

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, to )	
commence a collaborative to consider issues related )	Case No. U-20632
to utility service curtailment procedures. )	
_____ )	

At the September 11, 2019 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing, Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. Sally A. Talberg, Chairman  
Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Commissioner  
Hon. Tremaine L. Phillips, Commissioner

**ORDER OPENING DOCKET**

On February 7, 2019, the Commission issued an order in Case No. U-20464 (February 7 order) in response to a request from Governor Gretchen Whitmer for the Commission to review the state's energy supply and preparedness for emergency situations, following a series of energy events that happened during Michigan's January 29 through February 1, 2019 cold weather emergency. In the July 2, 2019 order in that docket (July 2 order), the Commission noted that the initial Michigan Statewide Energy Assessment (SEA) report was timely provided to the Governor on July 1, 2019,<sup>1</sup> in accordance with her request. In the July 2 order, the Commission also invited interested persons to comment on the initial SEA report, which was developed with the

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<sup>1</sup> On July 1, 2019, a copy of the initial SEA report was filed in Case No. U-20464, filing #U-20464-0031.

Commission Staff's (Staff) assistance as well as input from affected industries and other stakeholders.

Today, following the Commission's review and consideration of numerous comments from interested persons, the Commission issued a third order in Case No. U-20464 (September 11 order) stating that the final SEA report was timely provided to the Governor and is available in that docket. The September 11 order includes details from the final SEA report and discusses any comments that resulted in a change to the initial SEA report. The September 11 order also sets forth those jurisdictional recommendations indicated in the final SEA report that the Commission finds should be addressed immediately and those that can be addressed at a later time given prioritization of the resulting workload.

In this regard, and stemming from the September 11 order, the Commission is opening this docket to commence a collaborative consisting of Staff experts, representatives from Consumers Energy Company, DTE Energy Company, and the Michigan Electric and Gas Association member utilities, and other interested stakeholders, to review and discuss whether natural gas curtailment procedures should be updated to prioritize natural gas use for residential heating over natural gas use for electric generation when appropriate during energy emergencies.<sup>2</sup> In light of the increase in natural gas usage for electric generation, there is increased competition for natural gas as both a heating source and an electric generation resource. The collaborative group shall review whether natural gas curtailment procedures need to be updated to reflect current regional transmission organization (RTO) market structure, where natural gas-fueled electric generation is dispatched and the RTO may not consider the impact on local natural gas emergencies. The collaborative

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<sup>2</sup> See, final SEA report, 9.3.1.5 Compiled Recommendations and Observations for Mitigating Risks, Emergency Management Recommendation EM-4, p. 204.

group shall determine the adequacy of natural gas and electric curtailment procedures both independently and in conjunction with each other when an emergency or outage affects both energy supplies. The focus of this collaborative group should be to review and study the existing curtailment tariffs, determine if the current prioritization framework remains adequate, and develop recommendations for the Commission regarding possible updates to the tariffs. The Staff shall file a report setting forth initial recommendations in this docket no later than June 30, 2020. The Commission anticipates that proposed gas utility tariff changes will be reviewed in applicable future rate case filings.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. The Commission Staff shall form a collaborative group that includes representatives from Consumers Energy Company, DTE Energy Company, the Michigan Electric and Gas Association member utilities, and other interested stakeholders, to review and discuss whether natural gas curtailment procedures should be updated and to examine curtailment tariffs, as described in this order.

B. The Commission Staff shall file in this docket a report of findings and recommendations no later than June 30, 2020.

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

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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Sally A. Talberg, Chairman

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Daniel C. Scripps, Commissioner

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Tremaine L. Phillips, Commissioner

By its action of September 11, 2019.

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Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

# PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

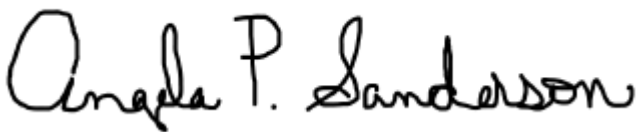
Case No. U-20632

County of Ingham )

Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on September 11, 2019 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 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2019.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela P. Sanderson  
Notary Public, Shiawassee County, Michigan  
As acting in Eaton County  
My Commission Expires: May 21, 2024

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