

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN ITS OFFICES AND AVAILABLE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING ON FEBRUARY 11, 2025.

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
Katherine Peretick, Commissioner
Alessandra Carreon, Commissioner

Staff: Alissa Day
Matt Helms
Lisa Felice
Blair Renfro
Ryan Wilson
Reka Holley Voelker
Drew Simon
Corey Osier
Stephanie Fitzgerald
Gustavo Cordero
Joseph Lobodzinski
Tom Holm
Jill Rusnak
Diane Martin
Anne Armstrong
Kate Daymon
Andy Hannum
Ben Johnson
Kayla Gibbs
Sarah Mullkoff
Laura Weir
Cathy Cole
Julie Baldwin
Al Freeman
Paul Proudfoot
Mike Byrne
Michelle Powell
Brian Sheldon

Public: Kelly Hall, Consumers Energy
Val Wohlsheid-Brennan

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 169 Participants

I. Commissioner Peretick moved to approve today’s agenda, Commissioner Carreon seconded.

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

The agenda was approved.

II. Commissioner Peretick moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of January 23, 2025, Commissioner Carreon seconded.

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

The minutes were approved.

III. CONSENTED ORDERS

A. COMMUNICATIONS

1. U-15538 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF A MULTI-STATE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN BANDWIDTH.COM CLEC, LLC AND VARIOUS AT&T INC. OWNED COMPANIES, INCLUDING AT&T MICHIGAN

(third amendment)

U-16505 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF A MULTI-STATE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN GRANITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC AND VARIOUS AT&T INC. OWNED COMPANIES, INCLUDING AT&T MICHIGAN

(ninth amendment)

U-17225 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF A MULTI-STATE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN PEERLESS NETWORK OF MICHIGAN, LLC AND AT&T MICHIGAN

(sixth amendment)

U-21848 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN

- MICHIGAN CENTRAL BROADBAND COMPANY, LLC AND
LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
(interconnection agreement)
- U-21851 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REQUEST FOR COMMISSION
APPROVAL OF A MULTI-STATE INTERCONNECTION
AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRIGHTSPEED BROADBAND, LLC AND
VARIOUS AT&T INC. OWNED COMPANIES, INCLUDING AT&T
MICHIGAN
(interconnection agreement)
2. U-20333 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MERCURY
WIRELESS INDIANA, LLC FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER IN CERTAIN SPECIFIED
AREAS FOR PURPOSES OF RURAL DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY
FUND SUPPORT
(request for voluntary relinquishment)
3. MINUTE PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK NEXT GENERATION SERVICES
ACTION (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1280 dated January 21, 2025)
4. MINUTE PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK NEXT GENERATION SERVICES
ACTION (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1281 dated January 21, 2025)
5. MINUTE PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK NEXT GENERATION SERVICES
ACTION (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1283 dated February 1, 2025)
6. MINUTE PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK LLC
ACTION (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-3603 dated February 1, 2025)
- B. ELECTRIC**
1. U-21590 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ALPENA POWER
COMPANY FOR APPROVAL TO IMPLEMENT A POWER SUPPLY
COST RECOVERY PLAN FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2025
(proposed settlement agreement)
- C. GAS**
1. U-21276 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES
POWER COMPANY FOR RECONCILIATION OF ITS GAS COST
RECOVERY PLAN (CASE NO. U-21275) FOR THE 12 MONTHS
ENDING MARCH 31, 2024
(proposed settlement agreement)

2. U-21822 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF WAVE ENERGY MICHIGAN LLC FOR A LICENSE AS AN ALTERNATIVE GAS SUPPLIER
(request to withdraw application/final order)

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

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

The 5 orders and 4 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, AS AMENDED
(notice regarding low-income energy assistance fund/proposed funding factor/opportunity to comment)

Commission Staff Reka Holley-Voelker, Strategic Operations Division, presented a brief synopsis of the case listed above. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its February 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

“I just want to highlight a couple of key elements in Public Acts 168, 169, 170, and 198 of 2024 as described by Ms. Holley-Voelker and how the order in front of us today takes action on these changes. Among the other elements covered in Ms. Holley-Voelker’s presentation, the order in front of us today takes the first step in increasing the funding for MEAP. Again, proposing to set the funding factor of 2025 at \$1.25 per meter per month. This, when combined with the elimination of the total cap, is expected to result in approximately \$71 million for MEAP assistance in fiscal year 2025-2026. This is an increase of more than 40% from the \$50 million collected in previous years. In addition, I also note that Governor Whitmer’s executive budget recommendation included an additional \$25 million for MEAP. Which, if enacted by the Legislature, it would essentially get us to year two. A year earlier than otherwise.

In addition to increasing the funds available, as noted by Ms. Holley-Voelker, last year’s amendments also expanded the number of Michiganders who are eligible for assistance under MEAP. Previously, a family of four was eligible if it made up to 150% of the federal poverty guideline, which equated to \$46,800. Now that same family is eligible if it makes 60% of the

median state income or \$61,861 beginning October 1, 2025. That is an additional \$15,000 in income while still remaining eligible for this important assistance. With higher income eligibility, MEAP could provide energy assistance to as many as 335,000 Michigan households.

Last Thursday, Commissioner Carreon and I had the opportunity to participate in an event celebrating these important statutory reforms. We heard from Governor Whitmer, some of the key bill sponsors, and representatives of community-based organizations, MEAP grantees, utilities and faith leaders. What struck me most was how often the word dignity was used. This additional support, in the words of Dr. Darienne Hudson, CEO of the United Way for Southeastern Michigan, ‘It was about much more than just being able to pay a bill.’ Through the testimonials and speeches, I was reminded of the quote from the author W. Somerset Maugham, who describing the toll poverty can take, once wrote, ‘They have never felt the iron of poverty in their flesh. They do not know how mean it makes you. It exposes you to endless humiliation. It cuts your wings. It eats into your soul like a cancer. It is not wealth one asks for, but just enough to preserve one’s dignity, to work unhampered, to be generous, frank, and independent.’ Reforms enacted by the Legislature and signed into law at the end of last year and the order before us today takes the first step in implementing them, provide just that additional measure of independence, that additional measure of dignity.

I appreciate the work of all involved in supporting both this additional funding and the important changes to the program that it will make it a little easier to navigate. Particularly, to you Ms. Holley-Voelker, as well as Anne Armstrong, and Mary Wilkens, from the Commission staff. I also want to thank those MEAP grantees who will work directly to get this additional assistance into the hands of those Michiganders who need it most. I am pleased to support this order.”

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-21285 IN THE MATTER OF DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY’S APPLICATION FOR THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR TO FULLY COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008, AS AMENDED (*ex parte*/Cold Creek Solar Park Project)

Case No. U-21285 involves an application filed by DTE Electric Company seeking *ex parte* approval of the Cold Creek Solar Park Project, including the Engineering Procurement and Construction Master Service Agreement and Master Supply Agreement for solar panel modules. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its February 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Carreon

Nays – None

The order was adopted.

3. U-21419 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A TEMPORARY WAIVER OF RULE 460.732(r) FOR THE REPORTING OF MOMENTARY INTERRUPTIONS
(*ex parte*/interim order)

Case No. U-21419 involves an application filed by Alpena Power Company for *ex parte* approval of an extension of the temporary waiver of Mich Admin Code, R 460.732(r), of the Commission's service quality and reliability standards for electric distribution systems. The order before you grants the temporary waiver of Mich Admin Code, R 460.732(r), until December 31, 2029. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its February 11, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

4. U-21779 IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF LARRY BIEBER AGAINST DTE ENERGY COMPANY
(final order)

Case No. U-21779 involves a formal complaint filed on August 6, 2024, by Larry Bieber against DTE Energy Company. The order before you dismisses the complaint without prejudice. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its February 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

B. GAS

1. U-21525 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DTM MICHIGAN LATERAL COMPANY REQUESTING *EX PARTE* APPROVAL TO

INCREASE ITS RATES FOR TRANSPORTATION ON THE WET
HEADER PIPELINE SYSTEM

(final order)

U-20894

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DTE MICHIGAN
LATERAL COMPANY FOR ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONVERT AND
OPERATE PORTIONS OF ITS PIPELINE SYSTEM AND TO
CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE PORTIONS OF A PIPELINE SYSTEM
TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL SUPPLY SOURCE TO THE AREAS
OF MANISTEE, TRAVERSE CITY, ALPENA, AND ROGERS CITY

Case Nos. U-21525 *et al.* involve an application filed by DTM
Michigan Lateral Company requesting *ex parte* approval of a rate
increase for firm transportation services on the Wet Header System.
The order before you approves the application in part, as set forth in
the order. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission
approve the order at its February 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner
Carreon seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

C. STEAM

1. U-21850

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DETROIT THERMAL,
LLC FOR APPROVAL OF A STEAM SALES AGREEMENT WITH
1300 LAFAYETTE EAST COOPERATIVE, INC.
(*ex parte*/final order)

Case No. U-21850 involves the application of Detroit Thermal,
LLC, for *ex parte* approval of a steam sales agreement with
1300 Lafayette East Cooperative, Inc. The order before you
approves the agreement, which is attached to the order as
Exhibit A. Commissioner Peretick moved that the
Commission approve the order at its February 11, 2025
meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

V. PRESENTATION ON GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) MAPPING WEB PAGE

Brian Sheldon and Michele Powell, Energy Operations Division, provided a brief overview of the web page.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“I would like to say thank you to Ms. Powell and Mr. Sheldon for their hard work on this mapping initiative. This was a request that I brought to Brian a long time ago, and he and his team ran with it and made the end result so much better than I expected. Transparency of our work and the energy system in Michigan is so important, and this is a really big step forward in improving that transparency and accessibility of our energy infrastructure information in our state. I highly recommend everyone go to our website and check out these maps for themselves as Ms. Powell described – I spent hours looking through them, and getting lost in the data. I expect many of you will find them just as valuable and interesting as I did. A big thank you to the team.”

Chair Scripps commented:

“Our mission is to be a best-in-class Commission. That is something that is deeply embedded in the culture here at the Commission. It is examples like this and what we saw from Mr. Sheldon and Ms. Powell that, I think, represent that culture best. We have had maps for a number of years. They were in many cases outdated. Instead of just taking what we had and making a few tweaks and calling it good, they used it as an opportunity, driven with some encouragement from my colleagues, to go above and beyond as they so often do, and this is the result. I think this is among the best examples of utility data and GIS presentation in the country.

I really appreciate the work of the two of you and the many others who worked on this project. I will also note that when we published this and sent out a press release last week on it, I received a number of messages from energy wonks all across the state – literally from Southeast Michigan to the U.P., including former legislators, agency heads, and others who have spent hours (like Commissioner Peretick mentioned) getting into the data and sort of ‘geeking out’ a little bit. The ability to make that information available in a highly transparent and accessible way, I think speaks volumes to the way that we approach our work in general.

Again, I appreciate your work and that of the many others who are involved in this project.”

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Val Wohlscheid-Brennan provided comments and Exhibit VWB-1 (attached) regarding Case No. U-21471.

Heidi Brown addressed her concerns regarding Case No. U-21471.

Commissioner Peretick announced:

“I would like to thank the utility workers who prepared the system for the wind and ice storms that we have had in the first weeks of this year. While we have had some difficult windy and icy weather, we have had minimal electrical outages as a result of this preparation and focus on reliability improvement.

I’d like to note that there are a couple upcoming staff-led meetings that the public is encouraged to participate in:

- Immediately following this Commission Meeting, at 2:00 p.m. today, our staff is hosting a technical conference on the Michigan Potential Study on Energy Waste Reduction, demand response, and electrification. All are encouraged to attend virtually, and the link can be found on our website.
- The next Affordability, Alignment, and Assistance Subcommittee of the Energy Affordability and Accessibility Collaborative meeting is being held from 1:00-2:00 p.m. on March 4th. All interested parties are encouraged to attend, and you can sign up to receive meeting notices and participate in the meeting on the MPSC’s website.”

Chair Scripps announced:

“I would like to note that House Speaker, Matt Hall, recently announced committee leadership and membership for the 2025-2026 legislative session. I want to congratulate House members on their committee assignments, and particularly those serving on the House Energy Committee, including Chair Pauline Wendzel, Majority Vice Chair, Dave Prestin, and Minority Chair Joe Tate; the House Communications and Technology Committee, including Jaime Green, Majority Vice Chair Tom Kunse, and Minority Vice Chair Helena Scott; the House Appropriation Subcommittee for Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and Insurance and Financial Services (which controls our budget), including Chair Timothy Beson, Majority Vice Chair Donni Steele and Minority Vice Chair Donovan McKinney. We look forward to working with these Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs, as well as the individual members in the weeks and months ahead.

Second, as we do each February, the Commission is again this year celebrating Black History Month. It is an opportunity to note the many ways that Black Americans have contributed to our state and country and to the Michigan Public Service Commission, in particular. As Governor Whitmer and Lieutenant Governor Gilchrist noted in proclaiming February as Black History Month in Michigan, during this month Michiganders are invited to honor the courage, achievements, and lasting contributions of Black Americans who have shaped our state and nation. Black History Month is also a time to reflect upon the continued commitment to equity, freedom, and progress as we continue to build a more inclusive future. Here at the Commission, we continue to carry this commitment into each facet of our work this month and every month, to our work around employee engagement and wellness, to build on the strengths of our diversity as an organization, to our work around outreach and relationship building in communities around the state, to our work on process improvements and efforts to expand public participation in our proceedings and other activities, and to our work as regulators overseeing the critical infrastructure on which we increasingly rely.

In her note to our staff this morning, celebrating Black History Month, Commissioner Carreon quoted the great Jackie Robinson, who was the first Black baseball player to play in the American

major leagues during the 20th century, who once said ‘Life is not important except in the impact that it has on other lives.’ I can not think of a better metric. As Commissioner Carreon noted, our collective work impacts the lives of many Michiganders. I want to thank her in expressing our sincere appreciation to the Commission staff for their diligence.

Finally, though warmer weather still seems in many ways a ways off yet, there are definite signs of spring if you know where to look. Specifically, tomorrow is the first workout for pitchers and catchers. The Tigers kickoff spring training with their first game a week from Saturday. Opening day is just 59 days away. Go Tigers!”

A recording of the proceedings of the February 11, 2025 meeting is archived at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f22govtOnNw> .

Chair Scripps announced that the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

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

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

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary

**Exhibit VWB-1
345kV Right-of-Way Comparison**

Tranche 1 Project (345kV)	ROW (feet)	Company
1. Jamestown – Ellendale	150	Otter Trail, Montana-Dakota
2. Big Stone South – Alexandria – Cassie’s Crossing	150	Otter Trail, Missouri River
3. Iron Range – Benton County – Cassie’s Crossing	150	Great River, Minnesota Power
4. Wilmarth – North Rochester – Tremval	150	Xcel Energy, Dairyland Power Cooperative, Rochester Public Utilities, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency
5. Tremval – Eau Claire – Jump River	150	Xcel Energy, American Transmission Company
6. Tremval – Rocky Run – Columbia	150	American Transmission Company, Xcel Energy
7. Webster – Franklin – Marshalltown – Morgan Valley	N/A	To be determined, ITC Midwest, MidAmerican Energy. Iowa Court Injunction. Project on hold. ROW is not publicly available as of 12/1/24.
8. Beverly – Sub 92	110 & 200	ITC Midwest
9. Orient – Denny – Fairport	150	Ameren
10. Denny – Zachary – Thomas Hill – Maywood	150	Ameren
11. Maywood – Meredosia	150	Ameren
12. Madison – Ottumwa – Skunk River	N/A	To be determined, ITC Midwest. Iowa Court Injunction. Project on hold. ROW is not publicly available as of 12/1/24.
13. Skunk River – Ipava	150	Ameren
14. Ipava – Maple Ridge – Tazewell – Brokaw – Paxton East	150	Ameren
15. Sidney – Paxton East – Gilman South – Morrison Ditch	150	Ameren
16. Morrison Ditch – Reynolds – Burr Oak – Leesburg – Hiple	N/A	To be determined, Northern Indiana Public Service Company. ROW is not publicly available as of 12/1/24.
17. Helix to Hiple	200	METC/ITC
18. Oneida – Nelson Rd	200	METC/ITC
N/A	175	MISO Transmission Cost Estimate Guide

Exhibit VWB-1 References

Ameren. (2024). *Northern Missouri Grid Transformation Program Open House*.

<https://www.ameren.com/-/media/corporate-site/files/transmission/northern-mo/nomo-virtual-open-house.ashx>

Ameren. (2024, August). *Northern Missouri Grid PHASE 2: DZTM VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE*.

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Ameren. (2024, February 5). *Routing Study Central Illinois Grid Transformation Program*.

Illinois Commerce Commission.

<https://icc.illinois.gov/downloads/public/edocket/605679.PDF>

ATC, & Excel Energy. (2024, July). *Application For PSCW Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and WDNR Utility Permit Grid Forward – Central Wisconsin*

Transmission Line Project. Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/ERF/ERFview/viewdoc.aspx?docid=511046>

Great River Energy, & Minnesota Power. (2024, August). *Right-of-way Process*. Northland Reliability Project.

https://northlandreliabilityproject.com/docs/NRP_ROW_Handout_Aug2024_ADA.pdf

ITC Midwest. (2024, October 11). *Beverly – Sub 92 Johnson County Public Information*

Meeting. IUC Electronic Filing System. <https://efs.iowa.gov/document/document-permalink/5126775>

Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (2024, August 29). *Webster – Franklin – Marshalltown – Morgan Valley Transmission Project Notice of Variance Analysis*

Outcome – Mitigation Plan. <https://cdn.misoenergy.org/Webster-Franklin-Marshalltown->

[Morgan Valley%20Variance%20Analysis%20Mitigation%20Plan%20Public%20Notice645353.pdf](#)

Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (2024, May 30). *Skunk River – Ipava Transmission Project Commencement of Variance Analysis*.

<https://cdn.misoenergy.org/Skunk%20River%20-%20Ipava%20Variance%20Analysis%20Public%20Notice633080.pdf>

Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (2024, May 1). *Transmission Cost Estimation Guide for MTEP24*.

<https://cdn.misoenergy.org/MISO%20Transmission%20Cost%20Estimation%20Guide%20for%20MTEP24337433.pdf>

Otter Tail Power Company, & Missouri River Energy Services. (n.d.). *Library & FAQs*. Big South Stone to Alexandria Transmission Line.

<https://www.bigstonesouthtoalexandria.com/library/>

Otter Tail Power Company, & Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (n.d.). *Landowner Resources*. Jamestown to Ellendale Transmission Project.

<https://jamestowntoellendale.com/landowners/>

Xcel Energy, & ATC. (2024, August). *Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and WDNR Utility Permit Western Wisconsin Transmission Connection Project*. Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/ERF/ERFview/viewdoc.aspx?docid=515940>

Xcel Energy. (2024, April 2). *APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED AND ROUTE PERMIT FOR THE MANKATO – MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRANSMISSION PROJECT*.

Mankato-Mississippi River Transmission Project.

https://mmrtproject.com/documents/filing/MMRT_CombinedApplication_Apr2024.pdf