

Rate Hike Alert! By Jim Sherman, CRAFT Co-Chair

DTE is at it again, holding their hands out, trying to raise our rates, and for what? Should rate payers be asked to cover the increasing cost of irresponsible capital investments? Investments that will be made as part of an ongoing crusade to control and monopolize more and more of our energy future. “Investments” in petroleum pipelines, lobbyists, green washing, and “philanthropic” expenditures which claim tax deductible status in violation of IRS rules against self-dealing. From buying up and spinning off petroleum infrastructure, to their relentless propagandizing, DTE is playing shell games with our energy future in Michigan. An energy future that, without checks and balances, will become an increasingly dystopian hegemony, addicted to more pollution, higher prices, and no path to sustainability.

DTE is pretending to be a responsible utility, making investments to improve costs and services. In truth they are operating as a financial juggernaut, using its outsized weight to monopolize and spin off critical energy infrastructure to maximize profits and market domination. DTE just spun off their extraction, pipeline, and storage assets as DTM, (too much investor fanfare) and now have their hands out to cover the rising costs of those very products.

DTE is pretending to be a good faith provider of the renewable energy infrastructure, needed to transition to a sustainable energy future, as their ads boast. In truth they have repeatedly fought against efficiently integrating distributed sustainability solutions at the point of need, while investing in the centralization of renewable energy infrastructure to maintain control at the cost of efficiency. They charge the premium “green” rates for electricity that costs less to produce and are now asking for higher rates from everyone.

My cost to purchase my solar system will be repaid by deferred costs in a fraction of its usable lifetime. DTE “green energy” costs extra. DTE has Billions in assets, and we are supposed to believe they need another rate increase to provide the services DTE is obligated to?

DTE cannot have it both ways. Not anymore. No more gouging the ratepayer while using its financial largess to manipulate the market. No more hiding behind shell companies. No more lobbying to ruin solar while advertising their support for it. No more insisting that the perpetuation of their antiquated, polluting ways are designed to save us money while charging more than clean energy would otherwise cost.

We at CRAFT call on the MPSC to reject this rate hike, and direct DTE to replace underperforming assets with distributed, community owned renewable energy generation and storage, starting with the biggest cancer-causing boondoggle in the fleet: Fermi 2. Shut it down and decommission now. We encourage the public to join us for the public meeting to be held via teleconference and submit your concerns. See the opposite page for details on the public announcement. https://monroeveningnews-mi.newsmemory.com/?publink=945670f77_1345fd8#.YZ54EUMo-Rs.gmail

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF HEARING
FOR THE ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS OF
DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY
CASE NO. U-21050

- DTE Electric Company requests Michigan Public Service Commission's approval to implement a power supply cost recovery plan for the twelve months ending December 31, 2022.
- The information below describes how a person may participate in this case.
- You may call or write DTE Electric Company, One Energy Plaza, 570 SB, Detroit, MI 48226, (800) 477-4747 for a free copy of its application. Any person may review the documents at the offices of DTE Electric Company or on the Commission's website at michigan.gov/mpscedockets.
- A pre-hearing will be held.

DATE/TIME: Monday, December 13, 2021 at 10:30 AM

BEFORE: Administrative Law Judge Katherine Talbot

LOCATION: Video/Teleconferencing

PARTICIPATION: Any interested person may participate. Persons needing any assistance to participate should contact the Commission's Executive Secretary at (517) 284-8090, or by email at mpscedockets@michigan.gov in advance of the hearing.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a pre-hearing to consider DTE Electric Company's (DTE Electric) September 30, 2021 application requesting the Commission to approve: 1) the authority for DTE Electric to implement its Power Supply Cost Recover (PSCR) Plan in its rate schedules for 2022 jurisdictional sales of electricity that are subject to the PSCR clause; 2) the continuing of mercury and alkaline sorbents, urea, ammonia, limestone, NOx allowance expense, and SO2 allowance expense as recoverable PSCR costs for the 2022 PSCR Year and thereafter; 3) DTE Electric's five-year forecast and associated actions and decisions; 4) the implementation of DTE Electric's proposed PSCR Plan and maximum PSCR Factor in its rates for 2022 jurisdictional sales of electricity that are subject to the PSCR clause, and otherwise expedite approval of its request for a levelized 2022 maximum PSCR Factor of 6.65 mills per kWh in customers' bills for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; 5) DTE Electric's plans and associated actions addressing capacity resources and approving the related expenses; 6) the Transfer Price treatment of renewable energy in DTE Electric's PSCR process as proposed; 7) DTE Electric's request for recovery of the expense associated with DTE Electric's agreements with NEXUS Gas Transmission, including the TEAL Amendment; 8) DTE Electric's request for Commission approval of the expense associated with lateral construction and transportation, firm gas transportation, and storage services executed with Vector Pipeline L.P., DTE Gas Company, Enbridge Inc., and Washington 10 Storage Corporation, as proposed; 9) DTE Electric's request for recovery of the PSCR expense associated with the VGPs, Rider 18 energy-outflow, and DR customer capacity expenses, as proposed; and 10) DTE Electric further additional relief and authority.

All documents filed in this case shall be submitted electronically through the Commission's E-Dockets website at michigan.gov/mpscedockets. Requirements and instructions for filing can be found in the User Manual on the E-Dockets help page. Documents may also be submitted in Word or PDF format, as an attachment to an email sent to: mpscedockets@michigan.gov. If you require assistance prior to e-filing, contact Commission staff at (517) 284-8090 or by email at: mpscedockets@michigan.gov.

Any person wishing to intervene and become a party to the case shall electronically file a petition to intervene with this Commission by December 6, 2021. (Interested persons may elect to file using the traditional paper format.) The proof of service shall indicate service upon DTE Electric Company's attorney, Jon P. Christinidis, One Energy Plaza, Detroit, MI 48226.

The prehearing is scheduled to be held remotely by video conference or teleconference. Persons filing a petition to intervene will be advised of the process to participate in the hearing.

Any person wishing to participate without intervention under Mich Admin Code, R 792.10413 (Rule 413), or file a public comment, may do so by filing a written statement in this docket. The written statement may be mailed or emailed and should reference Case No. U-21050. Statements may be emailed to: mpscedockets@michigan.gov. Statements may be mailed to: Executive Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917. All information submitted to the Commission in this matter becomes public information, thus available on the Michigan Public Service Commission's website, and subject to disclosure. Please do not include information you wish to remain private. For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Commission at the above address or by telephone at (517) 284-8090.

Requests for adjournment must be made pursuant to Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules R 792.10422 and R 792.10432. Requests for further information on adjournment should be directed to (517) 284-8130.

For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Commission at the above address or by telephone at (517) 284-8090.

The Utility Consumer Representation Fund has been created for the purpose of aiding in the representation of residential utility customers in various Commission proceedings. Contact the Chairperson, Utility Consumer Participation Board, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, P.O. Box 30004, Lansing, Michigan 48909, for more information.

Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1909 PA 106, as amended, MCL 460.551 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.54 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; 1982 PA 304, as amended, MCL 460.6j et seq.; and Parts 1 & 4 of the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules, Mich. Admin Code, and R 792.10401 through R 792.10448.

DTE