



NEWS RELEASE

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LANSING, May 15. The Michigan Public Service Commission today approved another tool for The Detroit Edison Company to manage its summer electrical load. The Commission granted Detroit Edison authority to offer residential customers with central air conditioning a new experimental residential air conditioning option. Participation in the program is completely voluntary. The Commission also directed the company to submit a report on February 1, 2003 regarding the success of the experimental program. At that time, the company may also submit an application proposing to extend the duration and availability of the program.

The Commission approved the voluntary program because it includes reasonable interruption limitations and does not increase any customer's electric rates. The Commission also concluded that the program allows Detroit Edison to gain insight into customer receptiveness to new load management initiatives as well as to increase the company's load management options.

Customers choosing to participate in the program would have Detroit Edison install an interrupting device on their air conditioner or heat pump at no cost to the customer. Customers would be credited \$4.00 per day for each day that the company interrupts their air conditioning. The interruptions will be no more than ten days per season and will not last longer than 30 minutes in an hour. All Detroit Edison's residential customers are eligible to participate up to a cap of 5,000 customers in the first year and up to 15,000 customers by the end of 2002 on a first-come, first-served basis, with the company advertising the program to targeted geographic groups of customers to achieve the most favorable system benefits.

Detroit Edison, headquartered in Detroit, provides electric service to more than 2 million Michigan customers.

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

Case No. U-12820

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(MPSC approves voluntary, experimental air conditioning load management option)
