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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN ITS OFFICES AND AVAILABLE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING ON MARCH 13, 2025.

Commission Chair Daniel C. Scripps called the meeting to order at 1:05 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: Shannon Wambaugh
Matt Helms
Lisa Felice
Charlie Cavanaugh
Chris Forist
Al Freeman
Anne Armstrong
Jason Mailloux
Jake Thelen
Jill Rusnak
Steve Kimbrell
Dolores Midkiff-Powell
Ryan Wilson
Andy Hannum
Ben Johnson
Kate Daymon
Kevin Spence
Cathy Cole
Alena Clark
Dave Chislea
Wendy Cadwell
Reka Voelker
Mike Byrne

Public: Doug Bontekoe, Marion Township Supervisor
Gary Buck
Valerie Brader, Rivenoak

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 312 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 February 27, 2025, Commissioner Carreon seconded.

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

The minutes were approved.

III. CONSENTED ORDERS

A. COMMUNICATIONS

1. MINUTE ACTION PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK LLC
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-3617 dated March 1, 2025)
2. MINUTE ACTION PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK NEXT GENERATION SERVICES LLC
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1285 dated March 1, 2025)

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

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

The 2 minute actions were adopted.

IV. OTHER ORDERS

A. ELECTRIC

1. U-21361 IN THE MATTER OF DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY’S APPLICATION FOR THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS,

DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY TO
FULLY COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008
(*ex parte*/special contracts/FCA US, LLC/Silver Creek Solar Park/final
order)

Case No. U-21361 involves an application filed by DTE Electric Company requesting *ex parte* approval of an amended and restated special contract with FCA US, LLC, and *ex parte* approval of the Silver Creek Solar Park Project and related master services agreements. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its March 13, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-21400 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO
ESTABLISH A WORKGROUP TO INVESTIGATE APPROPRIATE
FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND PENALTIES TO ADDRESS
OUTAGES AND DISTRIBUTION PERFORMANCE MOVING
FORWARD
(interim order)

Case No. U-21400 involves a matter, on the Commission’s own motion, to commence a workgroup for the consideration of financial incentives and penalties as they relate to the reliability and resilience of the electric power system in Michigan. The order before you schedules a comment period regarding the “reliability-plus” issues affecting the readiness of utility distribution grids that will conclude on June 27, 2025. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its March 13, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

“The order in front of us kicks off the second phase of our “reliability-plus” initiative in Case No. U-21400. Phase II is focused on considering the challenges to the grid’s ability to accommodate and leverage the rise in adoption of distributed generation, electric vehicles, and other distributed energy resources. In today’s order, specifically, we are seeking comments on five focus areas that we have identified and where we would like feedback. These include distributed energy resource interconnection timelines and the process governing those, customer data access and hosting capacity, the opportunity to aggregate distributed energy resources, including for non-wires alternatives, considering opportunities to use some of those same tools to potentially mitigate challenges involving the conversion of 4.8 kilovolt distribution systems, and then considering

opportunities to improve our utilization of advanced metering infrastructure and grid modernization technologies.

The order in front of us today schedules a comment period regarding these issues affecting the readiness of the utility distribution grids and also includes a distribution paper that outlines additional details on each of these five issues and some of the work streams that may flow out of it. There is an opportunity for initial comments and follow-up comments. Those follow-up comments will conclude on June 27, 2025.

I am excited to launch this second phase of this effort. We are really trying to leverage performance-based regulatory approaches to improve the performance of the utility distribution systems and make full use of the opportunities that distributed energy resources and the evolving role the utility customers provide.”

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

The order was adopted.

3. U-21455 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF INTERCONNECTION PROCEDURES PURSUANT TO R 460.920 AND R 460.928
(*ex parte*/final order)

Case No. U-21455 involves an application for approval of interconnection procedures, forms, and agreements filed by Northern States Power Company pursuant to Mich Admin Code, R 460.920. The order before you approves interconnection procedures, forms, and agreements for Northern States Power Company and grants requested waivers. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its March 13, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

4. U-21480 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF INTERCONNECTION PROCEDURES AND FORMS
(*ex parte*/final order)

Case No. U-21480 involves an application for approval of interconnection procedures filed by Consumers Energy Company pursuant to Mich Admin Code, R 460.920. The order before you

approves interconnection procedures, forms, and agreements for Consumers Energy Company. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its March 13, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

“We have a series of orders today that, really taken together, reflect a focus on opportunities to improve the performance of the distribution grid. This is one of the two orders approving utility interconnection procedures that we have in front of us today. I would just note that as part of this order we are creating a standing interconnection technical work group to provide an ongoing forum among interested parties and individuals, as well as (obviously) the utilities and our Commission staff for discussion of technical issues related to the interconnection process with initial topics focusing on cost allocation, reporting requirements, the application of standards, and other technical concerns.

