

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the application of )  
**DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY** for approval of its )  
integrated resource plan pursuant to ) Case No. U-21193  
MCL 460.6t and for other relief. )  
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At the February 19, 2026 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing,  
Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Chair  
Hon. Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner  
Hon. Shaquila Myers, Commissioner

**ORDER**

On December 22, 2025, DTE Electric Company (DTE Electric) filed an application in this case (December 22 application), with supporting affidavit and exhibits, pursuant to Section 6t of Public Act 341 of 2016, MCL 460.6t; Section 6j of Public Act 304 of 1982, MCL 460.6j; Public Act 295 of 2008, MCL 460.1001 *et seq.*, as amended; and all other applicable law, requesting *ex parte* approval of the White Pine Grove Solar Park Project (the Project) and the engineering, procurement, and construction master service agreement and module supply agreement (collectively, the Contracts) necessary to develop the Project, as consistent with DTE Electric's integrated resource plan (IRP) approved in the July 26, 2023 order in Case No. U-21193 (July 26 order).

On November 3, 2022, DTE Electric filed its IRP under MCL 460.6t in this docket. On July 12, 2023, the parties filed a settlement agreement (IRP settlement agreement), resolving all

issues in the IRP. On July 26, 2023, the Commission issued an order in this docket approving the IRP settlement agreement. *See* July 26 order, pp. 11-12. The IRP settlement agreement is attached to the July 26 order as Exhibit A.

Included in the IRP settlement agreement is the company's commitment to utilize competitive solicitation processes to acquire technologies specified in the company's proposed course of action and to seek approval of contracts selected for development of renewable resources arising from the IRP through *ex parte* applications to the Commission. *See*, July 26 order, Exhibit A, p. 11. DTE Electric notes that the parties to the IRP settlement agreement agreed that projects priced at or below fair market value by the Independent Monitor (IM) or at or below 150% of the \$52.80 per megawatt-hour (MWh) solar levelized cost of energy (LCOE) (i.e., \$79.20 per MWh) are consistent with the company's IRP. December 22 application, pp. 2-3.

DTE Electric's December 22 application seeks *ex parte* approval of the Project, a 100-megawatt (MW) solar facility located in Calhoun County with interconnection at the METC Bearcat Substation with an executed generator interconnection agreement (GIA) allowing for a commercial operation date (COD) grace period through December 2028. The company avers that the Project is consistent with the IRP settlement agreement because the expected \$79 per MWh LCOE is below both the IM's fair-market benchmark and 150% of the solar LCOE used in the IRP model. December 22 application, p. 5. DTE Electric states that approval will not increase customer rates as the Project costs align with its approved IRP, as well as its amended renewable energy plan approved by the Commission on May 15, 2025, in Case No. U-21662.

DTE Electric indicates that, at the time of filing the December 22 application, the company has an executed power purchase agreement (PPA) with White Pine Grove Solar, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Hanwha Q Cells EPC USA LLC (Hanwha). December 22 application, p. 3. The

PPA was approved by the Commission on April 11, 2024, in Case No. U-21193 (April 11 order). The expected LCOE of the PPA, including the financial compensation mechanism, was approved by the Commission as consistent with the IRP settlement agreement at \$79 per MWh. April 11 order, p. 6.

The company's December 22 application further represents that following Commission approval of the PPA, Hanwha indicated to the company an intention to explore options for selling development rights to the Project to DTE Electric or another third-party solar developer. December 22 application, p. 4. DTE Electric and Hanwha executed a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MOU) and term sheet effective August 4, 2025. *Id.* After DTE Electric performed due diligence regarding the potential acquisition of the membership interests of White Pine Grove Solar, LLC, DTE Electric and Hanwha entered into a Membership Interest Purchase Agreement (MIPA) to effectuate the acquisition on December 17, 2025. *Id.* DTE Electric notifies the Commission that subsequent to approval of the December 22 application and closing of the MIPA for the company to acquire the Project, the parties intend to terminate the PPA approved in the April 11 order. December 22 application, p. 4. DTE Electric also commits to increasing the PPA capacity target in a future renewable energy request for proposal (RFP) by 100-MW to account for the 100 MW of PPA capacity which had been allocated to the PPA. *Id.*

The Commission has reviewed DTE Electric's application, the supporting affidavit and exhibits, and the relevant statutory language. The Commission notes that the Commission Staff conducted an audit of the Contracts on December 10, 2025. The Commission finds that the Project should be approved. The Commission also finds that the Project was selected for development in a manner consistent with the IRP settlement agreement approved by the Commission in the July 26 order. Although the Project was not procured through a competitive

bid process as a self-build project, having originally been sourced as a PPA<sup>1</sup> and based on the circumstances regarding Hanwha's intentions described in the December 22 application, the Commission finds that Hanwha's unsolicited proposal provided an opportunity to DTE Electric that was not otherwise available or commercially practical through a competitive bid process. *See*, MCL 460.1028(6).

Furthermore, the Commission finds that the costs for the Project are at or below the approved LCOE cost in the July 26 order. As to cost recovery, the Commission shall review for reasonableness and prudence the final costs for the Project in the appropriate renewable energy reconciliation proceeding following the Project's commercial operation. The Commission further finds that *ex parte* review and approval are appropriate, as such approval will not affect rates or rate schedules resulting in an increase in the cost of service to customers. *See*, MCL 460.6a(3).

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the December 22, 2025 application filed by DTE Electric Company requesting *ex parte* approval of the White Pine Grove Solar Park project, as well as the contracts necessary for the development of the project, are approved.

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

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<sup>1</sup> As described in DTE Electric's December 22 application, the PPA was originally procured through the 2023 All Source Request for Proposal (RFP) that DTE Electric developed in consultation with the Staff pursuant to and consistent with the December 4, 2008 Temporary Order and December 23, 2008 Amendatory Order in Case No. U-15800; the September 9, 2021 Competitive Procurement Guidelines in Case No. U-20852; and the June 9, 2021 Settlement Agreement in Case Nos. U-20713 and U-20851. December 22 application, pp. 3-4. The Commission concluded that the PPA was procured in a manner consistent with the IRP settlement agreement. April 11 order, p. 6.

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 484.2203(12). 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 [LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov](mailto:LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov) and to the Michigan Department of Attorney General - Public Service Division at [sheac1@michigan.gov](mailto:sheac1@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

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Daniel C. Scripps, Chair

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Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner

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Shaquila Myers, Commissioner

By its action of February 19, 2026.

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Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

# PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

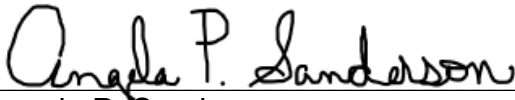
Case No. U-21193

County of Ingham )

Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on February 19, 2026 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 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.



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

**Service List for Case: U-21193**

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