

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN ITS OFFICES AND AVAILABLE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING ON JUNE 23, 2022.

Commission Chair Daniel C. Scripps called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.
Executive Secretary Lisa Felice called the roll and declared there was a quorum.

PRESENT

Commission: Daniel C. Scripps, Chair
Tremaine L. Phillips, Commissioner

Staff: Lisa Gold
Lisa Felice
Al Freeman
Anne Armstrong
Andy Hannum
Kyle Daymon
Charlie Tidwell
Pat Hudson
Paul Proudfoot
Barbara Kunkel
Matt Helms
Stephanie Haney
Meagan Emmons
Ryan Wilson
Mike Byrne
Wendy Cadwell
Diane Martin

Public: Mike Torrey, Consumers Energy
Heidi Myers, Consumers Energy

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 121 Participants

Chair Scripps noted:

“Commissioner Peretick would very much like to be with us today. Yesterday she highlighted a panel discussion in Washington, D.C. on energy storage resources. This is an area where she has considerable expertise and unfortunately, fell victim to some of the challenges in the travel industry that I think have been getting a fair amount of attention lately. We will certainly miss her presence here today. We may even hear from her in the agenda but will not be participating in the discussion per the requirements of the Open Meetings Act.”

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

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The agenda was approved.

II. Commissioner Phillips moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of May 26, 2022, Chair Scripps seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The minutes were approved.

III. CONSENTED ORDERS

A. COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. U-17893 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A TRAFFIC EXCHANGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CENTURYTEL MIDWEST-MICHIGAN, INC. d/b/a CENTURYLINK, CENTURYTEL OF MICHIGAN, INC. d/b/a CENTURYLINK, CENTURYTEL OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN, INC. d/b/a CENTURYLINK, CENTURYTEL OF UPPER MICHIGAN, INC., d/b/a CENTURYLINK AND LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
(second amendment)
- 2. MINUTE ACTION AT&T
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. 517 R41-0001 067 9 dated June 1, 2022)
- 3. MINUTE ACTION PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK NEXT GENERATION SERVICES, LLC
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1175 dated June 1, 2022)
- 4. MINUTE ACTION PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK, LLC
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-3091 dated June 1, 2022)
- 5. MINUTE ACTION METRO ACT
(amended tax credit determination report)

B. ELECTRIC

1. U-21195 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AN AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT WITH THE ARBOR HILLS ELECTRIC GENERATING RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY PURSUANT TO 1989 PA 2, AS AMENDED
(proposed settlement agreement)
2. MINUTE ACTION DTE ELECTRIC CO. v MIDCONTINENT INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR, INC.
(FERC Docket No. EL21-41)
3. MINUTE ACTION IOWA COALITION FOR AFFORDABLE TRANSMISSION
(FERC Docket No. EL22-56)
4. MINUTE ACTION MIDCONTINENT INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR, INC.
(FERC Docket No. ER22-1640)

C. STEAM

1. U-21072 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DETROIT THERMAL, LLC FOR APPROVAL OF A STEAM SUPPLY COST RECOVERY PLAN AND AUTHORIZATION OF STEAM COST RECOVERY FACTORS FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 31, 2023
(proposed settlement agreement)
2. U-21238 IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF JACKSON LAND HOLDINGS LLC AGAINST DETROIT THERMAL LLC & CARTIER ENERGY LLC
(request to dismiss complaint/final order)

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

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The 4 orders and 7 minute actions were adopted.

IV. OTHER ORDERS

A. ELECTRIC

1. 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
(*ex parte*/ voluntary green pricing program)

Case No. U-18350 involves an application filed by Alpena Power Company requesting *ex parte* approval of its voluntary green pricing program. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-21090 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN UNDER MCL 460.6t, CERTAIN ACCOUNTING APPROVALS, AND FOR OTHER RELIEF
(proposed contested settlement agreement)

Commission Staff Megan Kolioupoulos, Energy Resources Division, presented a brief synopsis of the case listed above. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

“I would like to thank the parties involved in this case, including both who supported the settlement agreement, those who filed statements of non-objection, and those who opposed it.

It is critically important that we have robust dialogue on some of these fundamental issues on how best to ensure reliability, resource adequacy, and responsibly manage the ongoing energy transition. I think that we had that in this case, both throughout the pendency of the main proceeding and through the process of evaluating this contested settlement agreement.

While reliability and resource adequacy are only part of the picture in terms of factors outlined in statute that need to be considered. They have taken on even greater importance

given the capacity position of both Michigan and the MISO region. At the end of the day, this settlement agreement before us, improves the resource adequacy position of zone 7, both in the short term and on a going forward basis. In the short term, the acquisition of the Covert plant will transfer approximately 1,100 zonal resource credits from PJM into MISO zone 7. This will provide much needed additional capacity as soon as next year to both Consumers Energy zone seven as a whole and indeed the rest of MISO. Longer term continuing to operate Karn 3 and 4 supports Consumer's attainment of planning reserve margin requirements. It maintains more than 780 zonal resource credits in the company's portfolio and the settlement agreement represents a resource adequacy improvement over the company's original proposed course of action and provides for approximately 400 zonal resource credits of new resources within MISO zone 7 by 2025, in addition to the one-time solicitation for 700 megawatts set out in the settlement agreement and the addition of solar and energy storage resources as we go forward. In addition, the provisions provide for potential customer savings, both over the status quo and the proposed course of action.

Finally, just to note that while we were satisfied that this settlement agreement ultimately does move us forward in terms of our capacity position, we also want to make sure that remains the case and so we are including in the order a directive to our staff to include in the integrated resource planning parameters, the consideration of the impacts of a company's proposed course of action and the resource adequacy of both its own customers and the MISO local resource zone or respective PJM zone and neighboring zones to ensure that we have got needed capacity over the long term.

Again, I appreciate Judge Wallace for her effective handling of this proceeding, the many parties who provided a great record on which to base this decision and believe that it moves us significantly forward in the state."

Commissioner Phillips commented:

"We all often talk amongst the three of us that one of the truly essential characteristics of our role as state regulators is the need for balance and that the key challenges that all regulators across the country face this decade will be the balancing of consumer and grid reliability with continued resource adequacy and the growing momentum in the deployment of new technologies and public and private efforts to plan for and strategize around swift decarbonization. This balance is exhibited in the terms of the settlement agreement that is for our approval today.

Once again, I thank the intervenors, our staff, and others for their willingness to seek compromise and reach the important terms outlined by the Chair and our presenter today in this settlement agreement. Thank you."

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

3. U-21099 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO OPEN A DOCKET FOR LOAD SERVING ENTITIES IN MICHIGAN TO FILE THEIR CAPACITY DEMONSTRATIONS AS REQUIRED BY MCL 460.6w
- U-20348 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO ADDRESS OUTSTANDING ISSUES REGARDING DEMAND RESPONSE AGGREGATION FOR ALTERNATIVE ELECTRIC SUPPLIER LOAD
- U-21032 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO REQUEST COMMENTS ON MIDCONTINENT INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR, INC.’S IMPLEMENTATION OF FERC ORDER NO. 841 REGARDING ENERGY STORAGE RESOURCES
- U-21225 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO OPEN A DOCKET FOR LOAD SERVING ENTITIES IN MICHIGAN TO FILE THEIR CAPACITY DEMONSTRATIONS AS REQUIRED BY MCL 460.6w
(2026/2027 planning year/order opening docket)

Commission Staff Jesse Harlow, Energy Resources Division, presented a brief synopsis of the case listed above. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

“There has been a lot of discussion and attention recently on the capacity and resource adequacy position, both of Michigan and the broader MISO footprint. I think that reflects the importance of maintaining reliability on a going forward basis and today, in addition to the additional capacity resources contained in the Consumers IRP that we just approved, the order in this case takes what I believe is a comprehensive approach to making sure that we are doing everything we can at the state level to ensure reliability.

As Mr. Harlow mentioned, it’s everything from looking at how to potentially add new resources in terms of demand response aggregation and dual participation of energy storage resources, state level efforts around reliability even within the RTO construct, including the potential of a state-level PRMR moving forward with the local clearing requirement even given pending litigation and consideration of establishing a provider of last resort framework in instances where alternative electric suppliers stop serving customers. As well as looking at opportunities to maximize our transmission connections, both within MISO and with other adjacent regional transmission organizations, what efforts we can recommend at the RTO level in terms of market improvements to send clear price signals and ensuring that we are positioned to rapidly respond to any changes around minimum capacity obligations or accreditation at the RTO level, including those currently pending at FERC. Also, moving forward to address the issue where one alternative electric supplier has said that it will no longer serve a customer in the 2026 planning year whose customer contract ends in 2025.

