

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN ITS OFFICES AND AVAILABLE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING ON JANUARY 15, 2026.

Commission Chair Daniel C. Scripps called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Executive Secretary Lisa Felice called the roll and declared there was a quorum.

PRESENT

Commission: Daniel C. Scripps, Chair
Katherine Peretick, Commissioner
Shaquila Myers, Commissioner

Staff: Leah Arendt
Matt Helms
Lisa Felice
Charlie Cavanaugh
Ryan Wilson
Al Freeman
Jill Rusnak
Anne Armstrong
Stephanie Fitzgerald
Josh Melko
Andy Hannum
Jerry McClung
Kate Daymon
Ben Johnson
Dave Chislea
Chris Forist
Alena Clark
Mike Byrne
Karsten Szajner

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 200 Participants

I. Commissioner Peretick moved to approve today's agenda, Commissioner Myers seconded.

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

The agenda was approved.

II. Commissioner Peretick moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of December 18, 2025, Commissioner Myers seconded.

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

The minutes were approved.

III. CONSENTED ORDERS

A. COMMUNICATIONS

1. U-14330 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF AMERICAN BROADBAND AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY FOR A LICENSE TO PROVIDE BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE IN THE EXCHANGES CURRENTLY SERVED BY CENTURYTEL MIDWEST-MICHIGAN, INC., CENTURYTEL OF UPPER MICHIGAN, INC., CENTURYTEL OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN, INC., FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS OF MICHIGAN, INC., OGDEN TELEPHONE COMPANY, THE DEERFIELD FARMERS TELEPHONE COMPANY, SAND CREEK TELEPHONE COMPANY, SBC MICHIGAN, AND VERIZON NORTH INC. AND CONTEL OF THE SOUTH, INC., d/b/a VERIZON NORTH SYSTEMS (request to voluntarily surrender license/final order)
2. MINUTE ACTION PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK NEXT GENERATION SERVICES LLC
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1322 dated December 15, 2025)
3. MINUTE ACTION PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK NEXT GENERATION SERVICES LLC
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1324 dated January 1, 2025)
4. MINUTE ACTION PENINSULA FIBER NETWORK LLC
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-3789 dated January 1, 2025)

B. ELECTRIC

1. U-22009 2025 ENERGY WASTE REDUCTION RECONCILIATION AND ANNUAL REPORT FILING
(order assigning dockets)
ALPENA POWER COMPANY

U-22010	CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY (ELECTRIC AND GAS)
U-22011	DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY AND DTE GAS COMPANY (ELECTRIC AND GAS)
U-22012	INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY
U-22013	NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY (ELECTRIC AND GAS)
U-22014	UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY
U-22015	UPPER MICHIGAN ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION (ELECTRIC AND GAS)
U-22016	MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CORPORATION
U-22017	SEMCO ENERGY INC.

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

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

The 2 orders and 3 minute actions were adopted.

IV. OTHER ORDERS

A. COMMUNICATIONS

1. U-22006 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO REQUIRE COMCAST CORPORATION TO SHOW CAUSE WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE FOUND IN VIOLATION OF 2013 PA 174, THE MISS DIG UNDERGROUND FACILITY DAMAGE PREVENTION AND SAFETY ACT, MCL 460.721 ET SEQ.
 (order to show cause/interim order)

Commission Staff David Chislea, Gas Safety & Operations Division, presented a brief synopsis of the case listed above. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“I would like to thank our Staff for their diligence in identifying this potential violation of law, in particular Dave Chislea, who just gave the excellent presentation, as well as Eleanor Mundorf and Erika Poli. The MISS DIG Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act requires a facility owner, like Comcast, to mark their underground facilities within 3 days of when asked. Our Staff has flagged that this is not happening, and is not confident in the corrective measures being put in place by Comcast are fixing the problem.

This order is asking Comcast to show us why they should not be found in violation of the law. After they submit their evidence and it is reviewed by our Staff, we will take any further enforcement actions as needed.

Laws like the MISS DIG Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act are necessary for safety. It's imperative that before any excavation it is known what is underground to prevent damage and prevent contacting any dangerous underground infrastructure."

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

The order was adopted.

