MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING ON JULY 9, 2020

Commission Chairman Sally A. Talberg called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Executive Secretary Lisa Felice called the roll and declared there was a quorum.

### **PRESENT**

Commission: Sally A. Talberg, Chairman

Daniel C. Scripps, Commissioner Tremaine L. Phillips, Commissioner

Staff: Barbara Kunkel

Lisa Felice

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 111 Participants

Chairman Talberg outlined the process of conducting a Commission Meeting via Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing.

I. Commissioner Scripps moved to approve today's agenda, Commissioner Phillips seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips

Nays - None

The agenda was approved.

**II.** Commissioner Scripps moved to approve the minutes of the Special Commission Meeting of June 30, 2020, Commissioner Phillips seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips

Nays - None

The minutes were approved.

# III. CONSENTED ORDERS

# A. COMMUNICATIONS

1.	U-12627	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEW EDGE NETWORK, INC. d/b/a NEW EDGE NETWORKS AND AMERITECH MICHIGAN d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN
	U-13124	(requests to withdraw applications to amend) IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN MCLEODUSA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC. AND VARIOUS SBC COMMUNICATIONS, INC. OWNED COMPANIES, INCLUDING AT&T MICHIGAN
	U-14176	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF A MULTI-STATE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN CINERGY COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY AND VARIOUS SBC COMMUNICATIONS, INC. OWNED COMPANIES, INCLUDING SBC MICHIGAN d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN
	U-14398	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF A MULTI-STATE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN NORLIGHT TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND VARIOUS SBC COMMUNICATIONS, INC. OWNED COMPANIES, INCLUDING SBC MICHIGAN d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN
	U-15302	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN WINDSTREAM KDL, INC., f/k/a KENTUCKY DATA LINK, INC., AND AT&T MICHIGAN
	U-15946	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN PAETEC COMMUNICATIONS, INC., AND MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY, d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN
	U-16121	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN TALK AMERICA, INC., d/b/a CAVALIER TELEPHONE AND LDMI TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC., AND MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY, d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN
	U-16760	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN US XCHANGE OF MICHIGAN, L.L.C. d/b/a ONE COMMUNICATIONS AND MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN

2.	U-16133	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF GLOBAL CONNECTION INC. OF AMERICA FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER PURSUANT TO SECTION 214(e)(2) OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996 (request to voluntarily relinquish designation)
3.	U-16299	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN EAGLENET, INC. AND MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN (twenty-second amendment)
	U-16913	IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN BUCKEYE TELESYSTEM, INC. AND MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN
	U-17162	(fifth amendment) IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF THE RESALE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN CENTURYTEL OF MIDWEST-MICHIGAN, INC., CENTURYTEL OF MICHIGAN, INC., CENTURYTEL OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN, INC., CENTURYTEL OF UPPER MICHIGAN, INC., d/b/a CENTURYLINK, AND SPECTROTEL, INC.
	U-20758	(first amendment) IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN WOLVERINE TELEPHONE COMPANY AND ONOVOY, LLC
	U-20759	(interconnection agreement) IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHATHAM TELEPHONE COMPANY AND ONVOY, LLC
	U-20760	(interconnection agreement) IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN SHIAWASSEE TELEPHONE COMPANY AND ONVOY, LLC
	U-20761	(interconnection agreement) IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY AND ONVOY, LLC
	U-20762	(interconnection agreement) IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION OF MICHIGAN AND ONVOY, LLC (interconnection agreement)

4.	U-20767	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF COLI, INC d/b/a 186NETWORKS FOR A TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT LICENSE TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MICHIGAN (temporary license/interim order)
5.	MINUTE ACTION	AT&T MICHIGAN (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice No. 517 R41-0001 067 9, dated June 1, 2020)
6.	MINUTE ACTION	FRONTIER MICHIGAN (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice Nos. MI9NGMTS9110603 and MI9NZMTS9110603, dated June 3, 2020)
7.	MINUTE	PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK NEXT GENERATION SERVICES,
	ACTION	LLC (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice No. 50013354, dated June 1, 2020)
B.	ELECTRIC	
1.	U-20218	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ALPENA POWER COMPANY FOR RECONCILIATION OF ITS POWER SUPPLY COST RECOVERY PLAN FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 (proposed settlement agreement)
2.	U-20372	IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY TO FULLY COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008, AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC ACT 342 OF 2016 (proposed amended settlement agreement)
C.	GAS	
1.	U-20248	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF UPPER MICHIGAN ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION FOR RECONCILIATION OF ITS GAS COST RECOVERY PLAN FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2019 (proposed settlement agreement)
2.	U-20738	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF SEMCO ENERGY

GAS COMPANY FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ABANDONMENT

OF APPROXIMATELY 4.3 MILES OF NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PURSUANT TO MCL 460.6z (proposed settlement agreement)

- 3. U-20745 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF BLUEWATER GAS STORAGE, LLC FOR AUTHORITY TO MODIFY THE INSPECTION SCHEDULE FOR ITS NATURAL GAS STORAGE FACILITIES IN COLUMBUS AND WALES TOWNSHIPS, ST. CLAIR COUNTY, MICHIGAN (proposed settlement agreement)
- 4. MINUTE NEW ENGLAND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION ACTION (FERC Docket No. EL20-42-000)
- 5. MINUTE WASHINGTON 10 STORAGE CORP. ACTION (FERC Docket No. CP20-470)

Commissioner Scripps moved that the Commission approve all the orders and minute actions on the consent agenda. Commissioner Phillips seconded that motion.

> Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips Nays – None

The 9 orders and 5 minute actions were adopted.

#### IV. OTHER ORDERS

### A. ELECTRIC

1. U-17377 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF 2013 PA 95 (proposed low-income energy assistance funding factor)

Case No. U-17377 involves setting the Low Income Energy Assistance Fund factor. The order before you establishes a deadline for the filing of comments on the proposed factor. Commissioner Scripps moved that the Commission approve the order at its July 9, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Phillips seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-18232 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION,
REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS,
DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR DTE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO FULLY COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACTS
295 OF 2008
(amended renewable energy plan)

Commission Staff Merideth Hadala, Energy Resources Division, presented a brief synopsis of the case listed above. Commissioner Scripps moved that the Commission approve the order at its July 9, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Phillips seconded that motion.

## Chairman Talberg commented:

"I just wanted to acknowledge that it did take us a while to this point to approve DTE's plan for meeting the state's updated renewable portfolio standard. I think we are in good shape now. Today's order provides much needed certainty on the near-term renewable energy investments. It is important to point out that we have been operating under the competitive bidding guidelines developed shortly after the 2008 law creating the state's renewable portfolio standard. Although we have clarified our expectations, such as the need to consider third-party purchased power contracts, we look forward to more in-depth discussions among stakeholders as part of the MI Power Grid initiative to formulate updated competitive procurement guidelines. This is critical given the rapid change in energy technologies such as storage, to ensure that procurement processes do not present market entry barriers.

With the approval of this order, all MPSC-regulated utilities will have approved renewable energy plans to comply with the state's renewable energy portfolio standard of 15% by 2021; utilities are also on track to meet the combined goal of 35% of energy from the cleanest sources by 2025 – meaning energy waste reduction and renewable energy. Nearly all the utilities also have voluntary commitments to reduce carbon emissions, in many cases net zero by 2050, and to make additional investments in renewable energy.

We are seeing strong customer interest in the voluntary green pricing programs that were included in the 2016 energy laws – where customers can obtain up to 100% of their electricity from renewable energy.

DTE's investment in renewable energy represents over 2000 MW, including the new wind project and 2 solar purchased power agreements approved in this order today. This represents over \$3.5B in new investment in renewable energy in our state for this one utility. Also, investing in the Bluewater gas plant that is under construction in SE Michigan, will help maintain electric reliability with all the coal plants closing.

Since I joined the MPSC in 2013, Michigan has been fundamentally changing its resource portfolio from a heavy reliance on coal to the more diverse, cleaner mix that we have today. I appreciate the direction from the legislature on these issues, particularly the 2016 comprehensive energy reform laws that passed with broad, bipartisan support, and all the work by utilities, staff, and stakeholders as we navigate this change in the energy industry. I also appreciate the

participation of the parties in this case as it helped guide our decision making, and the hard work of staff and our attorneys and advisors for handling this under the compressed timeframe."

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips Nays – None

The order was adopted.

3. U-18350 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATION, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR ALPENA POWER COMPANY TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 61 OF 2016 PA 342

(voluntary green pricing program)

Case No. U-18350 involves an application by Alpena Power Company, pursuant to Section 61 of 2008 PA 295, as amended by 2016 PA 342, requesting approval of its voluntary green pricing program proposal. The order before you approves the company's voluntary green pricing program proposal. Commissioner Scripps moved that the Commission approve the order at its July 9, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Phillips seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips Nays – None

The order was adopted.

4. U-18361 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO PROMULGATE RULES REQUIRED BY MCL 460.10ee(1) (value-added program or service)

U-18485 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO PROCESS DATA PRIVACY TARIFFS FILED IN COMPLIANCE WITH MICH ADMIN CODE, R 460.153 FOR APPROVAL

Case Nos. U-18361 *et al.* involve the promulgation of rules establishing a Code of Conduct for utilities and alternative electric suppliers, and the approval of data privacy tariffs. The order before you approves revised data privacy tariff language and adopts certain information sharing procedures. Commissioner Scripps moved that the Commissioner phillips seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips Nays – None The order was adopted.

5. U-20604 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS

(ex parte/proposed amendment)

Case No. U-20604 involves an application by Consumers Energy Company requesting *ex parte* approval of amended power purchase agreements between Consumers Energy Company and Bullhead Solar, LLC; Geddes 1 Solar, LLC; and Geddes 2 Solar, LLC. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Scripps moved that the Commission approve the order at its July 9, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Phillips seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips Nays – None

The order was adopted.

6. U-20835 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR ACCOUNTING APPROVAL TO ACCELERATE AMORTIZATION OF THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT REGULATORY LIABILITY FOR NON-PLANT RELATED ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAXES (ex parte/request for accounting approval)

Case No. U-20835 involves an application by DTE Electric Company requesting *ex parte* approval for accounting authority to accelerate the amortization of its Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 regulatory liability for non-plant-related accumulated deferred income tax balances and of its plan to file a securitization financing application and request for financing order in 2021. The order before you approves the application, with guidance and clarification as set forth in the order. Commissioner Scripps moved that the Commission approve the order at its July 9, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Phillips seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips Nays – None

The order was adopted.

#### V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Chairman Talberg indicated that despite the impact of COVID on electricity consumption this year, demand is high due to the hot weather with both regional transmission organizations serving Michigan issuing alerts this week in response to the tight supply conditions and planned or unplanned power plant outages. The Commission issued a press release on July 8, 2020 with tips on staying cool and saving energy. The press release is archived at: <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,9535,7-395-93307">https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,9535,7-395-93307</a> 93313 17280-533719--,00.html .

Chairman Talberg acknowledged Commission Scripps for being selected to serve on the Special Taskforce on Emergency Preparedness, Recovery, and Resiliency, including the Subcommittee to establish the national response to COVID-19, which was established by our National Association of Utility Regulatory Commissioners, NARUC. It is a great opportunity to share what we have learned and gain insights from other regulators around the country. Chairman Talberg thanked Commission Scripps for representing Michigan in this important effort.

Chairman Talberg announced that the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on July 23, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. We anticipate that this meeting will be held remotely via Microsoft Teams video conferencing.

Commissioner Scripps moved that the Commission adjourn, Commissioner Phillips seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Scripps, Phillips Nays – None

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.	
	Lisa Felice
	Executive Secretary