DTE Gas Company One Energy Plaza, 1635 WCB Detroit, MI 48226-1279



Carlton D. Watson (313) 235-6648 carlton.watson@dteenergy.com

March 29, 2023

Ms. Lisa Felice Executive Secretary Michigan Public Service Commission 7109 West Saginaw Highway Lansing, MI 48917

Re: In the matter of the application of **DTE Gas Company** seeking authority to

amend its voluntary BioGreenGas Program and implement a new Voluntary

Renewable Gas\_Program (VRG) pilot

MPSC Case No. U-20839

Dear Ms. Felice:

Attached for electronic filing in the above referenced matter is DTE Gas Company's CleanVision Natural Gas Balance Annual Report.

Very truly yours,

Carlton D. Watson

CDW/cdm Encl.





#### THANK YOU

for being a CleanVision Natural Gas Balance program customer. We're thrilled to share more than 10,000 DTE Gas residential and small business customers enrolled in the program, joining us in our commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Thank you for being part of this incredible effort throughout our state.

Together, we're protecting state forests, supporting renewable energy development, and building a cleaner, brighter energy future for Michigan.



### Carbon offset credits

Trees are one of the world's most important tools when it comes to preserving the Earth's climate. They naturally absorb greenhouse gases, helping to balance emissions produced by natural gas usage. Through a partnership that began in 2021 with Anew, North America's leading carbon offset developer, Natural Gas Balance is purchasing carbon offset credits to limit aggressive tree harvesting throughout Michigan. With our support, Greenleaf Improved Forest Management is protecting 24,000 acres of forest across 13 Michigan counties and one in Wisconsin, which ensures thousands of trees remain to continue scrubbing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

Last year, we also added a second forestry project preserving 100,000 acres of the Pigeon River County State Forest for 10 years. This land, also known as The Big Wild, is considered one of Michigan's greatest treasures. The project is the first of its kind to use state land to generate forestry carbon offsets. The project will also provide more than \$10 million to the state's Forest Development and Fish and Game funds for natural resource management.

2022 Carbon Offset Credit Impact 11,792 metric tons
Natural gas-related CO2-e
emissions negated

#### Renewable natural gas

Renewable natural gas, or RNG, is derived by capturing methane gas emitted by organic waste materials in landfills, wastewater treatment plants and dairy farms. The gas is trapped, and impurities removed, creating a renewable source of pipeline-quality natural gas. Natural Gas Balance sources RNG from multiple local producers, including the Sauk Trail Hills landfill in Canton and a wastewater recovery facility in Grand Rapids.

2022 RNG Impact 11,264 mcf

Renewable natural gas acquired on behalf of participating customers, negating

**621** metric tons of natural gas-related CO2-e emission

#### What's next

We're proud of what we've accomplished together so far and are excited for what's next. In 2023, we will:

- Receive Green-e Certification for the Pigeon River County State Forest; an additional certification for the carbon offset credits we purchase.
- Purchase additional Michigan-made supply to support the growth of this program.

## 2022 Highlights

#### Grand Rapids Water Resource Recovery Facility supplies RNG



Earlier this year, we contracted with the Grand Rapids Water Resource Recovery Facility to produce RNG. Methane and other greenhouse gases are naturally produced during the WRRF's typical recovery processes, and are harmful greenhouse gases (GHG). RNG projects capture this methane and redirect it away from the environment, where it can be used as pipelinequality natural gas delivered to your home.

#### Planting Trees in Washtenaw County



In April last year, DTE challenged Washtenaw County residents to enroll in CleanVision Natural Gas Balance AND MIGreenPower – if more than 100 residents enrolled in April, the company promised to plant 20 trees in the county.

# Washtenaw County residents were up to the challenge!

On Sept. 30 the company planted 10 trees in Ann Arbor's Arbor Oaks Park to meet our end of the bargain. Later in November, we planted 10 trees in Washtenaw County's Nature Preserves in Superior Township.

#### BlueSource Changes Name to Anew



Anew is the new BlueSourcel You may see Anew crop up in more messages and communications from our program, so we wanted to let you know BlueSource rebranded to Anew.

All of our carbon offset credits are provided through Anew, which works with Michigan forest landowners and experts to provide the credits. We work in partnership with Anew to participate in Improved Forest Management (IFM) projects that protect Michigan's natural forests from being overharvested by commercial loggers. IFM project developers follow the methodology and protocol established by the nonprofit and independent American Carbon Registry.

#### Take your impact to the next level

You can increase your impact on climate change by increasing your commitment. Consider moving up to the next level to make an even bigger difference in mitigating carbon emissions.

See how

#### Let's connect!

We'd like to hear from you. Send your comments, questions and suggestions to us at naturalgasbalance@dteenergy.com.



Project information disclosure update
Natural Gas Balance is Green-e® Climate certified and meets the
environmental and consumer-protection standards for greenhouse gas
emissions reductions (carbon offsets) set forth by the nonprofit Center for
Resource Solutions. Learn more at <a href="https://www.green-e.org">www.green-e.org</a>.

To maintain this certification, we comply with the Ethical Guidelines, Certification Categories and Disclosure & Verification Requirements of the Green-e® Climate Code of Conduct. Please view our updated <u>2022 Project Information Disclosure</u> for detailed information about Natural Gas Balance.



DTE Gas Natural Gas Balance (NGB) U-20839

Program Update and 2022 Annual Report

Preliminary - Subject to revision

March 2023

# Based off our filing, below is the set of criteria to share with you and our customers regarding our 2022 Natural Gas Balance program performance

- 1.Customer enrollment levels and selected block levels
- –See slide 5
- 2.Information about projects utilized by the company to source the carbon reduction supply
- –See Annual report, "Carbon offset credits" section
- 3.The quantity of total emissions negated
- –See Annual report, "Natural Gas Balance 2022 Impact" section
- 4.Marketing and administration costs with marketing methods explained, including copies of marketing materials used and links to digital media
- –See slides 6-10
- · 5.Quantity, source, and cost of renewable gas and carbon offsets purchased
- –See Annual report "Carbon offset credits" and "Renewable natural gas" for supply source, slide 6 for quantity and cost
- 6.Customer participation forecasts
- –See slide 5 for annual enrollment targets
- 7.Marketing studies.
- –N/A, No marketing studies have been performed
- · 8.DTE Gas will also meet annually with the Staff to review the report and results of the program, as well as discuss the company's future plans
- -See annual report, "What's next" section
- 9.The company will offer a place for customers to submit questions or concerns related to the program
- –See website



# Agenda

- Discuss overall program achievements
  - Review Annual Report
- Discuss enrollment levels and forecast

- Review NBG Income Statement
  - Marketing expenses and details
- Review program extension proposal



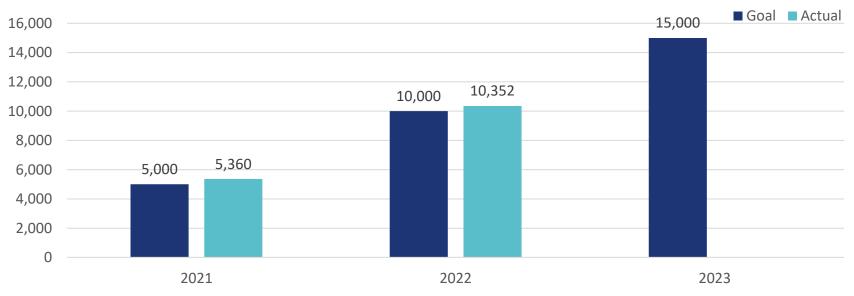
# 2022 Annual Report





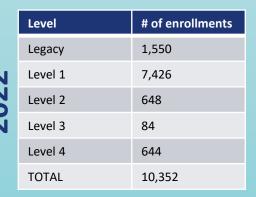
# **Customer Enrollment Levels**





# YE Enrollments by Level

	Level	# of enrollments								
	Legacy	1,678								
	Level 1	2,947								
7	Level 2	384								
7	Level 3	55								
	Level 4	296								
	TOTAL	5,360								





# NGB Income Statement and Supply Totals 2022

#### Natural Gas Balance Income Statement

	Jan-22 Feb-22 Mar-22 Apr-2		Apr-22	22 May-22			Jun-22		Jul-22		Aug-22		Sep-22		Oct-22		Nov-22		Dec-22		Total			
Revenue																								
Total Program Revenue	\$	24,488	\$ 23,045	\$ 35,423	\$	28,668	\$	32,354	\$	50,112	\$	35,615	\$	40,299	\$	39,276	\$	42,513	\$	44,112	\$	44,112	\$	440,017
Total Revenue	\$	24,488	\$ 23,045	\$ 35,423	\$	28,668	\$	32,354	\$	50,112	\$	35,615	\$	40,299	\$	39,276	\$	42,513	\$	44,112	\$	44,112	\$	440,017
Expenses																								
ST Labor	\$	(7,428)	\$ (9,355)	\$ (7,507)	\$	(10,475)	\$	(9,822)	\$	(7,249)	\$	(9,524)	\$	(11,920)	\$	(11,079)	\$	(9,997)	\$	(9,948)	\$	(12,171)	\$	(116,475)
RNG				\$ (67,689)					\$	(82,919)					\$	(38,688)					\$	(45,194)	\$	(234,490)
Carbon Offsets				\$ (19,022)					\$	(22,000)					\$	(25,672)					\$	(29,856)	\$	(96,550)
Contract Labor	\$	-	\$ -	\$ (4,351)	\$	(126)	\$	(2,200)	\$	-	\$	(55)	\$	-	\$	-	\$	(7,083)	\$	_	\$	-	\$	(13,815)
Outside Services	\$	(16,250)	\$ (59,063)	\$ (32,725)	\$	(79,572)	\$	(72,907)	\$	(74,130)	\$	(75,059)	\$	(70,202)	\$	(79,805)	\$	(55,915)	\$	(169,637)	\$ (	(134,300)	\$	(919,563)
Dues & Assessments	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Other	\$	3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	\$	(17,700)	\$	(2,245)	\$	(2,634)	\$	-	\$	(55,947)	\$	(62,370)	\$	24,491	\$	(93,110)	\$	(206,515)
Burden	\$	(66)	\$ (295)	\$ (164)	\$	(291)	\$	(1,438)	\$	(371)	\$	(376)	\$	(351)	\$	(399)	\$	(2,583)	\$	(1,179)	\$	(678)	\$	(8,189)
Total Expenses	\$	(20,744)	\$ (68,713)	\$ (131,456)	\$	(90,463)	\$	(104,067)	\$	(188,913)	\$	(87,648)	\$	(82,472)	\$ (	(211,590)	\$	(137,948)	\$	(156,273)	\$ (	(315,309)	\$	(1,595,596)
Program Net Income (Loss)	\$	3,744	\$ (45,669)	\$ (96,033)	\$	(61,795)	\$	(71,713)	\$	(138,801)	\$	(52,033)	\$	(42,173)	\$ (	(172,314)	\$	(95,435)	\$	(112,161)	\$ (	(271,197)	\$	(1,155,579)

	2022 Total Supply Retirements
Carbon Offsets	11,792 (measured in metric tons per CO2-e)
Renewable Natural Gas	11,264 mcf



# Natural Gas Balance met its enrollment target by utilizing marketing funds which are not included in base rates

# Customer Outreach - \$302,100

- Digital social campaign \$93,000
- Ad creation \$6,000
- Video creation \$58,200
- Emails, bill inserts, direct mail \$144,900

# Direct Marketing - \$658,500

- Direct Outbound Calling Campaigns
  - Direct sales calling \$624,000
  - Inbound call center support -\$34,500

# Misc. Marketing - \$38,400

- Events \$14,800
- Legal \$13,800
- Door knocking \$2,600
- Community Incentive \$7,200



# A variety of channels are used to reach our customer base



4/26 Dual promotional email with MIGreenPower/ NGB





10/21 Targeted email to Grand Rapids area



# A variety of channels are used to reach our customer base







# A variety of channels are used to reach our customer base



Grand Rapids Water Resource Recovery Facility - Renewable Natural Gas Supply Source







Greenleaf Project – Carbon Offset Supply Source

While total enrollments were as expected, the average participation level was lower than modeled causing us to seek additional time in the pilot phase



Plan to file for extension of program pilot (3 years)



Continue experimenting with marketing and sales tactics



Evaluate program performance and customer's sentiment, drivers



# THANK YOU!