B. ELECTRIC

1. U-21152 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATION AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 61 OF 2016 PA 342, AND REVIEW OF VOLUNTARY GREEN PRICING PROGRAM
(ex parte/final order)

Case No. U-21152 involves a letter filed by Upper Peninsula Power Company requesting approval to continue its voluntary green pricing program unchanged. The order before you approves the request. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-21388 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO OPEN A DOCKET THAT WILL BE USED TO COLLABORATIVELY CONSIDER AND ADDRESS ISSUES AND CONCERNs RELATED TO THE RELIABILITY AND RESILIENCE OF THE ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM IN MICHIGAN IN A COMMISSION-SPONSORED TECHNICAL CONFERENCE
(electric undergrounding/opportunity to comment/interim order)

Case No. U-21388 involves a matter, on the Commission's own motion, to open a docket to collaboratively consider issues related to

the reliability and resiliency of the electric power system in Michigan. The order before you invites comments on the Commission Staff's Electric Undergrounding Report. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

"I want to thank our staff for their work in developing the Electric Undergrounding Report. This is a report that came out of a number of instances, but most recently the March 2025 northern Michigan ice storm that wreaked havoc across whole swaths of northeast Michigan.

Coming out of that, we held a public hearing in Gaylord where we heard from affected members of the public. One idea that was repeatedly raised was the opportunities involved in undergrounding of electric distribution lines. Out of that we held a technical workshop in September where we discussed costs and benefits of undergrounding and alternatives to undergrounding, as well as reviewing the latest learnings from existing pilot programs undergrounding in Michigan and elsewhere.

Following that technical workshop, staff filed their report on October 21st of last year. Today's order, as Ms. Arendt mentioned, invites comments on that report as we work to develop a strategy going forward. This is part of an ongoing effort to bolster Michigan's power grid reliability and resilience amid increasingly frequent and severe weather.

Again, thanks to the staff. We look forward to reviewing comments from members of the public on their fine work."

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

The order was adopted.

3. U-21671 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
(energy waste reduction reconciliation/proposed settlement agreement)

Case No. U-21671 involves an application filed by Consumers Energy Company for authority to reconcile its energy waste reduction costs and revenues for the 12-month period ended December 31, 2024. The order before you approves a settlement agreement resolving all issues in the case. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“I would like to highlight a few things from this energy waste reduction program reconciliation. Our Energy Optimization team at the Commission performed an audit of this program as part of their review.

The purpose of the audit was to examine the internal Consumers Energy employee labor costs charged to the EWR program. These costs had been increasing over time, and our team decided to schedule an on-site audit of these charges.

Staff wanted to ensure that the job duties of the Consumers Energy employees were not a cross-over of what the implementation contractors were conducting. While it is reasonable that a certain level of company employees are needed to provide contract oversight, data collection, and verification of savings claimed, our team noticed that the number of employees doing this at Consumers Energy far exceeds the number of employees carrying out these duties at other utility companies.

EWR is different than other programs utilities implement. EWR has a designated collection surcharge, and according to PA 295, as amended, EWR funds must be spent on EWR functions. Also, companies implementing their own EWR programs have the ability to earn an incentive award of up to 25% of overall program spend. Because of this, it is imperative to ensure that these ratepayer-collected funds are utilized for reasonable and prudent EWR expenditures.

During the audit, the auditors were able to learn that Consumers’ method of allocating labor expenses to EWR was based on a forward-looking percentage and not reconciled at the end of the year. The Consumers EWR employee list contained employees with labor attributed to the EWR program that *were not* involved with EWR. When asked if there was any sort of work logs or labor tracking, they said there was not. There was also not an end-of-year true up to ensure costs charged to EWR were verifiable EWR costs. Our staff quickly and accurately identified this as a problem. Through settlement conversations, Staff and the Company were able to agree a disallowance was warranted, and going forward the Company agreed to work with Staff to ensure that new labor tracking procedures needed to be implemented. Ultimately, the EWR audit team, Shannon Withenshaw and Tim Johnson, were able to save ratepayers almost half a million dollars – or \$496,572 to be exact.

This is exactly the kind of customer protection Michiganders can expect from our expert staff at the MPSC.”

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

The order was adopted.

4. U-21681 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION,
REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS,
DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR DTE

**ELECTRIC COMPANY AND DTE GAS COMPANY TO FULLY
COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008, AS AMENDED
(energy waste reduction plan/proposed settlement agreement)**

Case No. U-21681 involves an application filed by DTE Electric Company and DTE Gas Company for approval of their proposed four-year energy waste reduction plans for plan years 2026-2029. The order before you approves a settlement agreement resolving all issues in the case. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“I would like to highlight a few pieces from this EWR Plan Settlement agreement and thank our excellent Energy Optimization team for their work on this, including Brad Banks, Shannon Withenshaw, Tim Johnson, Joseph Reese, Katie Smith, Fawzon Tiwana, Dave Walker, Elizabeth Yeager, and their fearless leader Karen Gould.

Public Act 295, as amended, added requirements for targeted workforce development programs. In this settlement agreement, the Company agreed to continue their current initiatives of mentoring and training trade contractors on the implementation of EWR measures. In addition to this, the Company, in concert with parties to this case, will create programs that are committed to:

- Developing more diverse workforce development offerings.
- Prioritizing workers from low-income and environmental justice communities and displaced trades professionals.
- Supporting training for returning citizens.
- Supporting workforce training for Tribe and Tribal communities.

The Company has also committed to continuance of their Neighborhood Approach program which coordinates with their Energy Efficiency Assistance (EEA) program. This program targets selected neighborhoods to provide energy assessments, analyze the findings, and then group common measures and request work orders in a batch format with the goal of optimizing pricing and timing of installations. This initiative also incorporates health and safety upgrades for homes that have historically had challenges getting much needed energy efficiency upgrades.

Through this settlement, parties to the case along with the Company were able to establish a more robust financial incentive structure that ensures the Company will focus more heavily on longer life measures, increased low income spending and providing increased major measures to homes such as air sealing, insulation, heat pump water heaters, and cold climate heat pumps for electrically heated homes.

DTE’s energy efficiency programs, along with other Michigan providers, have ranked top in the nation in recent years. This current plan will continue to ensure customers have the ability to greatly reduce energy usage, lower bills, and bring comfort, health and safety to Michigan homes and businesses.”

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

The order was adopted.

5. U-21812 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF AN AMENDED RENEWABLE ENERGY PLAN TO COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 235 OF 2023
(proposed settlement agreement)

U-21814 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, A WISCONSIN CORPORATION, FOR APPROVAL OF ITS INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN UNDER MCL 460.6t AND FOR OTHER RELIEF
(proposed settlement agreement)

Case Nos. U-21812 *et al.* involve the applications of Northern States Power Company for approval of the company's amended renewable energy plan and multi-state integrated resource plan. The order before you approves a settlement agreement resolving all issues in the consolidated case. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

6. U-21870 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES FOR THE GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICITY AND FOR OTHER RELIEF
(petitions for rehearing)

Case No. U-21870 involves an application filed by Consumers Energy Company seeking authority to increase its rates for the generation and distribution of electricity and for other relief. The order before you grants the petitions for rehearing filed by the Michigan Department of Attorney General and the Michigan Environmental Council, Citizens Utility Board of Michigan, Sierra Club, and Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., as set forth in the order. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 16, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

7. U-21968 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY FOR *EX PARTE* ACCOUNTING AUTHORITY TO CHANGE THE METHODOLOGY FOR ALLOCATING BETWEEN INDIANA AND MICHIGAN RETAIL JURISDICTIONS THE COSTS OF CURRENT GENERATION RESOURCES (interim order)

Case No. U-21968 involves an application filed by Indiana Michigan Power Company for *ex parte* approval of a proposed methodology for how the jurisdictional allocation of the costs of its current generation resources will be determined in the future. The order before you directs a contested case proceeding. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

8. U-21998 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION’S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RELIABILITY-BASED DEMAND CURVE OPT-OUT PROVISIONS IN THE MIDCONTINENT INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR, INC.’S PLANNING RESOURCE AUCTION (opportunity to comment/interim order)

Case No. U-21998 involves a matter, on the Commission’s own motion, regarding the implementation of the reliability-based demand curve opt-out provision under Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.’s planning reserve auction. The order before you sets forth direction relative to the reliability-based demand curve opt-out provision for the 2026/2027 planning year and also proposes a process for the 2027/2028 planning year and beyond, with opportunity for interested persons to comment. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers

Nays – None

The order was adopted.

V. ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2026 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

Chair Scripps announced:

“The Commission has planned 19 Regular Commission Meetings in 2026. Pursuant to our Bylaws, a full list of our remaining Commission Meetings will be posted to our website shortly after the conclusion of today’s meeting. We are also including that information in the press release. These 19 meetings are typically held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursdays, as is today’s, with some exceptions as noted in the calendar that’s being posted. As in past years, we may elect to have one or more of these meetings in other locations as part of our efforts to expand public outreach across the state. Details of any such meetings will be made available as we get closer to those particular meetings.”

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Darren Villarreal, Oakland County, addressed his concerns about DTE’s recent rate increases and frequent power outages at his home.

A recording of the proceedings of the January 15, 2026 meeting is archived at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZJ8SMm7QUw> .

Chair Scripps announced that the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 19, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

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

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

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary