

Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission Held In Its Offices and Available Via Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing on September 10, 2026.

Commission Chair Daniel C. Scripps called the meeting to order at 1:08 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: Lisa Gold
Matt Helms
Lisa Felice
Blair Renfro
Jill Rusnak
Lucy Clay
Erika Poli
Katey Miracle
Kevin Krause
Stephanie Fitzgerald
Ben Johnson
Jerry McClung
Joe Cole
Charlie Tidwell
Andy Hannum
Mike Byrne
Andi Taylor

Public: Marco Bruzzano, DTE

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 317 Participants

I. Commissioner Peretick moved to amend today's agenda, Commissioner Carreon seconded.

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

The amended agenda was approved.

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 August 27, 2026, Commissioner Myers seconded.

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

The minutes were approved.

III. Consented Orders

A. Communications

1. U-13921 In the matter of the joint request for Commission approval of an interconnection agreement between IDT America Corp. and AT&T Michigan (thirteenth amendment)
U-15334 In the matter of the joint request for Commission approval of an interconnection agreement between AT&T Michigan and Hypercube Networks, LLC (sixth amendment)
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 (fourth 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 (seventh amendment)
2. Minute Action Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Annual Recertification for 2026 (U-22000)
3. Minute Action Peninsula Fiber Network LLC (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-3931 dated September 1, 2026)
4. Minute Action Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services LLC (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1353 dated August 20, 2026)

5. Minute Action Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services LLC
(9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1355 dated September 1, 2026)

B. Electric

1. U-13203 In the matter of the request of Commerce Energy, Inc., for a license as an alternative electric supplier
(request to voluntarily surrender license/final order)
U-16641 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, regarding the regulatory reviews, revisions, determinations, and/or approvals necessary for Commerce Energy, Inc., to fully comply with Public Acts 286 and 295 of 2008
2. U-21772 In the matter of the application of DTE Electric Company for approval of depreciation accrual rates and other related matters
(proposed settlement agreement)
3. U-21873 In the matter of the application of Consumers Energy Company for approval to implement a power supply cost recovery plan for the 12 months ending December 31, 2026
(proposed settlement agreement)
4. U-22009 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, regarding the regulatory reviews, revisions, determinations, and/or approvals necessary for Alpena Power Company to fully comply with Public Act 295 of 2008, as amended
(energy waste reduction reconciliation/proposed settlement agreement)
5. U-22013 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, regarding the regulatory reviews, revisions, determinations, and/or approvals necessary for Northern States Power Company to fully comply with Public Act 295 of 2008, as amended
(energy waste reduction reconciliation/proposed settlement agreement)
6. U-22067 In the matter of the application of DTE Electric Company for reconciliation of its electric infrastructure recovery mechanism for the 12 months ended December 31, 2025
(proposed settlement agreement)
7. U-22180 In the matter of the *ex parte* application of Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association for approval of a renewable energy credit or energy waste reduction credit substitution
(order assigning docket numbers)

U-22181	Bayfield Electric Cooperative
U-22182	Cherryland Electric Cooperative
U-22183	Cloverland Electric Cooperative
U-22184	Great Lakes Energy Cooperative
U-22185	Midwest Energy Cooperative
U-22186	Ontonagon Co. Rural Electrification Assoc.
U-22187	Presque Isle Electric and Gas Co-op
U-22188	Thumb Electric Cooperative
U-22189	Tri-County Electric Cooperative
U-22190	Village of Baraga
U-22191	City of Bay City
U-22192	City of Charlevoix
U-22193	Chelsea Department of Electric and Water
U-22194	Village of Clinton
U-22195	Coldwater Board of Public Utilities
U-22196	Croswell Municipal Light & Power Department
U-22197	City of Crystal Falls
U-22198	Daggett Electric Department
U-22199	City of Dowagiac
U-22200	City of Eaton Rapids
U-22201	City of Escanaba
U-22202	City of Gladstone
U-22203	Grand Haven Board of Light and Power
U-22204	City of Harbor Springs
U-22205	City of Hart Hydro Electric
U-22206	Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities
U-22207	Holland Board of Public Works
U-22208	Village of L'Anse
U-22209	Lansing Board of Water & Light
U-22210	Lowell Light and Power
U-22211	Marquette Board of Light and Power
U-22212	Marshall Electric Department
U-22213	Negaunee Department of Public Works
U-22214	Newberry Water and Light Board
U-22215	Niles Utility Department
U-22216	City of Norway
U-22217	Village of Paw Paw
U-22218	City of Petoskey
U-22219	City of Portland
U-22220	Village of Sebawaing
U-22221	City of South Haven
U-22222	City of St. Louis
U-22223	City of Stephenson
U-22224	City of Sturgis
U-22225	Traverse City Light & Power
U-22226	Union City Electric Department

U-22227 City of Wakefield
 U-22228 Wyandotte Department of Municipal Service
 U-22229 Zeeland Board of Public Works

8. Minute Action PJM Interconnection, LLC, tariff filing regarding Reliability Backstop Procurement to address resource adequacy and large loads (FERC Docket No. ER26-3380-000)
9. Minute Action PJM Interconnection, LLC, tariff filing regarding proposal to establish Interim Resource Adequacy Service and a Large Load Registry (FERC Docket No. ER26-3515-000)

C. Gas

1. U-22016 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, regarding the regulatory reviews, revisions, determinations, and/or approvals necessary for Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation to fully comply with Public Act 295 of 2008, as amended (energy waste reduction reconciliation/proposed settlement agreement)

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 9 orders and 6 minute actions were adopted.

IV. Other Orders

A. Electric

1. U-20629 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, to establish a workgroup to review the Service Quality and Reliability Standards for Electric Distribution Systems and to recommend potential improvements to the standards (bill credit adjustment/final order)

Case No. U-20629 involves the amendment of the rules governing the service quality and reliability standards for electric distribution systems. The order before you adopts a revised customer accommodation amount as required under those rules.
 Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the

order at its September 10, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

“At this point the outage credit that is established under the Service Quality and Reliability Standards is \$42 per day or per instance. The order before us raises it to \$44 per day. That amount is a 77% increase over the \$25 power outage credit for customers before the Commission updated the credits in 2023. That year, the Commission raised the one-time credit from \$25 to \$35 and made it available for each additional day a customer is without service. The credits are also now automatic. Previously, customers had to request the credits from their utility. But now, as I said, they’re automatic. We also manually adjust the credits to account for inflation, which is what the order in front of us today does.

Just to put this in perspective, utility customers received (in 2022) a total of \$1.2 million in credits under the previous rules. In 2025, utility customers received more than \$11.6 million in outage credits. That’s more than a nine-fold increase compared to what the credits were before the updates.

The goal of this is to push utilities to improve reliability and get power outages restored faster, while offering some level of compensation directly to the customers who are most directly affected by the utility outages. There are conditions in terms of when the credit kicks in – in terms of catastrophic conditions or normal service days. Customers who endure more than six sustained interruptions in one year are also eligible for the outage credit. We do have a consumer tip sheet on this. This is another step towards implementing the reforms that we put in place in 2023. That has accounted, again, more than a nine-fold increase in the amount of credits paid out directly to utility customers associated with utility outages.

I am pleased to support the order.”

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-21653 In the matter of the application of DTE Electric Company for approval of an Expedited Pilot Review Workplan
(*ex parte*/final order)

Case No. U-21653 involves an application filed by DTE Electric Company requesting *ex parte* approval of a Residential Battery Virtual Power Plant Pilot under the Expedited Pilot Process. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 10, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“I want to thank DTE Electric, our staff, the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council, the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Assn, and Environmental Law and Policy Center for reaching this important milestone of our first pilot approval through the expedited pilot process.

The expedited pilot process is meant to provide utilities a faster path to approval to test new technologies and new business models, learn from them, and move innovative ideas from concept to implementation more quickly. The process was specifically designed to allow us to test and refine new models as the electric system and the technologies available change.

Today, we get to see that process begin to deliver.

This particular VPP (or virtual power plant) is relatively modest in scope. It is a two-year pilot involving up to 100 residential batteries in one community in Ann Arbor. The batteries will be coordinated through a distributed energy resource management system, allowing DTE to learn more about customer participation, battery availability and charging behavior, operational performance, and ultimately the cost-effectiveness of aggregating these resources.

Before we have even launched our first VPP pilot, the process has already helped identify some of the regulatory and technical barriers that we need to address if we want VPPs to succeed at scale.

Battery exports are a great example. The ability to export electricity from customer batteries is an important component of a fully functioning VPP. It can expand the services these resources provide to include things like peak demand management, frequency stabilization, and greater integration of distributed generation. The order before us recognizes that importance and encourages DTE to work through the barriers to valuing and dispatching battery exports.

The order before us also directs our Staff to convene a workgroup after the pilot launches to identify the broader barriers to VPP deployment and ways to address them.

The potential of VPPs is much bigger than 100 batteries in one neighborhood. Over time, I want us to be thinking about how we aggregate many different types of distributed resources, across many different types of customers and communities, and allow those resources to provide value to the grid when and where that value is greatest.

A successful VPP can turn resources that customers already own—or are increasingly choosing to purchase --into useful grid assets. It can give us a source of flexibility, help us manage peaks and integrate distributed resources, improve resilience, and ultimately reduce the amount customers have to pay for more traditional infrastructure.

Getting there requires us to identify and eliminate rules and regulatory structures that were designed for a very different electric system.

And that, to me, is exactly what an expedited pilot process should accomplish. We shouldn't expect every first pilot to be perfect or comprehensive. We should expect it to teach us something, identify barriers, give us real-world data, and help us figure out how to do the next one better and faster.

So, I'm very pleased that our first expedited pilot has reached approval. I'm even more pleased that it gives us an opportunity to begin building the regulatory framework for successful VPPs in Michigan.”

Chair Scripps commented:

“Commissioner Peretick, I certainly endorse all of the comments that you made. I also would like to note that when you take a series of small batteries, each 4.8 kV, one of the strengths of this program is it’s a common battery application, common size, and you multiply that by 100, you now get nearly half a MW of capacity on the system, as Commissioner Peretick noted, done a cost-effective way. In fact, data included with the application showed that the cost involved in offsetting a portion of the cost of these customer-owned and customer-sided batteries compares favorably to the cost of new entry (or the capacity price) for new resources within the MISO capacity markets. That’s particularly important at a time of growing load and tightening capacity markets in Michigan, in MISO, and indeed across the country.

The pilot project that we are approving today represents a partnership between DTE Electric and its customers, which I think is maybe the most attractive element of this. The customers get to benefit directly from the distributed energy resources of on-site batteries and solar, as well as advanced grid controls. All of us get the benefit of aggregating these customer energy resources in order to meet larger grid needs.

I’m excited to support this pilot approval today. I’m excited to learn from it and I’m excited to scale it.”

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

The order was adopted.

B. Gas

1. U-21961 In the matter, on the Commission’s own motion, to adjust the administrative fines under MCL 483.161(1) for inflation (gas safety standards/final order)

Case No. U-21961 involves a matter, on the Commission’s own motion, to adjust administrative fines under Public Act 165 of 1969, as amended, for inflation. The order before you adopts administrative fines adjusted for inflation pursuant to Public Act 165 of 1969, effective October 1, 2026.

Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 10, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-21973 In the matter of the application of DTE Gas Company for authority to increase its rates, amend its rate schedules and rules governing the distribution and supply of natural gas, and for miscellaneous accounting authority
(final decision)

Commission Staff Jill Rusnak, Commissioner Advisor, presented a brief synopsis of the case listed above. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 10, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

“I want to start by thanking Staff, ALJ Christopher Saunders, all of the parties in this case, and especially our Commission Staff and advisors for the enormous amount of work that went into the order before us today.

Rate cases are some of the most consequential work that we do as a Commission. They are also some of the most difficult. We need a gas system that is safe and reliable. But every dollar that we authorize ultimately comes from customers, and we have an obligation to make sure those dollars are justified.

In this case alone, the record included testimony from 57 witnesses, more than 3,400 pages of transcript, and nearly 700 exhibits. And I want DTE Gas customers to understand that we did not simply accept the Company's request, or even broadly accept categories of spending because they were described as “necessary for safety or reliability”. This is not a simple yes or no vote. We scrutinized each of their spending requests individually. We spent many, many hours deliberating over individual projects, forecasts, assumptions, and expenditures.

One good example of that scrutiny is the Taggart compressor Station project.

I don't dispute that the existing compressor facility the company is requesting money for is old or that there are legitimate operational issues that need to be addressed. But that does not mean that any proposed solution, at any proposed cost, automatically becomes reasonable and prudent.

The scope of this project changed dramatically. What DTE originally proposed as a roughly \$100 million compressor replacement became a \$390 million dollar project to replace the entire compressor station. Yet the record contained remarkably little documentation supporting that change in scope or demonstrating that alternatives had been adequately evaluated.

For a project of this magnitude, that isn't enough.

So, this order rejects the \$284.1 million of requested capital expenditures for Taggart. That does not mean the Commission has determined that nothing needs to be done at Taggart. It means that if a utility asks customers to pay hundreds of millions of dollars for a project, it has to demonstrate why that project, at that scope and at that cost, is a reasonable and prudent solution. DTE Gas remains free to bring the project back in a future case with substantially better evidence.

At the same time, scrutiny of spending cannot mean refusing to make investments that are necessary to keep the system safe. The Infrastructure Recovery Mechanism (or IRM) and the core Gas Renewal Program investments within it are good examples of this.

The IRM was established in large part to accelerate replacement of legacy infrastructure, including cast iron and unprotected steel mains. Much of this infrastructure has reached the point where replacement is necessary for the continued safe operation of the system.

We need to be able to hold two ideas at the same time: skepticism of unsupported spending, and funding for well-supported investments that are necessary for safety and system reliability. Rejecting nearly \$300 million for the Taggart compression station while continuing the replacements of aging legacy mains is a good illustration of that distinction.

And for customers who are struggling to pay their gas bills, the order before us finds that DTE Gas needs to improve how it communicates with customers about existing energy assistance programs to better help lower-income customers to access financial assistance and other programs available. The order also raises the Low-Income Assistance Credit for income-eligible customers to \$58, up from \$40. This new amount is approximately 70% of the average monthly bill.

I also want to highlight the Gas Delivery Plan, because I think the direction we provide today is extremely important for how we regulate the gas system going forward.

DTE's Gas delivery Plan, which plans for the next ten years of capital investment, cannot simply assume that the future will look like the present.

The Gas Delivery Plan before us is too narrow. It assumes business-as-usual and does not adequately examine a range of plausible future scenarios. It does not sufficiently evaluate alternatives such as electrification, targeted energy waste reduction, demand response, geothermal, or other non-pipeline alternatives. And its assumption of continued growth in gas demand across the system is not adequately supported by this record.

What happens if gas demand declines faster than expected? What happens if electrification proceeds more quickly in some communities than others? What happens if growth occurs in one part of the service territory while demand falls substantially somewhere else?

Those questions matter because gas infrastructure is inherently locational. Growth in one area does not justify investment everywhere. The order before us includes a requirement that future Gas Delivery Plans include better analysis of increases and reductions in gas usage across the system and a much more robust evaluation of alternatives, reducing the risk that customers pay for infrastructure that turns out to not be needed.

Our job is to look carefully at the evidence and determine what customers should reasonably be asked to pay.

Where the evidence supports investments necessary to replace aging infrastructure and maintain a safe gas system, we approve them. Where hundreds of millions of dollars are requested without adequate evidence, we reject them. And where the Company's planning and forecasting methodologies are not good enough, we require them to improve.”

Chair Scripps commented:

“That might be the best articulation of how we do our work that I think I’ve every heard. I certainly couldn’t improve on your words. I have prepared comments, but I think I’m just going to let yours speak for all of us. Thank you.”

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

The order was adopted.

V. Public comments

Bob Jennings, Cannon Township, commented on Consumers Energy’s Liberty audit and tree trimming.

Bob Stuber, Traverse City Hydro/Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition, provided comments on the sale of the dams. He is opposed to Consumer’s Motion to Extend the Deadline.

Amy Reitz, Portage, commented on the gas explosion in Southgate that killed her sister. She requested that the Commission improve public safety for gas usage and levels.

Jake Veith, Supervisor, Bear Lakee Schools, Manistee County, commented on Consumers Energy’s sale of the dams to Confluence Hydro and his concerns about the community if the sale does not go through.

Emily Baker, Grand Traverse County, commented on DTE’s rate increase, the sale of the dams to Confluence Hydro, and the reevaluation of Line 5.

Tom Baird, Elk Rapids/Past President, Anglers of the AuSable, commented on Consumers Energy’s Motion to Extend the Deadline and is opposed of the sale.

Commissioner Peretick announced:

“I’d like to take a moment to acknowledge the severe weather last week that included multiple tornados, including a tornado that touched down on the east side of Detroit, and the severe thunderstorms in the Detroit metro area and across mid-Michigan. These storms resulted in over half a million homes and businesses to lose their power across the state.

This was far too reminiscent of what many experienced over the July 4th holiday – too many customers were without power for far too long.

This issue is timely. Just a few days ago, at the end of August, Consumers and DTE filed reports detailing their preparedness and response to the July 2026 storms in Docket U-22156.

We are committed to ensuring that our utilities improve their resilience and preparedness. We recognize the significant and ongoing impacts repeated and extended outages have had on customers. Outages are more than an inconvenience; they disrupt people's lives. Electricity is a necessary service, and outages deeply impact our quality of life. And outages can be particularly impactful for our most vulnerable communities, for low-income residents, for young children, the elderly, and those with medical needs.

Additional information will be provided regarding specific plans on how the Commission will address the repeated and extended outages. We know how important it is to get this right and we welcome input from the public. As always, if you have comments and suggestions, please submit them to lara-mpsc-commissioners@michigan.gov."

Chair Scripps announced:

"We acknowledge the frustration with the frequency and duration of outages and indeed share that frustration. As noted, there was an EF2 category tornado that touched down on the east side of Detroit with 115 mph winds. It looked from the footage that I was able to see, like a hurricane had gone through. There were a number of tornadoes that touched down in Michigan during that storm event. It required rebuilding of that entire circuit. In some places, the equipment had been totally destroyed and swept away. I credit the Company with being able to rebuild it over the course of the weekend.

I also want to thank first responders, utility crews, and others for their work in restoring power over the Labor Day weekend. Even with that, the frustration is real. Particularly following the outages that took place over a previous holiday weekend – over the 4th of July. That led to the reports that Commissioner Peretick mentioned. We are currently reviewing those reports with a particular focus on the adequacy of forecasting and preparation, on the levels of staffing, including crews, contractors, and the use of mutual aid personnel on steps to ensure wire down response was consistent with our Commission rules, on the adequacy of customer and public communications, in the accuracy of outage maps, and restoration estimates. For the most recent storm – how the lessons learned from July were applied to the response in September, and then opportunities for further improvement, including potentially revisiting our Service Quality Rules and Reliability Standards.

There is clearly more work to be done, even as we acknowledge that the work that went into getting people back reconnected to the grid. We will announce additional steps in the near future.

My second announcement is to acknowledge and mourn the passing of Stanley "Skip" Pruss, who passed away earlier this week. Skip was the former head of the Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth under the Granholm administration. He served as the State's Chief Energy Officer. Governor Granholm, in her book, described Skip as a 'part profit and part walking Encyclopedia' of the New Green Economy. It is a great description of Skip. He was all of those things, but he was also a friend to me. In recent years, I most often saw Skip when we would meet in the woods. Sometimes on planned walks together and sometimes fortuitously, but always with our dogs. I always enjoyed the conversation and the chance to catch up. I was honored to be a part

of his orbit. My wife Jamie worked directly with Skip, both at DLEG and at Five Lakes Great Energy, which he founded. I was honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with him and always to learn from him. He taught me an incredible amount about energy, but even more about service, about commitment to one's principles and ideals, and about a life well lived. He will be missed.

My third announcement is that our October 15th meeting is going to be shifted. We are going to be in the Upper Peninsula for a series of meetings that week. That meeting on Thursday, October 15th will take place, not here in Lansing, but on the Campus of Michigan Technological University in Houghton at the Memorial Union Building. We'll have a formal announcement going out shortly but wanted to provide a heads up that it will be happening.

Finally, I want to acknowledge that today is September 10, 2026. I want to close in acknowledging that tomorrow, September 11th, the nation will observe Patriot Day and the National Day of Service and Remembrance honoring the nearly 3,000 lives lost in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, as well as the courage of the first responders and countless individuals who stepped forward to help others, often at the great risk of themselves. In the wake of those attacks, we as Americans pledge to never forget. And 25 years later, we continue to remember those we lost and reflect on the extraordinary spirit of unity, compassion and service that emerged in the days that followed.

As I was preparing remarks for today, I learned that incredibly, 100 million Americans weren't yet born, or were too young to remember September 11th and have grown up only learning about it as if it was distant history, including some of the folks that we have the privilege of working with here at the Michigan Public Service Commission. For the rest of us, we'll never forget where we were. In the immortal words of Alan Jackson, 'The day the world stopped turning on that September day.' So, we acknowledge the 25 years since the attacks of September 11, 2001."

A recording of the proceedings of the September 10, 2026 meeting is archived at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x2WAJMHxGfk> .

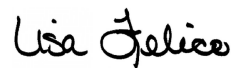
Chair Scripps announced that the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on October 1, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

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 2:13 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Felice". The script is cursive and fluid.

Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary