

Michigan Planning Consortium Notice of July 23, 2008 Kick-Off Meeting

On July 1, 2008, the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) established the Michigan Planning Consortium to improve the planning process for electricity infrastructure in the state and identify possible ways to reduce costs to ratepayers. The initial goals of the Consortium include the following:

- Ensuring adequate sharing of information throughout the planning process on a local and detailed level.
- Evaluating energy infrastructure alternatives, including proposed transmission projects.
- Examining cost effects of various alternatives on Michigan customers.
- Recommending the most effective ways for Michigan stakeholders to participate in regional planning processes, and related state and federal proceedings, including MPSC Act 30 certification proceedings.

A kick-off meeting for the Consortium is scheduled from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. EST on Wednesday, July 23, 2008 in Hearing Room A at the MPSC's offices located at 6545 Mercantile Way, Suite 7, in Lansing.

The meeting is open to all interested stakeholders, including, but not limited to, representatives from regional transmission organizations, transmission owners, generators, distribution companies, independent power producers, and alternative energy suppliers. MPSC staff will take the lead in establishing the Consortium structure, meeting schedules, and agendas with input from Consortium members. The MPSC recommends that the Consortium meet at least monthly.

This first meeting will include an overview of the MPSC's order and a discussion of next steps for the Consortium. A presentation will be available on the MPSC's website on or before July 21, 2008. Those unavailable to attend the meeting in person are invited to participate by toll-free telephone and/or webconference.

Meeting Number and/or Dial In = 877-336-1828
Meeting Code and/or Phone Access Code = 222-0392#
Webconference address = <https://www.webmeeting.att.com>

MPSC has a new teleconference/webconference service, through AT&T. The first time you use the Web Meeting Service, client software needs to be downloaded onto your computer. Please connect to the webmeeting website about 10 minutes before the meeting start time to allow ample time to load the new client software. You will need administrative permissions on your computer set to allow you to download and install new software.

For more information on the Consortium, refer to the MPSC's order in Case No. U-15590 available at <http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/efile>. Beginning July 18, 2008, interested participants can sign up for an electronic list serv by going to the Consortium's page on the MPSC's website at <http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc> (click on "Electricity" and then "Workgroups").