy Dickinson Wright Dillon Power, LLC Direct Energy Direct Energy Direct Energy DTE Energy DTE Energy** DTE Energy Eligo Energy MI, LLC **Energy Harbor** Energy International Power Marketing d/b/a PowerOne **Energy Michigan** ENGIE Gas & Power f/k/a Plymouth Energy

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Felice, Lisa **First Energy** Forner, Phil Great Lakes Energy **Great Lakes Energy Cooperative** Great Lakes Energy Cooperative Gustafson, Lisa Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities HomeWorks Tri-County Electric Cooperative HomeWorks Tri-County Electric Cooperative Indiana Michigan Power Company **Integrys Group** Interstate Gas Supply Inc **ITC Holdings ITC Holdings Just Energy Solutions** Krichel, Thomas Liberty Power Lowell S. Lundgren, Timothy Marguette Board of Light & Power MEGA MEGA Michigan Gas & Electric Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation Michigan Gas Utilities/Upper Penn Power/Wisconsin Michigan Public Power Agency MidAmerican Energy Services, LLC MidAmerican Energy Services, LLC MidAmerican Energy Services, LLC **Midwest Energy Cooperative Midwest Energy Cooperative Midwest Energy Cooperative** Midwest Energy Cooperative Midwest Energy Cooperative Motley, Doug My Choice Energy Nordic Energy Services, LLC Northern States Power **Ontonagon County Rural Elec** Pauley, Marc Peck, Matthew Premier Energy Marketing LLC

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Presque Isle Electric & Gas Cooperative, INC Presque Isle Electric & Gas Cooperative, INC Realgy Corp. **Realgy Energy Services** Santana Energy Santana Energy Spartan Renewable Energy, Inc. (Wolverine Power Marketing Corp) **Stephenson Utilities Department** Superior Energy Company Texas Retail Energy, LLC **Thumb Electric Cooperative** Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation **Upper Peninsula Power Company Upper Peninsula Power Company** Village of Baraga Village of Clinton **Volunteer Energy Services** Wabash Valley Power **Wolverine Power** Wood, Amanda **Xcel Energy** Xcel Energy