



NEWS RELEASE

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LANSGING, November 20. The Michigan Public Service Commission today moved forward in its efforts to implement the Customer Choice and Electricity Reliability Act of 2000, closing the dockets filed by Consumers Energy Company, The Detroit Edison Company, Great Lakes Energy Cooperative and Indiana Michigan Power Company to increase available transmission capacity by at least 2,000 megawatts (MW) over January 1, 2000 capacity. The plans, filed on December 28, 2000, identify the additional facilities, the schedule and the costs the utilities identified as needed to increase available transmission capacity in compliance with the Act.

Today's Commission order determined that the issues of cost recovery for the additional transmission capacity should not be addressed at this time. The Commission concluded that, under the Act, utility companies must first seek cost recovery through transmission rates approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The Commission further found that, if no Michigan customers benefit from the upgrades, there may be no basis under the Act to approve any cost recovery. Finally, the Commission stated that, due to the uncertainty about whether, when, and how the FERC will provide cost recovery for any of the utilities, the MPSC is not in a position to set a deadline for the utilities to file for cost recovery from Michigan retail customers.

MPSC staff, Consumers Energy, Detroit Edison, Great Lakes, I&M, the Association of Businesses Advocating Tariff Equity, Energy Michigan, Inc., Exelon Energy Inc., Midland Cogeneration Venture Limited Partnership, First Power, L.L.C., PG&E National Energy Group, Dynegy, Inc., and Ontario Power Generation, Inc. participated in the proceeding.

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

Case No. U-12780, U-12781

November 20, 2001

(MPSC closed the dockets to increase transmission capacity)
