

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

Commission Chair Daniel C. Scripps called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
Executive Secretary Delegate Barbara Kunkel called the roll and declared there was a quorum.

PRESENT

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

Staff: Alissa Day
Al Freeman
Barbara Kunkel
Jake Thelen
Melissa Preston
Mike Byrne
Matt Helms
Kyle Daymon
Andy Hannum
Ben Johnson

Public: Dan Dundas, MEGA

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 88 Participants

- I.** Commissioner Phillips moved to approve today's agenda, Commissioner Peretick seconded.

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

The agenda was approved.

- II.** Commissioner Phillips moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of August 11, 2022, Commissioner Peretick seconded.

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

The minutes were approved.

III. CONSENTED ORDERS

A. COMMUNICATIONS

1. U-13328 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF A MULTI-STATE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN RVP FIBER GROUP, LLC AND VARIOUS SBC COMMUNICATIONS, INC. OWNED COMPANIES, INCLUDING AMERITECH MICHIGAN (fifteenth amendment)
- U-15585 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN AT&T MICHIGAN AND ACCESS ONE, INC. (fourth amendment)
- U-18049 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF A MULTI-STATE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN FIRST COMMUNICATIONS, LLC AND VARIOUS AT&T INC. OWNED COMPANIES, INCLUDING AT&T MICHIGAN (ninth amendment)
- U-18138 IN THE MATTER THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN GRID4 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND AT&T MICHIGAN (second amendment)

B. ELECTRIC

1. U-21202 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF UPPER MICHIGAN ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION TO COMMENCE A RENEWABLE ENERGY COST RECONCILIATION PROCEEDING FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021 (proposed settlement agreement)

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

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Phillips, Peretick

Nays – None

The 2 orders were adopted.

IV. OTHER ORDERS

A. ELECTRIC

1. U-20757 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO REVIEW ITS RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC, INCLUDING THE STATEWIDE STATE OF EMERGENCY, AND TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION TO ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS
(uncollectible expense deferral/interim order)

Case No. U-20757 involves a matter, on the Commission’s own motion, to review its response to COVID-19 and to provide guidance and direction moving forward. The order before you terminates the COVID-19 uncollectible expense deferral mechanism established by the April 15, 2020 order in this case effective September 1, 2022, and directs Indiana Michigan Power Company and Upper Peninsula Power Company to include their COVID-19 uncollectible expense deferral amounts in their next general rate case. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its August 23, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Peretick seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-20898 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO COMMENCE A COLLABORATIVE TO CONSIDER ISSUES RELATED TO NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND BUSINESS MODELS
(motion for extension of time/interim order)

Case No. U-20898 involves the establishment, on the Commission’s own motion, of the New Technologies and Business Models workgroup. The order before you extends the deadline for submission by investor owned utilities of a benefit cost analysis applicable to pilot programs to February 1, 2023, and approves a phased approach for this effort. Commissioner Phillips moved that

the Commission approve the order at its August 23, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Peretick seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

3. U-21227 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO SEEK COMMENTS FROM RATE-REGULATED ELECTRIC, STEAM, AND NATURAL GAS UTILITIES REGARDING POTENTIAL UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FROM THE FEDERAL FUNDING AVAILABLE UNDER THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT OF 2021: ALPENA POWER COMPANY, CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY, DETROIT THERMAL, LLC, DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY, DTE GAS COMPANY, INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY, NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY, UPPER MICHIGAN ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION, MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CORPORATION, AND SEMCO ENERGY GAS CORPORATION (interim order)

Case No. U-21227 involves a matter, on the Commission’s own motion, to initiate a comment period regarding the funding and assistance opportunities available to public utilities pursuant to the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. The order before you summarizes comments received in response to the May 12, 2022 order in this docket and issues guidance related to the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 moving forward. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its August 23, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Peretick seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“I want to thank everyone who submitted comments regarding implementation of the IJJA in response to our request in this docket. Ensuring that we in Michigan are able to maximize the federal funding opportunities available through the IJJA is a priority, and I’m looking forward to receiving updates on funding applications and seeing some of the \$550 billion available for infrastructure improvements spent in our state.

In the comments we received, we saw common areas of interest and potential collaboration between utilities and other stakeholders for grid flexibility, reliability, resilience, and accessibility in rural and remote areas; renewable energy investment and deployment including hydrogen and battery storage projects; transportation electrification and electric vehicle infrastructure; electric transmission investments; smart grid investment; energy efficiency; and physical and cyber security.

There is additional opportunity for federal investment in energy and telecommunication infrastructure through the Inflation Reduction Act, just signed into law last week. This will include another almost \$370 billion toward energy security and climate change. I encourage utilities and stakeholders to begin investigating the opportunities and synergies enabled by this new legislation alongside the IIA.

One of the near-term opportunities I would like to highlight in the IIA funding is a formula grant to states and Indian Tribes under section 40101(d) for preventing outages and enhancing the resilience of the electric grid. There will be a public hearing taking place to provide more information on the State's approach and gather input on this grant on September 19 at 3pm. You can register for the online public information meeting on EGLE's website. I look forward to seeing what grid reliability and resilience projects this funding will enable."

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

The order was adopted.

C. GAS

1. U-21293 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE LOW CARBON ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM UNDER PUBLIC ACTS 53 AND 166 OF 2022
(opportunity for public comment)

Case No. U-21293 involves, on the Commission's own motion, the development of guidelines and the implementation of an application process for the low carbon energy infrastructure enhancement and development grant program under Public Acts 53 and 166 of 2022. The order before you invites comments on the proposed request for proposals for use in the low carbon energy infrastructure enhancement and development program. Commissioner Phillips moved that the Commission approve the order at its August 23, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Peretick seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bob Baxter Jones, Detroit, provided comments regarding DTE's request to increase rates (Case No. U-20836). Mr. Jones also commented on an incident related to a DTE power outage. Commissioner Phillips referred Mr. Jones to the MPSC's Customer Assistance Division.

A recording of the proceedings of the August 23, 2022 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 September 8, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

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

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

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary