

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

* * * * *

In the matter of the application of MICHIGAN	)	
ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION COMPANY, LLC,	)	
for an Act 30 certificate of public convenience and	)	Case No. U-21471
necessity for the construction of a major transmission	)	
line between Onieda Substation in Eaton County and	)	
Nelson Road Substation in Gratiot County, Michigan.	)	
_____	)	

In the matter of the application of MICHIGAN	)	
ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION COMPANY, LLC,	)	
for an Act 30 certificate of public convenience and	)	Case No. U-21472
necessity for the construction of a major transmission	)	
line between the Indiana/Michigan border at Gilead	)	
Township in Branch County and the new Helix	)	
Substation in Calhoun County, Michigan.	)	
_____	)	

At the June 12, 2025 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing,
Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Chair
Hon. Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner
Hon. Alessandra R. Carreon, Commissioner

ORDER

On July 15, 2024, pursuant to the Electric Transmission Line Certification Act, Public Act 30 of 1995 (Act 30), MCL 460.561 *et seq.*, Michigan Electric Transmission Company, LLC (METC) filed applications in the instant docket, with supporting testimony and exhibits, for certificates of public convenience and necessity for the construction of an approximate 39.5-mile, 345-kilovolt (kV) double circuit transmission line between the existing Nelson Road Substation in New Haven

Township, Gratiot County, Michigan and the existing Oneida Substation in Oneida Charter Township, Eaton County, Michigan, and an approximate 55-mile, 345-kV double circuit transmission line between a proposed new Helix Substation in Clarence Township, Calhoun County, Michigan and the Michigan/Indiana border in Gilead Township, Branch County, Michigan (Helix-Hiple Line). *See*, filing #U-21471-0004 and filing #U-21472-0004.

On August 29, 2024, Administrative Law Judge Christopher S. Saunders (ALJ) held a prehearing conference at which the ALJ, among other things, granted METC's motion to consolidate the two dockets and directed that, moving forward, all filings would be filed in Case No. U-21471 and that no further filings would be accepted in Case No. U-21472. Subsequently, METC, the Commission Staff (Staff), and intervening parties filed direct and rebuttal testimony and exhibits in Case No. U-21471. On February 19, 2024, the ALJ conducted an evidentiary hearing wherein testimony and exhibits were bound into the record.

The Commission notes that as part of the record for this case the parties submitted evidence demonstrating that METC's proposed route for the Helix-Hiple Line runs through a rural airport. Based on discovery responses received, the Staff states that the proposed route crosses an airport owned by intervenors Robert and Rose Williams. 5 Tr 1263-1264; *see also*, Exhibit S-4.26, p. 1. The Staff further states that prior to the filing of METC's application for the Helix-Hiple Line, the airport became registered with the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) identifier R&R Ranch Airport. *See*, Exhibit S-4.26, p. 3. According to the Staff, although the airport has only recently been registered, it has been used as an airport for approximately 30 years. 5 Tr 1264.

The record also contains evidence regarding the alternate route for the Helix-Hiple Line. Although the alternate route does not impact the R&R Ranch Airport, the record evidence shows that the alternate route results in increased social impacts when compared to METC's proposed

route. Specifically, when compared to METC's proposed route, the alternate route requires more acres of new right-of-way (ROW), has more residences within 500-feet of the centerline, crosses more parcels, and has more archaeological sites within the ROW. *See*, Exhibit S-4.11, p. 15.

Under Act 30, as part of the statutory criteria for issuing a certificate of public convenience and necessity, the Commission must determine whether a proposed or alternative route for a major transmission line is feasible and reasonable. MCL 460.568(5)(b). The Commission finds that an evaluation of the proposed route's impact to the R&R Ranch Airport and an evaluation of the alternate route's social impacts is necessary to enable the Commission to make its statutory determination and to adequately assess the reasonableness of any route approved for the Helix-Hiple Line. Accordingly, the Commission finds that it is appropriate to allow the parties to file supplemental briefing addressing the reasonableness of the Helix-Hiple Line's proposed route's impact to the R&R Ranch Airport and the reasonableness of the social impacts of METC's alternate route.

The Commission, therefore, permits any party choosing to brief the issue described above to file a supplemental brief in this docket by 5:00 p.m. (Eastern time) on Thursday, June 26, 2025. Any supplemental brief filed in this docket shall be limited to 15 pages and no reply briefs are permitted.

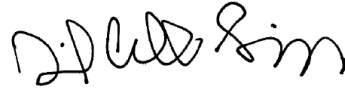
THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the parties in this docket may file a supplemental brief on the issue described in this order by 5:00 p.m. (Eastern time) on June 26, 2025. The Commission directs the parties to limit any supplemental brief filed in accordance with this order to 15 pages.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26. To comply with the Michigan Rules of Court's requirement to notify the Commission of an appeal, appellants shall send required notices to both the Commission's Executive Secretary and to the Commission's Legal Counsel.

Electronic notifications should be sent to the Executive Secretary at LARA-MPSC-Edockets@michigan.gov and to the Michigan Department of Attorney General - Public Service Division at sheacl@michigan.gov. In lieu of electronic submissions, paper copies of such notifications may be sent to the Executive Secretary and the Attorney General - Public Service Division at 7109 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Daniel C. Scripps, Chair

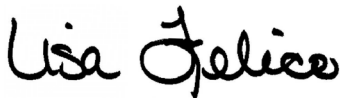


Katherine L. Peretick, Commissioner



Alessandra R. Carreon, Commissioner

By its action of June 12, 2025.



Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

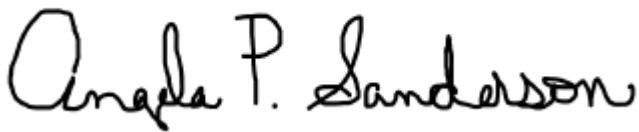
Case No. U-21471 *et al.*

County of Ingham)

Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on June 12, 2025 A.D. she electronically notified the attached list of this **Commission Order via e-mail transmission**, to the persons as shown on the attached service list (Listserv Distribution List).


Brianna Brown

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 12th day of June 2025.



Angela P. Sanderson
Notary Public, Shiawassee County, Michigan
As acting in Eaton County
My Commission Expires: May 21, 2030

Service List for Case: U-21471

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Service List for Case: U-21472

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