I think this is similar to our energy waste reduction collaborative that has been in place since 2009. It will provide an opportunity for discussion around some of the issues connected to interconnection of distributed energy resources with utility distribution systems. I look forward to results of this ongoing conversation as we work to modernize the grid.”

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

The order was adopted.

5. U-21482 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF INTERCONNECTION PROCEDURES AND WAIVERS FROM INTERCONNECTION AND DISTRIBUTED GENERATION STANDARDS, R 460.901a *ET SEQ.* (~~final order~~) (interim order)

Case No. U-21482 involves approval of interconnection procedures filed by DTE Electric Company pursuant to Mich Admin Code, R 460.920. The order before you grants a joint motion seeking a 90-day extension of the deadline for issuing a final order in this case. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its March 13, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

“I have one quick note on this. There was an error in the agenda that we put out for this meeting that listed this as a final order. Obviously, it is granting a 90-day extension to allow for the continuation of settlement discussions. This is an interim order not a final order in this proceeding.”

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Carreon

Nays – None

The order was adopted.

6. U-21619 IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR A DECLARATORY RULING BY FORD MOTOR COMPANY REGARDING HOME BACKUP POWER AND MICHIGAN’S INTERCONNECTION RULES (final order)

Case No. U-21619 involves a request by Ford Motor Company for a declaratory ruling that its home backup power system does not require prior written authorization from an electric utility prior to operation. The order before you approves the request and associated declaratory ruling as described in the order. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its March 13, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“I would like to highlight this declaratory ruling as a step towards improving clarity and coordination between our electric utilities and our automakers who are developing new, innovative, and beneficial technologies for their customers.

Michigan is the automotive state, and coordination and cooperation between our strong automotive industry and our electric utilities is important. We have new benefits and opportunities that are presented to us with vehicle electrification, and it’s important that we’re all speaking the same language to be able to take advantage of those new opportunities to improve customers’ resilience, affordability, and flexibility for how they use their vehicles and their vehicle’s capabilities.

Clarity between these industries is important, and I’m happy to be able to help show – via this declaratory ruling in front of us - that it is clearly within Michigan’s interconnection rules that an electric utility customer that has an EV with vehicle to home capabilities can use their vehicle to provide backup power to their home during a power outage without needing written permission from their electric utility.”

Chair Scripps commented:

“I believe that this is among the first of these in the country to clarify the regulatory treatment of this sort of home backup power system. I hope that it will be a model for others across the other 49 states as we move forward.”

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

The order was adopted.

7. U-21767 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, TO GRANT WAIVERS FROM THE INTERCONNECTION AND

DISTRIBUTED GENERATION STANDARDS FOR ALPENA POWER COMPANY, UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY, UPPER MICHIGAN ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION, NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY, CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY AND DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY, TO CONFORM TO PUBLIC ACT 235 OF 2023

(*ex parte*/distributed generation tariffs/ final order)

U-21790 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF UPPER MICHIGAN ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION FOR *EX PARTE* APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO DISTRIBUTED GENERATION TARIFF PROVISIONS

(final order)

U-21791 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY FOR *EX PARTE* APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO DISTRIBUTED GENERATION TARIFF PROVISIONS

(final order)

U-21793 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY FOR *EX PARTE* APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO DISTRIBUTED GENERATION TARIFF PROVISIONS

(final order)

U-21794 IN THE MATTER OF THE *EX PARTE* APPLICATION OF ALPENA POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A REVISED DISTRIBUTED GENERATION TARIFF CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC ACT 235 OF 2023

(final order)

U-21795 IN THE MATTER OF THE *EX PARTE* APPLICATION OF INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS REVISED DISTRIBUTED GENERATION TARIFF CONSISTENT WITH PUBLIC ACT 235 OF 2023

(final order)

U-21796 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY FOR *EX PARTE* APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE DISTRIBUTED GENERATION PROGRAM TARIFF

(final order)

U-21798 IN THE MATTER OF THE *EX PARTE* COMPLIANCE SUBMISSION OF DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY CONCERNING THE RIDER 18 DISTRIBUTED GENERATION TARIFF

(final order)

Case Nos. U-21767 *et al.* involve a matter, on the Commission's own motion, to grant waivers from certain Interconnection and Distribution Generation Standards for the investor-owned utilities identified in this order. The order before you approves the amended applications requesting ex

parte approval of updated Distributed Generation tariffs filed by Alpena Power Company, Consumers Energy Company, DTE Electric Company, Indiana Michigan Power Company, Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation, and Upper Peninsula Power Company, and approves in part and denies in part the amended application filed by Northern States Power Company, as described in this order. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its March 13, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

8. U-21859 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY FOR *EX PARTE* APPROVAL OF CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO RATE GPD
(interim order)

Case No. U-21859 involves an application filed by Consumers Energy Company for *ex parte* approval of certain amendments to the Rate GPD. The order before you sets a contested case proceeding and directs the company and other participants to attend a prehearing conference scheduled for April 16, 2025. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its March 13, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Carreon seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

“This was something that was brought forward in terms of some of the rates and tariffs that would apply to data center customers choosing to locate in Consumers Energy territory. There was a fair amount of interest in this order, so we felt that it was best that we transition this into a contested case proceeding. That said, we have the goal of issuing an expedited decision in this matter. As a result of that we will be reading record (the evidence that is produced in testimony and dispense with the need for a proposal for decision) to allow us to move forward in an expedited manner.

Pursuant to our Commission rules, and specifically Rule 431 governing settlements, I want to encourage the settlement of this case. It seems that there is a lot of common ground between the intervening parties, and we have seen the opportunity for constructive settlements in other states and other jurisdictions involving tariffs governing data center customers. Again, pursuant to Rule 431 which states all parties to proceedings before the Commission are encouraged to enter into settlements, when possible. I would encourage parties in this case to do the same.”

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

The order was adopted.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doug Bontekoe, Marion Township Supervisor, representing the landowners of the Winterfield, Cranberry, Riverside, Overisel, and Saline gas storage fields operated by Consumers Energy. Mr. Bontekoe requested official clarification on Rule 460.20338, referred to as a farm tap.

Gary Burk provided comments regarding equitable funding for roads for electric and plug-in hybrids.

Valerie Brader, on behalf of Ford Motor Company, thanked the Commission on the motion for a declaratory ruling regarding interconnection rules and home backup power.

Heidi Brown-Drumheller provided comments regarding Case No. U-21471.

Jack Wages, Tekonsha, provided comments regarding Case No. U-21471.

Emily Chockley, Tekonsha, provided comments regarding Case No. U-21471.

Namra Farooqi provided comments and requested clarity regarding her DTE utility bill. Chair Scripps referred Ms. Farooqi to the Customer Assistance Division.

Chair Scripps announced:

“The Commission has launched a podcast, which I am very excited about. It is called Behind the Meter, which is a sort of tip of the hat to behind the meter infrastructure that we have talked a lot about today in terms of distributed energy resources. The goal of the podcast is to provide monthly conversation around issues that matter to Michigan energy and telecommunications customers. We have posted two podcasts at this point. Episode 1 serves as sort of a general introduction to the Commission. You get to hear from all three of us as part of that. The second episode talks about what the Commission regulates and how our role has changed over the years. That includes insights from our longest serving employee, Paul Proudfoot, who has been with the Commission now more than 50 years. A lot of the changes over the years, Paul has both seen and been instrumental in implementing.

That podcast is available on our website: www.michigan.gov/mpsc and also posted to wherever you get your favorite podcasts. I encourage you to check it out.”

A recording of the proceedings of the March 13, 2025 meeting is archived at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fz5IbETHf6Q>.

Chair Scripps announced that the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on Friday, March 28, 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 1:51 p.m.

Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary