



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
THE LAW SCHOOL
Abrams Environmental
Law Clinic

June 24, 2024

Via E-Filing

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

RE: MPSC Case No. U-21291

Dear Ms. Felice:

Please find enclosed the Official Exhibits FLO-301 to FLO-305 sponsored by Toyia Watts (Part 12 of 13) on Behalf of Frontline Organizations, along with proof of service for electronic filing in the above-referenced matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark N. Templeton".

Mark N. Templeton, *pro hac vice*
6020 S. University Avenue
Chicago, IL 60637
Phone: (773) 702-9611
Email: templeton@uchicago.edu

xc: Parties to Case No. U-21291



2023-2024 Payment Assistance Programs

... and ways to lower your
energy bill

Trouble paying bills? Don't wait... ask for help!

DTE Energy, along with government and private agencies, can provide assistance with paying your energy bill. Visit DTE Energy at dteenergy.com/help or call us at **800.477.4747**.

“I'm active duty military or a veteran...”

Active Military Protection

If you are called to full-time active military duty during a national or state emergency you can apply for disconnect protection for up to 90 days, and can then reapply for extensions. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

Michigan Veteran's Trust Fund

This program provides temporary assistance if you are a veteran facing a financial emergency or hardship including payment of energy bills. Visit michiganveterans.com or call Michigan Veterans Trust Fund at **800.642.4838**.

“I've experienced a medical emergency...”

Critical Care Protection

If you require a life support system in your house, you may be eligible for annual shutoff protection. You will need a Medical Certification Form completed by your physician or public health office. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

Medical Emergencies

If you have a proven medical emergency, you can apply for shutoff protection for up to 21 days. You will need a Medical Certification Form completed by your physician or public health office describing the emergency. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

“I’m behind on my energy bills...”

Michigan Homeowner Assistance Fund (MIHAF)

MIHAF provides funds to help prevent loss of utilities, homeowner mortgage delinquencies, defaults, foreclosure, and displacement. Applicants must be at or below 150% of the area median income and must demonstrate financial hardship directly related to COVID-19 on or after January 21, 2020. Visit michigan.gov/mihaf.

Senior Winter Protection Plan

Protects all customers aged 65+* from disconnects during the heating season. You are encouraged to pay your monthly bill to avoid a large balance in the spring and reduce the risk of service interruption. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

Double-Notice Protection Plan

You can ask us to send a copy of your disconnect notice to a consenting friend, relative or agency, alerting them to your financial situation. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

Payment Agreement

A Payment Agreement is an installment plan available for all customers needing more time to pay off their past due balance. The agreement includes a down payment and monthly installments, including current energy and non-energy charges. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

Customer Resource Fairs

DTE hosts Customer Resource Fairs to provide one on one help to customers. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

**Customers age 62 prior to October 31, 2023 will remain eligible for protection.*



ENERGY SAVING REBATES

Appliance Recycling Rebates

Recycle your old, working fridge or freezer for free and you'll receive a \$50 gift card. Learn more at dteenergy.com/recyclerebates.

Heating and Cooling Rebates

Get rebates when you upgrade to a high-efficiency furnace, boiler or air conditioner. Learn more at dteenergy.com/rebates.

Insulation Rebates

Get rebates by upgrading to energy-efficient insulation. Learn more at dteenergy.com/insulationrebates.

ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebates

Get rebates from \$25 to \$50 on qualifying clothes washers, clothes dryers, room air conditioners, dehumidifiers, room air purifiers, and Wi-Fi enabled thermostats. Learn more at dteenergy.com/appliancerebates.

SAVE ON YOUR ENERGY BILL

DTE Marketplace

Receive instant rebates on energy efficient products like thermostats, outlets, shower heads and more. Looking for new appliances or electronics? Use our Comparison Tool to find the most energy efficient models. Visit dtemarketplace.com.

DTE Insight

The DTE Insight app and Energy Bridge connect to your home's smart meter to show your energy use and help you save on your energy bill. Visit dteenergy.com/dteinsight.

Energy Usage Tools

Our Energy Usage Tools can be accessed for free through your DTE online account, and can help you find potential ways to save on your energy bill. Visit dteenergy.com/billanalyzer.

AGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The following agencies may provide energy assistance or connect you to additional sources of help. Agency assistance programs may require a down payment.

- **United Way of Southeastern Michigan** – call **2-1-1**
- **The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW)** – call **800.866.THAW (8429)** or visit **thawfund.org**
- **Salvation Army** – call **855.929.1640** or visit **sawmni.org**
- **TrueNorth Community Services** - call **231.355.5880** or visit **truenorthservices.org**
- **Michigan Community Action** – visit **mcaaaa.org**
- **The Accounting Aid Society** – in SE Michigan call **866.673.0873**
- **Superior Watershed Partnership** – call **906.273.2742** or visit **superiorwatersheds.org/energy-conservation**
- **St. Vincent de Paul** – call **313.393.2930** or visit **svdpdetroit.org/get-help**
- **United Way of South Central Michigan** – call **517.784.0511**

Some non-profit agencies may provide assistance to households with a higher income level. Please contact the agency for details.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

GreenPath Financial Wellness

You may qualify to receive budget counseling, debt management and credit report help. Call **888.235.1003** for information.

Lifeline

This program makes basic local telephone service more affordable for Michigan families at or below 135% the federal poverty level. Contact your local telephone company for more information.

Income-Qualified Programs

These are income qualifications for the 2023/2024 program year. Some non-profit agencies might provide assistance to households with a higher income level. Please contact the agency for details.

At or below **110%** of the federal poverty level

Home Heating Credit (HHC)

You may be eligible for a Home Heating Credit for the 2023 tax year to help offset winter heating bills. File anytime between Jan. 19 and Sept. 30, 2024. If you are approved and receive an energy draft, please return it to our lockbox with a postmark of Dec. 15, 2024 to make sure you receive the credit in full:

PO Box 740786
Cincinnati, OH 45274-0786

Number of Household Members	Annual Income Must Be At or Below:
1	\$16,038
2	\$21,692
3	\$27,346
4	\$33,000
5	\$38,654
6	\$44,308
7	\$49,962
8	\$55,616
Each additional person, add:	\$5,654

Contact United Way or the Accounting Aid Society if you need help filing.

At or below **150%** of the federal poverty level

State Emergency Relief (SER)

Administered by the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS), SER provides immediate help if you have a past due bill or disconnect notice. To see if you qualify, call **2-1-1** or visit newmibridges.michigan.gov.

Number of Household Members	Monthly Income Must Be At or Below:
1	\$1,823
2	\$2,465
3	\$3,108
4	\$3,750
5	\$4,393
6	\$5,035
7	\$5,678
8	\$6,320
Each additional person, add:	\$643

Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP)

If you submit a SER application, you may be eligible for additional financial assistance through MEAP. This program also educates you on budgeting, energy efficiency and paying your bills on time. Visit michigan.gov/energyassistance.

Winter Protection Plan (WPP)

Prevents service disconnection during the heating season (Nov. 1 – March 31). To remain on the plan you must pay a budgeted amount. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

Low-Income Self-Sufficiency Plan (LSP)

This program allows you to keep up with energy bills through a fixed payment plan based on income and energy use. Visit dteenergy.com/lsp.

Residential Income Assistance Credit (RIA)

You can qualify for a \$8.50 per month credit on your electric account and/or a \$13.50 on your gas account. Visit dteenergy.com/help.

At or below **200%** of the federal poverty level

Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

This program provides free home energy conservation services. Visit energy.gov/energysaver.

Shutoff Protection Plan (SPP)

This plan provides year-round protection from service disconnects if monthly payments are met. You will need to pay a down payment to enroll. This program is also available to seniors 65+*. Visit dteenergy.com/SPP.

Number of Household Members	Monthly Income Must Be At or Below:
1	\$2,430
2	\$3,287
3	\$4,143
4	\$5,000
5	\$5,857
6	\$6,713
7	\$7,570
8	\$8,427
Each additional person, add:	\$857

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

This program provides a monthly discount on internet service for households that participate in qualifying government programs. Visit affordableconnectivity.gov.

**Customers age 62 prior to October 31, 2023 will remain eligible for protection.*



Customer Resource Fairs



Today in Michigan, more than 1.3 million people live below the federal poverty level. Our state's struggling economy, coupled with our unrelenting winters, means a greater need for energy assistance. We partner with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority and local [energy assistance agencies](#) to provide case management solutions, energy efficiency education and energy assistance to customers in need.

Our services include:

- Help with applying for energy assistance (State Emergency Relief)
- Tips to help you reduce your energy bills
- Access to various human services agencies

2024 Schedule

Event	When	Where
Home Heating Credit Assistance Resource Fair	Friday April 12 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Ford Resource & Engagement Center East 15491 Maddelein St. Door #5 Detroit, MI 48205

All customers who attend these events must have the following items:



- Valid Michigan ID for all household members over the age of 18, such as a driver's license, state ID, Detroit ID or passport

[Michigan ID >](#)



- Social Security cards for all household members regardless of age

Social Security Card >

Sample Company 100 Somersbore Rd. Northboro, CA 90000 (111) 111-1111	Smith, John 111 Somersbore Rd. Northboro, CA 90000	SSN XXX-XX-6789	Gross Pay \$2,576.92	Period Beginning 6/14/2013	Period Ending 6/27/2013	Net Pay \$1,808.15	Check Date 6/27/2013	Check No 1005
Earnings			Hours Rate	Amount	YTD Amt	Taxes/Deductions		
Salary			0.00/0	\$2,576.92	\$5,153.84	Fed Income Tax	\$428.93	\$857.86
Regular hourly pay			0.00/0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Social Security Tax	\$159.77	\$319.54
Gross Pay				\$2,576.92	\$5,153.84			

Sample Company 100 Somersbore Rd. Northboro, CA 90000 (111) 111-1111	Smith, John 111 Somersbore Rd. Northboro, CA 90000	SSN XXX-XX-6789	Gross Pay \$2,576.92	Period Beginning 6/14/2013	Period Ending 6/27/2013	Net Pay \$1,808.15	Check Date 6/27/2013	Check No 1005
Earnings			Hours Rate	Amount	YTD Amt	Taxes/Deductions		
Salary			0.00/0	\$2,576.92	\$5,153.84	Fed Income Tax	\$428.93	\$857.86
Regular hourly pay			0.00/0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Social Security Tax	\$159.77	\$319.54
Gross Pay				\$2,576.92	\$5,153.84	Medicare Tax	\$37.37	\$74.74
						State Income Tax	\$142.70	\$285.40
						Local Income Tax	\$0.00	\$0.00
						Health Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00
						401K	\$0.00	\$0.00
						Net Pay	\$1,808.15	\$3,616.30

- Proof of income for the last 60 days — eight weekly pay stubs, four bi-weekly pay stubs or two monthly pay stubs

Proof of Income >

Posteligibility Notice – Increase/Continuance in Payment - (Reinstatement Notice SSA-L8151)

**Social Security Administration
 Supplemental Security Income
 Notice of Change in Payment**

Date: _____
 Claim Number: _____

CLAIMANT NAME
 STREET ADDRESS
 CITY ST ZIP CODE

INFO72
 We are writing to tell you about changes in your Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. The following chart shows the SSI money due you for the months we changed. As you can see from the chart, we are changing your payments for future months. The rest of this letter will tell you more about this change.

OPTC12
Your Payments Will Be Changed As Follows

TBL010

Month	Amount due each month
May 2010	\$0.00

MIS016 (optional)
 and continuing

PAYC22
Your Payment is Based on These Facts

- 2023 Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Statement

Supplemental Security Income Statement >

Low-income families may qualify for the [Low-Income Self-Sufficiency Plan](#). This program allows you to make affordable monthly payments based on your income.

Michigan Public Service Commission
DTE Gas Company
Customer Assistance Days, Customer Resource Fairs and Pop Ups

Case No: U-21291
Audit Request FLODG-3.5.a,b,c
Witness J.E. Sparks
Page: 1 of 1

CAD = Customer Assistance Days
CRF = Customer Resource Fairs

Year	Type	Date	Location	Time	Notes
2021	CAD	10/21/21	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2021	CAD	11/05/21	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2021	CAD	12/09/21	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2022	CAD	01/13/22	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2022	CAD	02/04/22	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2022	CAD	02/10/22	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2022	CAD	03/10/22	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2022	CAD	04/14/22	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2022	CAD	05/19/22	Virtual	8am-4pm	
2022	CAD	11/03/22	Considine Center	9am - 4pm	
2022	CRF	12/16/22	River Rouge High School	9am - 4pm	
2023	CRF	10/12/23	Booker T Dozier Recreation Center	10am - 4pm	
2023	CRF	11/02/23	Fellowship Chapel	10am - 4pm	
2023	Pop-Up	07/26/23	Northwest Activity Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	07/27/23	Northwest Activity Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	08/02/23	Northwest Activity Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	08/03/23	Northwest Activity Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	08/08/23	Samaritan Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	08/09/23	Northwest Activity Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	08/09/23	Washtenaw Community Action Agency	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	08/17/23	Northwest Activity Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	09/05/23	Samaritan Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	09/19/23	Samaritan Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	09/12/23	Considine Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	09/20/23	Washtenaw Community Action Agency	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	09/27/23	Northwest Activity Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	10/03/23	Samaritan Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	10/11/23	Cares of Farmington Hills	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	10/25/23	La Sed	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	10/31/23	Northwest Activity Center	11am – 3pm	
2023	Pop-Up	11/16/23	Veterans Resource Fair Greater Grace	10am - 2 pm	
2023	Pop-Up	01/30/23	Samaritan Center	11am – 3pm	
2024	Pop-Up	02/01/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	
2025	Pop-Up	02/28/24	Heilmann Recreation Center	11am -3pm	
2024	Pop-Up	03/07/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	
2024	Pop-Up	03/18/24	Gethesemane Missionary Baptist Church	11am-2pm	
2024	Pop-Up	04/04/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	
2024	CRF	04/12/24	Thompson Community Center	10 am – 1:30 pm	
2024	CRF	04/12/24	Ford Resource & Engagement Center East	10am - 3pm	
2024	Pop-Up	05/02/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	Planned, not confirmed
2024	Pop-Up	06/06/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	Planned, not confirmed
2024	Pop-Up	07/11/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	Planned, not confirmed
2024	Pop-Up	08/08/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	Planned, not confirmed
2024	Pop-Up	09/05/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	Planned, not confirmed
2024	Pop-Up	10/03/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	Planned, not confirmed
2024	Pop-Up	11/07/24	Northwest Activity Center	11am -3pm	Planned, not confirmed

MPSC Case No: U-21291

Requester: FLO

Question No.: FLODG-2.3b

Respondent: J. E. Sparks

Page: 1 of 1

Question: 3. The Company states that the original \$30 LIA credit was designed to cover approximately 68% of a customer's bill. Sparks Direct at 17. The Company proposes to increase the credit to \$40, which will cover only approximately 60% of the bill. Sparks Direct at 17.

b. Please explain why the Company is proposing to offer an LIA credit of \$40 (equivalent to approximately 60% of a customer's bill) instead of \$45 (approximately 68%). This explanation should include a description of any considerations the Company weighed.

Answer: DTE Gas considered a \$45 LIA monthly credit but decided to use \$40 for a combination of reasons. The first reason is gradualism. Many times the Commission prefers to implement changes gradually. Proposing a \$10 increase as opposed to a \$15 increase would allow for a more gradual change. Additionally, DTE Gas does not know what final rates will be approved by the Commission. It is possible that the \$40 will be close to 70% of the bill based on the final Commission order. Another factor was the \$40 DTE Electric LIA credit. Finally, the proposed LIA credit is approximately 70% of the non-commodity bill based current (U-20940) base rates. When deciding which credit to propose, the combination of these made the \$40 most likely to be acceptable to all parties.

Attachment: None.

MPSC Case No: U-21291

Requester: FLO

Question No.: FLODG-2.4a

Respondent: J. E. Sparks

Page: 1 of 1

Question: 4. The Company states it “plans to maintain an LIA that will offset approximately 70%” of a customer’s bill. Sparks Direct at 18. But the Company has proposed an LIA credit that will offset approximately only 60% of a customer’s bill. Sparks Direct at 17.

a. During what time period(s) does the Company plan to increase the LIA credit to a dollar amount equivalent to 70% of a customer’s bill?

Answer: DTE Gas does not have a timeline of when it will propose a 70% LIA credit. The plan will depend upon the outcome of this proposal in this rate case. DTE Gas would not object to having a mechanism similar to that used to set the RIA credit, which is set once final rates are determined. The LIA, in future, could be set at the nearest whole dollar amount equal to approximately 70% of a customer’s typical monthly bill (calculated as a typical 10 Mcf usage per month based on customer and distribution charges). In its direct filing, DTE Gas would set the proposed LIA based on as filed rates and the final LIA credit would be calculated based on the Commission’s final order.

Attachment: None.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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.

Case No. U-21291

ALJ Jonathan F. Thoits

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, Mark Templeton, certify that an electronic copy of the Official Exhibits FLO-301 to FLO-305 (Part 12 of 13) on Behalf of Frontline Organizations was served on the following on June 24, 2024.

Name/Party	E-mail Address
Administrative Law Judge Hon. Jonathan F. Thoits	thoitsj@michigan.gov
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**Soulardarity, Urban Core Collective, We
Want Green, Too**

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The statements above are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL
ABRAMS ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC
Counsel for Soulardarity, Urban Core
Collective, and We Want Green, Too

Date: June 24, 2024

/s/ Mark N. Templeton

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