

September 27, 2024

Michigan Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 30221  
Lansing, MI 48909

Via email: [lara-mpsc-commissioners2@michigan.gov](mailto:lara-mpsc-commissioners2@michigan.gov)

**Re: Case #U-21534**

Dear Michigan Public Service Commissioners,

I am the owner of Northern Lights Family Outfitters, LLC, a family-owned, minority-owned, Michigan based business located in Levering, Michigan. I'm writing to express my support for DTE's electric rate case. DTE has a 15-year commitment to put Michigan first by prioritizing spending with in-state businesses. This commitment creates jobs and helps hard-working companies like ours succeed.

Because of DTE's investment and mentoring, we're thriving. We have been servicing and providing DTE employees with Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), such as Flame-Resistant (FR) and workwear clothing since 2013, when DTE found it very beneficial to allow us to travel to their Michigan service centers to fit their employees on the job site. Our service and pricing made us very competitive with the national competitors and in the end was a cost savings for DTE.

DTE trusts our company to consistently provide a good product at a competitive price. That trust gives us the strength and incentive to invest in the partnership. In the last 11 years, DTE has become to utilize us as one of their primary PPE suppliers, which has helped build our business from two employees (my husband and I) to six full-time employees and two part-time employees. We also invested in a custom 48' mobile store trailer and truck and built two large facilities to house equipment and product. Lastly, we have partnered with other Michigan retailers and businesses to provide more services and product offerings to DTE that we do not provide in-house, which has substantially grown those businesses as well in both manpower and infrastructure.

DTE encourages us to pay it forward by doing business close to home and supporting our communities. We support all local charities and organizations that provide housing, food, supplies to needy families, such as the Manna Food Project, the Elks Lodge, and the Masons. We also donate to all charity events for those suffering from illness or loss. We always provide donations to all our customer's in-house charitable events that support a local organization. Lastly, we donate our time to local school events and organizations that provide activities for children and their families.

Thank you for considering how DTE's investments and support of Michigan businesses create a ripple effect that translates into greater prosperity in local communities, such as ours here in Northern Michigan, where it is greatly needed and appreciated.

Sincerely,



Shannon M. Redding  
President

Northern Lights Family Outfitters, LLC.