



NEWS RELEASE

COMMISSIONERS

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LANSING, December 20. The Michigan Public Service Commission today approved revised retail open access service tariffs for The Detroit Edison Company and Consumers Energy Company. Today's Commission action establishes the rates, terms, and conditions under which retail customers of the two electric utility companies will be permitted to choose an alternative electric supplier. The retail open access service tariffs will take effect January 1, 2002. The Commission approved these revised tariffs under authorization of the Customer Choice and Electricity Reliability Act of 2000. Under the Act, all Detroit Edison and Consumers Energy customers will have the opportunity to select an alternative electric supplier beginning January 1, 2002. The Commission previously approved retail open access tariffs for both Detroit Edison and Consumers Energy. The current tariffs will be replaced by today's approved tariffs.

"The Commission has now set the ground rules for competition in retail electric markets, and we fully expect our action today to spur competition in those markets," said Chairman Laura Chappelle.

Detroit Edison, headquartered in Detroit, provides electric service to about 2.1 million customers in Michigan. Consumers Energy, headquartered in Jackson, provides electric service to about 1.7 million customers throughout Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

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

Cases Nos. U-12488, U-12489

December 20, 2001

(MPSC approves Retail Open Access Service tariffs for Detroit Edison and Consumers Energy)



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LANSING, December 20. The Michigan Public Service Commission took action in a number of cases today to conform to the requirements of the Customer Choice and Electricity Reliability Act of 2000 in order to advance Michigan's competitive environment for new energy marketers, competitors and incumbent utility companies alike. The Commission's actions balance the rules to assure that new energy marketers, competitors, incumbents and customers are fairly and equitably treated. Customer choice will also be enhanced for those who want to choose while protection will remain available for customers who do not want choice.

In today's action, the Commission issued nine orders, which address incumbent utility depreciation, distribution standards, disclosure standards, retail open access tariffs, net stranded costs, unbundling and restructuring implementation plans. Several of these orders addressed implementation requirements of Public Act 141. "Accomplishing the purpose of the Act, we ensure that all retail customers in Michigan have a choice of electric suppliers; that competition is fostered in the state; that electric generation ownership is diversified; and that opportunities for economic development in Michigan are improved, while promoting financially healthy and competitive utilities," said Chairman Laura Chappelle.

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Cases Nos. U-11722, U-12270, U-12487, U-12488, U-12489, U-12639, U-12649, U-12933, and U-12966

December 20, 2001

(MPSC advances Michigan's competitive electric environment)