We are making sure that we are fulfilling our statutory responsibilities around resource adequacy and reliability. This is a comprehensive approach. At this point we are taking

comments on a number of these things and wanting to further inform our consideration of the many options on this menu of potential changes that we might make to our regulatory framework. I think underlying that is a sense of the framework established in statute on a bipartisan basis over several energy reforms in the last 20 years has given us a balanced approach that includes both the capacity demonstration process and a four-year outlook as well as the integrated resource planning requirements that look at both near-term and long-term reliability. I think that regulatory framework embedded in statute is strong and provides us with the tools that we need to ensure (as much as we can within the broader RTO framework) that we are doing everything that we can at the state level to maintain reliability.

I appreciate staff's work on the Capacity Demonstration Report. I appreciate thoughtfulness of staff and advisors in helping to develop this list of options and potential considerations. I look forward to what I hope will be robust input from the utilities, other load serving entities, and indeed other stakeholders to ensure that we get this framework right.”

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

4. U-21173 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATION AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 61 OF 2016 PA 342
(*ex parte*/ voluntary green pricing program)

Case No. U-21173 involves an application filed by Northern States Power Company seeking *ex parte* approval of its voluntary green pricing program. The order before you sets deadlines for the filing of initial comments and reply comments, as described in this order. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

5. U-21178 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY REQUESTING *EX PARTE* APPROVAL OF ITS VOLUNTARY CURTAILMENT SERVICE RIDER
(final order)

Case No. U-21178 involves an application of Indiana Michigan Power Company for *ex parte* approval of a voluntary curtailment service rider. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

6. U-21239 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY TO LODGE AND FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF FERC ORDER IN RIDER NO. 5
(*ex parte*/final order)

Case No. U-21239 involves an application filed by DTE Electric Company seeking *ex parte* approval to revise its Rider No. 5. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

7. U-21250 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, DIRECTING SPARTAN RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC., TO SHOW CAUSE WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE FOUND TO BE IN VIOLATION OF MCL 460.6w(8)
(show cause order/opening docket)

Case No. U-21250 involves a matter, on the Commission's own motion, initiating an action to require Spartan Renewable Energy, Inc., to show cause why it should not be found in violation of MCL 460.6w(8). The order before you directs Spartan Renewable Energy, Inc., to appear at a prehearing conference and to prefile evidence. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

B. GAS

1. U-21167 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PRESQUE ISLE ELECTRIC & GAS CO-OP FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY RELATIVE TO WILSON TOWNSHIP
(proposed settlement agreement)

Case No. U-21167 involves an application by Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide natural gas service in Wilson Township, Alpena County, Michigan. The order before you approves a settlement agreement resolving all issues in the case. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-21247 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO COMMENCE FORMAL ALTERNATIVE GAS SUPPLIER LICENSE REVOCATION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST REALGY, LLC, d/b/a REALGY ENERGY SERVICES
(order opening docket)
- U-21077 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO REQUIRE REALGY, LLC, d/b/a REALGY ENERGY SERVICES TO SHOW CAUSE WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE FOUND IN VIOLATION OF PUBLIC ACT 634 OF 2002, THE COMMISSION’S GAS CUSTOMER CHOICE PROGRAM, MCL 460.9 *ET SEQ.*
- U-20978 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, OF THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE MARKETING AND BUSINESS PRACTICES OF REALGY, LLC, d/b/a REALGY ENERGY SERVICES.
- U-15419 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF REALGY, LLC FOR A LICENSE AS AN ALTERNATIVE GAS SUPPLIER

Case No. U-21247 *et al.* involve a matter on the Commission’s own motion to commence formal alternative gas supplier license revocation proceedings against Realgy, LLC, d/b/a Realgy Energy.

The order before you directs the above licensee to intervene in Case No. U-21247 no later than July 14, 2022, and sets a hearing date for July 26, 2022. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Commissioner Phillips commented:

“First, I would like to thank Staff for their ongoing engagement and pursuit in seeking of cooperation and compliance from Realgy LLC, also referred to as Realgy Energy Services, over the last two years as well as thank our staff who are on the front lines in terms of responding and providing resolution to consumer complaints. Your continued responsiveness to customer complaints and principled investigation of allegations against the company have been thorough, balanced, and emphasizes that our team will continue to protect consumers by upholding the letter and spirit of the enabling statutory language that established Michigan’s Gas Customer Choice program.

Secondly, the ongoing actions and order before the Commission for consideration this afternoon should also provide notice to all alternative gas suppliers currently operating or seeking to operate in the state of Michigan, that the Commission will not shy away from commencing necessary actions and proceedings to protect consumers if our Staff, through its investigatory efforts, finds evidence that a gas choice supplier or affiliated third parties are engaging in deceptive marketing, untimely or unresponsive customer service, or other practices in violation of the alternative gas supplier rules.

We encourage all alternative gas suppliers to redouble efforts to ensure that their employees and third-party contractors are abiding by the alternative gas supplier rules. And, if the order is passed by the Commission today, we expect Realgy LLC to intervene in docket U-21247 et al by July 14, 2022 if the company intends to make efforts to retain its alternative gas supplier license and continue its operations in the state of Michigan.”

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

C. STEAM

U-18128 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DETROIT THERMAL, LLC FOR *EX PARTE* APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT OF A STEAM SALES AGREEMENT WITH RIVERFRONT HOLDINGS, INC.
(final order)

Case No. U-18128 involves an application filed by Detroit Thermal, LLC, for *ex parte* approval of an amendment to its steam sales agreement with Riverfront Holdings, Inc., for the supply of steam to the Renaissance Center in Detroit,

Michigan. The order before you approves the amendment to the steam sales agreement. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-21240 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DETROIT THERMAL, LLC FOR *EX PARTE* APPROVAL OF A STEAM SALES AGREEMENT WITH THERMO FISHER
(final order)

Case No. U-21240 involves an application filed by Detroit Thermal, LLC, for *ex parte* approval of a steam sales agreement with Thermo Fisher for the supply of steam to an industrial facility in Detroit, Michigan. The order before you approves the steam sales agreement. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its June 23, 2022 meeting. Chair Scripps seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“Thank you chair for giving me the opportunity to comment. I wish I could be there in person with you, but I am unfortunately stranded due to a flight cancelation.

I would like to comment first on U-21090, Consumers Energy IRP Settlement Agreement as initially described by Ms. Kolioupoulos. I would like to thank all the parties who spent so much time and effort participating in the Consumers Energy IRP and negotiating the settlement agreement approved in the meeting just now. I know it was a lot of effort to get to this result, with 18 different parties participating. This is a significant undertaking for a very important plan for our state. Ensuring we have clean, sustainable, reliable, and affordable electric capacity is paramount. I echo the Chair’s comments on the improvements made to capacity position.

I also want to note the additional requirement in this order for staff to include a requirement for utilities to consider the impacts of its proposed course of action on the resource adequacy of its own customers,

the local resource zone or interconnection zone, neighboring zones, regions, or regional transmission organizations in the updated integrated resource plan filing requirements to be filed June 30 of this year. Maintaining a focus on reliability for the entire state remains a priority, and no individual entity operates in a vacuum.

Thanks again to all who worked diligently for this settlement, and who will continue to execute on this plan for our state's generation going forward.

I would also like to comment on U-21099, the capacity demonstration filings, as described by Mr. Harlow.

Ensuring enough capacity for the state of Michigan is one of our primary responsibilities of the Commission – we must ensure safe, reliable, accessible energy at reasonable rates to electric customers in our state. Combined with the settlement agreement for Consumers Energy's long-range plans, this order will work toward ensuring Michigan continues to have the energy resources it needs, including opportunities to quickly bring new energy resources to the grid. I look forward to receiving comments from all interested parties on how we can best enhance our state's reliability and resource adequacy position.

I also want to offer a special thanks to our staff who did an excellent job working through this process, and who continue to work to ensure we have the proper resources needed to serve Michigan's residents.”

“Pat Hudson has played a special role in my time on the commission, and I've immensely enjoyed being able to work with him on many matters, but particularly on energy storage, new technologies, and data accessibility and analysis. Pat is one of the most thoughtful, sharp, and reasoned managers I've met. Regulatory agencies and their employees often have an unfortunate (and untrue) reputation of being afraid of change and afraid of the future, and Pat is just the opposite. He is a visionary and an optimist, and always wanted to be an enabler, not an impediment. He is the kind of person who would send me articles on cool new technologies, and links to talks on a novel application of data analysis. Pat, I will miss your guidance on all things smart grid, your questions in presentations that get right to the heart of the matter, and your thoughtful consideration of the technology that will push the energy landscape into the future. You are an absolute pro at technical conferences, MI Power Grid, and our technical assistance projects. I will miss you but am thrilled for you to be able to enjoy retirement.”

Chair Scripps announced:

“Earlier this month we released our annual Summer Energy Appraisal for 2022. It's obviously not a surprise that prices for energy products, from gasoline to natural gas, electricity, are all significantly higher than they were last year. That is a situation that is concerning and one that we are tracking closely. I also think that it is important to put the current pricing situation in context and remember that just two years ago, in the early days of the pandemic, crude oil actually traded in negative territory, meaning that producers literally had to pay people for each gallon of crude oil that they had produced just to store it. There was no market at that point. That obviously sent a pretty clear demand price signal to producers who did not want to continue to stay in operation. I think we continue to deal today with some of the long-term tail effects of that decline in production during the midst of the pandemic as demand has fully restored to pre-pandemic levels and production has

not yet caught back up. That is a situation exacerbated, obviously, by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Russia is one of the top three oil producers in the world and more than 10% of global production comes from Russia. You have seen a decrease in reliance on both Russian crude and Russian natural gas. The fact that we are seeing higher prices both here in Michigan and across the U.S. and globally. I think this is a pretty clear result of that.

Ultimately, this is a global market for gasoline and increasingly so far for natural gas, as well we are seeing high exports from the United States to places with even higher prices. This is little comfort, obviously, to Americans who are struggling. Long term we expect the situation to stabilize both because of increased production in response to market signals and with lower demand, in part triggered by high prices. Something that we are already beginning to see. In the meantime, we recognize that this situation creates hardship for many Michiganders and want to reinforce that help is available, particularly for electricity and natural gas, and some limited help (in some instances) for gasoline. I encourage folks to call 2-1-1 or go to www.mi211.org or to our website at www.michigan.gov/mpsc where you can find links to assistance programs for those who are struggling.

Second, I want to remind the electric providers that the due date, if they plan to participate in the Michigan Energy Assistance Program, is at the end of this month. Providers need to submit information, either on the total number of meters or if they intend to opt out. Under statute, if electric providers do opt out, they cannot shut off electricity during the winter months and the stat sheet also requires us to return the money collected in this program to the geographic area from which it was collected, to the extent possible. Meaning that if electric providers choose to opt out, they not only limit their ability to collect that funding, but they may also limit the assistance of their customers for their heating needs if it is through a different provider or even an unregulated provider such as propane. We encourage participation in the program and particularly given the high energy prices and the expected need that we are seeing and expect to continue to see.

Third, we do have an open position at the Commission for the manager of our Renewable Energy Section. Longtime manager Julie Baldwin was recently promoted to the director of our Energy Operations Division. We are seeking to backfill that position. That position closes 5:00 p.m. today, so you have approximately 3 hours and 11 minutes. Additional information is available on our website.

Fourth, we just returned, not only Commissioners, but a number of staff from the annual meeting of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference. This is a group of regulators from 14 states from across the Midwest and Plains, going as far south as Texas. This is the first time that we have been able to hold the conference since 2019. I think it resulted in a number of productive conversations over that last several days. We were expected to host the conference in 2020. That was obviously canceled because of the pandemic but we are looking forward to welcoming Commissioners and others from across the MARC region to Grand Rapids next June. Planning efforts are already underway. We are excited to show off all that Pure Michigan has to offer.

Finally, June provides the opportunity to celebrate both Pride month and the many contributions of the LGBTQ community as well as Juneteenth commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and marking the anniversary of the announcement General Order #3 by Union

Army General Gordon Granger on June 19, 1865, proclaiming freedom for the enslaved people in Texas. Obviously, we still have a lot of work to fulfill the promise of Juneteenth, but we want to take a moment each June to celebrate both Juneteenth and Pride month.”

A recording of the proceedings of the June 23, 2023 meeting is archived at:
https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,9535,7-395-93307_93316_93317_93875---Y,00.html .

Chair Scripps announced that the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on July 7, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

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

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips
Nays – None

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary