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Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission Held In Houghton, Michigan and Available Via Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing on October 15, 2026.

Commission Chair Daniel C. Scripps called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.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:	Blair Renfro Matt Helms Lisa Felice Reka Holley-Voelker Mike Byrne Tim Drombrowski Cathy Cole
Public:	Mike Smith, UPCC Dan Freeborn, UPPCO Eric Stocking, UPPCO Bonnie Janssen, Retired MPSC Mark Pontti, Evergreen Consulting Chelsea Bossert, Daily Mining Gazette Paul Anderson, City of Ironwood Mandy Lake, City of Bessemer Ryan Stern, Michigan Building Trades Jodi Formolo Dallas Aho, Ontonagon County REA Marty Fittante, Invest UP Anne Greub, UPPCO Nicole Bell, UPPCO Brendhan Givens Ana Dyreson, Hancock Resident

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 227 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 October 1, 2026, Commissioner Myers seconded.

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

The minutes were approved.

III. Consented Orders

A. Communications

1.	U-11901	In the matter of the application of Telnet Worldwide, Inc., for a license to provide basic local exchange service in selected areas served by Ameritech Michigan in the state of Michigan (request to voluntarily surrender license/final order)
	U-12152	In the matter of the application of Telnet Worldwide, Inc., to amend the geographic service area of its license to encompass all of the zones and exchanges throughout the state of Michigan served by GTE North Incorporated, Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a GTE Systems of Michigan, and Ameritech Michigan
	U-13731	In the matter of the application of Telnet Worldwide, Inc., to expand the geographic scope of its license to provide local exchange services
2.	Minute Action	AT&T (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. 517 R41-0001 067 9 dated September 1, 2026)
3.	Minute Action	Peninsula Fiber Network LLC (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-3949 dated October 1, 2026)
4.	Minute Action	Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services LLC (9-1-1 wireless, U-14000, invoice no. INV-1356 dated October 1, 2026)

B. Electric

1.	U-17888	In the matter of the application of Mid-American Energy Services, LLC for a license to operate as an alternative electric supplier in the state of Michigan (request to voluntarily surrender license/final order)
	U-17934	In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, regarding the regulatory reviews, determinations, and/or approvals necessary for Mid-American Energy Services, LLC to fully comply with Public Act 295 of 2008
2.	U-21591	In the matter of the application of Alpena Power Company for reconciliation of its power supply cost recovery plan (Case No. 21590) for the 12 months ending December 31, 2025 (proposed settlement agreement)
3.	U-21875	In the matter of the application of DTE Electric Company for approval to implement a power supply cost recovery plan for the 12 months ending December 31, 2026 (proposed settlement agreement)
4.	U-22012	In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, regarding the regulatory reviews, revisions, determinations, and/or approvals necessary for Indiana Michigan Power Company to fully comply with Public Act 295 of 2008, as amended (proposed settlement agreement)
5.	Minute Action	Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc., tariff filing to establish interconnection reliability requirements for large loads (FERC Docket No. ER26-3650-000)
6.	Minute Action	Approval of Administrative Law Judge James E. Long

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 5 orders and 5 minute actions were adopted.

IV. Other Orders

A. Communications

1. U-11830 In the matter of Ameritech Michigan's submission on performance measurements, reporting, and benchmarks in compliance with the October 2, 1998 Order in Case No. U-11654
(*ex parte*/request for an extension/interim order)

Case No. U-11830 involves a request filed by AT&T Michigan for a two-year extension of the currently approved performance measures and remedy plan. The order before you approves the extension through December 31, 2028. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-21905 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, to amend the rules governing emergency 9-1-1 service standards of training
(rulemaking/public hearing announcement)

Case No. U-21905 involves the proposed amendment of Mich Admin Code, R 484.801 *et seq.,* the Emergency 9-1-1 Service Standards of Training. The order before you approves the schedule for a public hearing and for the filing of written comments on the proposed amendments to the rules. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

3. U-22115 In the matter of the application of Ezee Fiber Michigan Assets, LLC, for a temporary and permanent license to provide basic local exchange service
(final order)

Case No. U-22115 involves an application, filed by Ezee Fiber Michigan, LLC, for a permanent license to provide basic local exchange service throughout the state of Michigan. The order before you grants the permanent license. Commissioner Peretick

moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

B. Electric

1. U-21090 In the matter of the application of Consumers Energy Company for approval of an integrated resource plan under MCL 460.6t, certain accounting approvals, and for other relief
(ex parte/PURPA full avoided cost rates)

Case No. U-21090 involves an application filed by Consumers Energy Company seeking *ex parte* approval of updated avoided cost rates pursuant to the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 and the June 23, 2022 order in this case. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-21193 In the matter of the application of DTE Electric Company for approval of its integrated resource plan pursuant to MCL 460.6t and for the other relief
(*ex parte*/Blazing Star Solar/Keystone Solar/Peatville Solar projects)

Case No. U-21193 involves an application filed by DTE Electric Company requesting *ex parte* approval of a power purchase agreement with Blazing Star Solar, LLC, and two company-owned solar generation projects. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

3. U-21424 In the matter of the application of Consumer Energy Company for reconciliation of its power supply cost recovery plan (Case No. U-21423) for the 12 months ended December 31, 2024
(final order)

Case No. U-21424 involves an application filed by Consumers Energy Company for reconciliation of power supply cost recovery expenses and revenues for calendar year 2024. The order before you approves the application, as described in the order. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

4. U-21601 In the matter of the application of Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation for reconciliation of its power supply cost recovery plan (Case No. U-21600) for the 12 months ending December 31, 2025
(proposed settlement agreement)

Case No. U-21601 involves an application filed by Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation for reconciliation of its power supply cost recovery plan for the 12 months ended December 31, 2025. 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 October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:
"A word on this order, and actually a number of orders before we vote. This is the first order that we've come to that involves an entity located in the Upper Peninsula. It is actually the second. We had reimbursement of 911 services provided across the U.P. that was included as part of the consent agenda. This one involves numerous power supply cost recovery expenses. We also have orders later in the agenda. I think the next one is actually on UPPCO's power supply cost reconciliation case. We also have UPPCO's energy waste reduction case later in the agenda, as well as a SEMCO gas rate case that Tim Dombrowski, one of our gas safety engineers, will speak to. As we planned this meeting, it was not that we wanted to highlight U.P. issues, while we were in the U.P. I think the fact that U.P. issues are regularly before us at the Commission. We've taken particular interest in some of the energy challenges that affect the Upper Peninsula and the ways that those challenges are different than the challenges below the bridge and participate fairly regularly in this.

I know there is a feeling up here that Lansing is sort of unaware of what happens in the U.P.; sometimes blissfully unaware of people who live north of the bridge. The challenges that face both the U.P. residents and businesses are off the radar in the rest of the state. I understand that challenge. I also will say that for the 3% of the population that lives north of the bridge that U.P. energy issues are far more than 3% of our time and attention. So, it is good to be here. It's good to have the opportunity to hear from you that have joined us to provide comments.

It's not about the particulars, or even the substance of the order, but just imply that there were a number of U.P. issues that just happened to fall on today's agenda. It is not uncommon for U.P. issues on each of our agendas, what seems to like a world away in Lansing sometimes."

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

The order was adopted.

5. U-21603 In the matter of the application of Upper Peninsula Power Company for reconciliation of its power supply cost recovery plan (Case No. U-21602) for the 12 months ending December 31, 2025
(proposed settlement agreement)

Case No. U-21603 involves an application filed by Upper Peninsula Power Company for reconciliation of its power supply cost recovery plan for the 12 months ended December 31, 2025. 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 October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

6. U-21939 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, to amend the rules governing the Consumer Standards and Billing Practices for Electric and Natural Gas Service regarding critical care customer shut off protection under Mich Admin Code, R 460.130a
(rulemaking/public hearing announcement)

Case No. U-21939 involves the proposed amendment of Mich Admin Code, R 460.130a, the Consumer Standards and Billing Practices for Electric and Natural Gas Service. The order before you approves the schedule for a public hearing and for the filing of

written comments on the proposed amendments to the rules regarding critical care customer shut off protection. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:
"I would like to highlight the opportunity for public input on how we can improve shutoff protections for medically vulnerable electric and natural gas customers as a part of this docket. We have been reviewing shut-off protections through our Critical Care Collaborative, working to identify ways to maintain protections for medically vulnerable customers while also preventing them from incurring unmanageably high bills.

The protections cover households with critical care customers who require home medical equipment or life support and for whom an interruption to their service would be immediately life threatening.

We would like to gather public input on this topic and are hosting a public hearing on November 9th at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's offices at 7109 W. Saginaw Highway in Lansing. Comments may also be submitted by mail to our office or emailed to LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov. If you mail or email comments, please reference Case No. U-21939, and I look forward to reading them and using the input to update these important protections."

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

The order was adopted.

7. U-22014 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, regarding the regulatory reviews, revisions, determinations, and/or approvals necessary for Upper Peninsula Power Company to fully comply with Public Act 295 of 2008, as amended
(proposed settlement agreement)

Case No. U-22014 involves an application filed by Upper Peninsula Power Company for authority to reconcile its energy waste reduction costs and revenues for the 12-month period ended December 31, 2025. 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 October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

8. U-22114 In the matter of the complaint of Aspire Networks 1, LLC doing business as Highline Internet, against Wisconsin Electric Power Company and Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation
(final order)

Case No. U-22114 involves a complaint filed by Aspire Networks 1, LLC, d/b/a Highline Internet, against Wisconsin Electric Power Company and Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation. The order before you grants, in part, and denies in part, the requested relief and directs Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation to take certain actions related to its pole attachment procedures, as described in this order. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

9. U-22142 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, to open a docket for load serving entities in Michigan to file their capacity demonstrations for the 2030/2031 planning year as required by MCL 460.6w (interim order)

Case No. U-22142 involves a matter, on the Commission's own motion, to open a docket for load serving entities in Michigan to file their capacity demonstrations as required by MCL 460.6w. The order before you invites public comment on the recommendations contained in the Commission Staff's Capacity Demonstration Workgroup 2026 Report. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

10. U-22144 In the matter of the application of Consumers Energy Company for approval of power purchase agreement
(*ex parte*/Zeeland Farm Services)

Case No. U-22144 involves an application filed by Consumers Energy Company requesting *ex parte* approval of a power

purchase agreement between the company and Zeeland Farm Services, Inc. The order before you approves the application. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

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

The order was adopted.

11. U-22237 In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, to establish a workgroup to review the rules governing Consumer Standards and Billing Practices for Electric and Natural Gas Service and to recommend potential improvements to the rules
(interim order)

Case No. U-22237 involves a matter, on the Commission's own motion, to open a docket to explore potential changes to the Consumer Standards and Billing Practices for Electric and Natural Gas Service, Mich Admin Code, R 460.101 through R 460.169. The order before you directs the Commission Staff to form a workgroup to explore potential changes to the ruleset and to file a report in this docket following the completion of the review. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Myers commented:
"Case U-22237 opens a new docket to the update the billing standards. These standards have not been updated in nearly seven years. The purpose of this docket is to create a workgroup that will develop revised rules to address concerns around current rules. Chief concerns of the workgroup will address:

1. concerns with current rules
2. updates to outdated references to technology, data management and customer communications practices
3. review new initiatives and trends

The workgroup will also look to expert sources and other states for best practices around billing. Anyone interested in participating in the workgroup is encouraged to sign up by December 1, 2026 on the MPSC's webpage dedicated to the workgroup: http://cms.michigan.gov/mpsc/commission/workgroups/billing-rules-review ."

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

The order was adopted.

C. Gas

1. U-21981 In the matter of the application of Consumers Energy Company for authority to increase its rates for the distribution of natural gas and for other relief
(final decision)

Commission Staff Stephanie Fitzgerald, Commissioner Assistant, presented a brief synopsis of the case listed above. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:
"I would like to thank all our staff who diligently worked on this case to ensure that Consumers gas customers are getting value from the money they spend every month on their gas bill. We have a lot of active cases in front of us currently, including rate cases, IRPs, siting cases, PSCRs, contract approvals, rulemakings, and many others. There is a huge amount of work that goes into each of these cases and all the other work that we do at the Commission, and each one deserves attention and scrutiny. It is the work of our 200 staff members here at the MPSC that makes this possible. I want to briefly highlight a few aspects of today's order.

First, I want to emphasize the careful scrutiny that this Commission applies to utility rate increase requests. We recognize that affordability continues to be a significant concern for Michigan families and businesses, and we take seriously our responsibility to ensure that customers are paying only for investments and expenses that are prudent and necessary.

A utility's request for additional revenue is not an entitlement. The burden is on the utility to demonstrate that its proposed costs are justified, and our job is to carefully evaluate the evidence, challenge unsupported assumptions, and ensure that customers are protected. I believe this order reflects that responsibility.

At the same time, I recognized that maintaining a safe and reliable natural gas system requires continued investment. There is an emphasis in this order on leak detection and repair. The expanded use of advanced methane detection technology, increased leak surveys, and efforts to reduce the backlog of known leaks are important investments that can improve public safety, reduce methane emissions, and prevent more costly problems in the future. These are exactly the types of investments where customer benefits extend beyond simply maintaining the status quo.

I also want to highlight the Commission's continued support for critical pipeline safety investments, including replacing aging infrastructure and addressing pipeline integrity. Safety must remain a fundamental priority, and we have an obligation to ensure utilities have the resources to maintain their systems safely while also holding them accountable for spending those resources wisely.

Finally, I want to express some disappointment with Consumers Energy's decision to move away from its previous commitment to electrify 30% of its vehicle fleet by 2030. I recognize that fleet investments need to be operationally appropriate and cost-effective, but public commitments should

mean something. I would have liked to see greater follow-through on that ambition, particularly given the potential for long-term operating savings. I'm glad this order reinforces expectations for better data collection and continued evaluation of fleet electrification opportunities so that future decisions can be grounded in a more complete understanding of costs and benefits.

Ultimately, affordability, safety, and accountability are not competing objectives. Our responsibility is to advance all three, and I believe today's order makes meaningful progress toward that goal."

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

The order was adopted.

2. U-22002 In the matter of the application of SEMCO Energy Gas Company for authority to increase its rates for the distribution and transportation of natural gas and for other relief
(proposed settlement agreement)

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

Commissioner Peretick commented:
"I just want to thank all of our staff who worked on this rate case and came to a settlement agreement that is beneficial for customers, as well as the intervening parties. As Mr. Dombrowski mentioned in his presentation, the last time that SEMCO raised their rates for natural gas service was 7 years ago in 2019. The parties to the case were able to come to an agreement that improves safety, reliability, and advanced leak detection – with supporting reporting - for SEMCO's system that is in the public interest. It was a substantial result. I would like to thank all parties involved."

Chair Scripps commented:
"Thank you, Commissioner Peretick. I would like to echo that as well. There has been a lot of discussion across the state, rightfully around the energy costs and the rate of increases from the utilities. I think it is worth noting that rather than filing (as is allowed under law once every year), SEMCO has been able to stay out for the better part of six or seven years. This is the first increase since 2019. We are in a different position today, largely driven by inflationary pressures. Although the vast majority of this approved increase is really focused, as Mr. Dombrowski noted, on expanded investments to add greater redundancy to the U.P. natural gas system, including the Keweenaw connector projects, as well as safety and reliability measures.

I would echo the appreciation for our staff, the Company, the Attorney General, and other intervenors for bringing a settlement before us today that I think reflects the need for increased investment, in particular, reliability, safety and redundancy, while also keeping affordability on the forefront."

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers
Nays – None
The order was adopted.

V. Public comments

Mike Smith, Upper Peninsula Construction Council, supports the approval of Line 5 and the Great Lakes Tunnel and RICE Units.

Bonnie Janssen, Retired MPSC Employee, supports Line 5 and RICE Units.

Paul Anderson, City Manager and City Engineer of Ironwood, addressed his concerns about UPPCO's electric rates and supports Line 5 and RICE Units.

Mandy Lake, City Manager, City of Bessemer and Supervisor/Wakefield Township, addressed her concerns about the sale of Xcel Energy to UPPCO and requests community involvement in the project, and supports Line 5 and RICE generators in production.

Ryan Stern, UP staff representative for the Upper Peninsula, supports Line 5.

Marty Fittante, Marquette, appreciates the Commission's interest in U.P's energy issues and their complexity. He also supports Line 5.

Brendhan Givens, Houghton, compared Cloverland versus UPPCO's energy rate differences. He also commented on UPPCO's costs in Case No. U-22032.

Natalie Tameka, CEO, Lake Superior Community Partnership, encourages the same care and thorough review of the additional issues regarding Line 5. She also commented on the affordability of RICE generators.

Lydia Christensen, Ironwood, commented on four items. She is opposed to the sale of Excel, opposed of Line 5, opposed to the sale of the dams, and rejects rate increases.

Jake Veith, Supervisor, Bear Lake 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.

Brian Seponski, Detroit, commented on DTE's large load tariff and DTE's IRP.

Fred Lewis, Supervisor, Plainfield Township and Chairperson, River Road National Scenic Byway, approves the sale of the dams.

Chair Scripps announced:
"We don't often at the Commission note when golfers earn their PGA Tour card. But then again, it's not all that often that a Yooper brings a spot on the PGA Tour. So, on behalf of the

Commission, I want to formally congratulate Hunter Eichhorn on that achievement. I believe that he is just the second U.P. native to join the PGA Tour. Growing up, Hunter showed a special talent combined with that classic U.P. grit early on, including recognition as the Michigan High School Athletics Association Individual U.P. champion, all four of his years at Carnegie Public Schools. So, as he takes this next step, it will be great to have some U.P. back on the PGA Tour.

In terms of the next meeting, the Commission will hold a Special Commission Meeting on Thursday, October 29th at 1:00 p.m. at the Michigan Public Service Commission's offices in Lansing for the purpose of approving the tariffs reflecting the decisions made in today's final order in Case No. U-21981. A formal notice for that Special Meeting will also be posted to that time. The next Regular Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2026 at 1:00 p.m."

A recording of the proceedings of the October 15, 2026 meeting is archived at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nz2q6w7WqFo .

Chair Scripps announced that a Special Commission Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. and the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5, 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 12:30 p.m.

Lisa Felice

Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary