

**COMMISSIONERS**

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LANSGING, June 19. Public Acts 141 and 142 of 2000, signed into law by Governor John Engler on June 3, 2000, empowered the Michigan Public Service Commission to make Michigan a leader in the area of electric competition. In a comprehensive set of orders issued today, the Commission quickly moved forward to implement the "Customer Choice and Electricity Reliability Act".

In today's orders, the Commission directed:

- Consumers Energy Company and Detroit Edison Company to file by September 20, 2000, revised tariffs to implement both experimental and comprehensive retail open access programs;
- Each investor-owned electric utility, other than Consumers Energy and Detroit Edison, to file by October 2, 2000, a restructuring plan that permits all of its retail customers to choose an alternative electric supplier by January 1, 2002, and each cooperative electric utility with any customer having a peak load of one megawatt to also file a restructuring plan;
- MPSC staff to consult with Michigan electric utilities owners and operators of merchant plants and relevant stakeholders to develop standards for the interconnection of merchant plants and to file a final report with its recommendations by October 2, 2000;
- Interested persons to file comments on the MPSC staff's proposed electric distribution system performance standards by July 21, 2000, and MPSC staff to initiate a review of methods to improve the service reliability of transmission systems;
- Suspension of the schedule for the current electric code of conduct proceeding and require the parties and the Administrative Law Judge in the case to address how the case should proceed;
- Each utility to file a report with the commission when it learns of any reductions in federal funding for low-income and energy assistance programs;
- Each electrical power generating facility in Michigan to file a report, within 60 days, on its compliance with all applicable federal Environmental Protection Agency regulations governing mercury emissions;
- Interested persons to submit proposals by August 22, 2000, to implement the customer information and environmental disclosure requirements of Public Act 141; and

-- The Administrative Law Judge to reopen the proceeding on a previously established advisory council's statewide customer education proposal to address the effect of Public Act 141 on the proposal.

"The Commission is pleased to quickly move forward in implementing the "Customer Choice and Electricity Reliability Act," said Chairman John Strand. "Michigan's electric customers shall soon see the benefits of an open, competitive electric environment."

The MPSC is an agency within the Department of Consumer and Industry Services.

Case No. U-12489, U-12488, U-12464(b), U-12485, U-12134, U-12464, U-12270, U-12487, U-12486, and U-12133

June 19, 2000

("Customer Choice and Electricity Reliability Act" implementation orders)
