

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the application of	)	
ALPENA POWER COMPANY for approval of its	)	
interconnection procedures and forms, submitted	)	Case No. U-21483
pursuant to the Commission's own motion,	)	
commencing a collaborative for the development of	)	
electric utility interconnection procedures.	)	
_____	)	

At the October 1, 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 April 24, 2023, the Commission issued an order in Case No. U-20890 adopting the Interconnection and Distributed Generation Standards (MIXDG rules), which are codified at Mich Admin Code, R 460.901a *et seq.*, and became effective on April 25, 2023. The MIXDG rules include fee caps for distributed energy resources (DERs). Mich Admin Code, R 460.926 (Rule 26), reads in pertinent part that:

- (3) The initial fee caps for a fast track supplemental review and the study track for all levels of DERs are as follows:
 - (a) The fee for a fast track supplemental review including all review screens may not exceed \$1,000.
 - (b) The study track fee for interconnection application review and the scoping meeting may not exceed \$300.
 - (c) The system impact study fee may not exceed \$10,000.
 - (d) The facilities study fee may not exceed \$15,000.
- (4) The fees listed in subrule (2) and initial fee caps listed in subrule (3) of this rule,

must be displayed prominently on the electric utility's interconnection website.

(5) An electric utility that expects to incur costs greater than the fees listed in subrule (2) or initial fee caps listed in subrule (3) of this rule in the evaluation of an interconnection application may file a request for a waiver pursuant to [Mich Admin Code,] R 460.910 [(Rule 10)].

On January 23, 2025, the Commission issued an order in the instant docket (January 23 order) approving Alpena Power Company's (Alpena's) December 9, 2024 interconnection procedures, forms, and Standard Level 4 and 5 and Non-Certified Project Interconnection Agreement. January 23 order, p. 4. The Commission also directed that Alpena utilize the Standard Level 1, 2, and 3 Interconnection Agreement approved in the July 23, 2024 order in Case No. U-21543 for Level 1, 2, and 3 certified projects. January 23 order, pp. 4-5.

On July 8, 2025, Alpena filed an application in this docket (July 8 application) requesting *ex parte* approval for a waiver pursuant to Rule 10 of the interconnection system impact study fee cap of \$10,000 in Rule 26(3)(c) and the facilities study fee cap of \$15,000 in Rule 26(3)(d). On September 30, 2025, the Commission issued an order in this docket (September 30 order) approving the July 8 application and granting a one-year waiver of the study fee caps under Rule 26(3)(c), along with approving the company's proposal to increase the system impact study fee cap to \$25,000. September 30 order, p. 3. The Commission also granted the company a one-year waiver of Rule 26(3)(d) and approved Alpena's request to increase the facilities study fee cap to \$30,000. *Id.*

On August 3, 2026, Alpena filed an *ex parte* application in this docket (August 3 application), along with the testimony and exhibits of the company's President and Chief Operating Officer, Kenneth A. Dragiewicz, requesting extensions of the waivers approved by the September 30 order. Alpena provides that:

[s]ince implementation of the September 30 Order, Alpena has processed three (3) Level 5 interconnection projects requiring System Impact Studies and Facilities

Studies. The cost of these studies varies based on the specific interconnection configuration proposed by the customer. In many instances, customers request evaluation of multiple interconnection configurations or alternatives as part of the study process. Each additional configuration requires separate engineering analysis and increases the time and expense necessary to complete the System Impact Study and Facilities Study.

August 3 application, p. 4. Alpena further asserts that “the approved fee caps more appropriately reflect the actual costs of performing these studies,” that the requested relief will not increase rates or charges for any customer, and that *ex parte* approval is appropriate. *Id.*

The Commission agrees with Alpena that extending the increased fee caps for the two studies is reasonable due to the small sample size, the need to contract a consultant to conduct studies, and the possibility of requiring substation modifications. The Commission further agrees with Alpena that the study costs may vary and may exceed the caps outlined in Rules 26(3)(c) and (d) and that continuing the increased caps approved by the September 30 order will ensure that Alpena is collecting enough to cover its internal costs and the costs for having the studies conducted. The Commission also finds that granting the waiver extensions to Alpena will not result in any increase in the cost of service to its customers; thus, the application is appropriate for *ex parte* approval. *See*, MCL 460.6a(3).

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. Alpena Power Company is granted an additional one-year waiver pursuant to Mich Admin Code, R 460.910 from the provisions of Mich Admin Code, R 460.926(3)(c) and is authorized to charge a maximum system impact study fee of \$25,000 during that time, as described in this order.

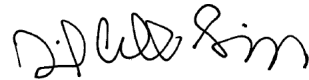
B. Alpena Power Company is granted an additional one-year waiver pursuant to Mich Admin Code, R 460.910 from the provisions of Mich Admin Code, R 460.926(3)(d) and is authorized to charge a maximum facilities study fee of \$30,000 during that time, as described in this order.

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 LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov and to the Michigan Department of Attorney General - Public Service Division at sheacl@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.

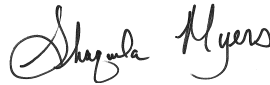
MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Daniel C. Scripps, Chair

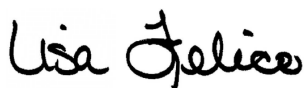


Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner



Shaquila Myers, Commissioner

By its action of October 1, 2026.



Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

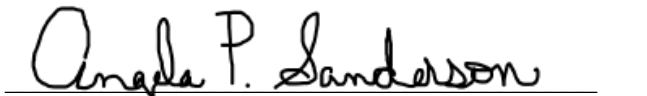
Case No. U-21483

County of Ingham)

Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on October 1, 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 1st day of October 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-21483

Name	On Behalf Of	Email Address
Alpena Power Company	Alpena Power Company	kd@alpenapower.com
Timothy M. Gulden	Alpena Power Company	tmgulden@bfwlawfirm.com