

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the matter of the application of)	
INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY,)	
d/b/a AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER,)	Case No. U-12780
for certain approvals in connection with)	
2000 PA 141 Section 10v.)	
_____)	

In the matter of the application of)	
INTERNATIONAL TRANSMISSION COMPANY,)	
CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY, and)	Case No. U-12781
GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE.)	
_____)	

At the January 4, 2001 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing, Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. John G. Strand, Chairman
Hon. David A. Svanda, Commissioner
Hon. Robert B. Nelson, Commissioner

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Section 10v of 2000 PA 141 provides that electric utilities serving more than 100,000 customers in Michigan shall file, by January 1, 2001, a joint plan to permanently expand, by June 5, 2002, the available transmission capability by at least 2,000 megawatts over the amount in place as of January 1, 2000. If the utilities are unable to agree on a joint plan, the Commission is required to conduct a hearing to establish a plan.

On December 28, 2000, Indiana Michigan Power Company filed an application, in Case No. U-12780, seeking approvals associated with a plan that it proposes. Also, on that day, International Transmission Company, on behalf of The Detroit Edison Company, Consumers Energy Company, and Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, filed an application, in Case No. U-12781, seeking approvals associated with a plan that they propose. Thus, it is clear that all affected utilities have been unable to agree on a joint plan and the Commission is required to conduct a hearing to establish a plan.

A prehearing conference in these consolidated cases will be held on February 7, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. at the Commission's offices in Lansing, Michigan. The Administrative Law Judge shall establish a schedule to allow completion of this matter in a time frame consistent with the statutory requirement to expand transmission capability by June 5, 2002. The applicants in these cases shall publish notice in newspapers of general circulation in their respective service territories by January 24, 2001. Petitions to intervene shall be filed by January 31, 2001.

Because transmission is a complex technical subject, the Commission has determined that it would be helpful to have an independent consultant testify regarding the two proposed plans, possible means of reconciling them, and relevant alternatives. At the prehearing conference, the applicants shall be prepared to identify possible consultants and to propose a funding mechanism to pay for the consultant selected. The Commission Staff will recommend a consultant for selection by the Commission on the basis of qualifications and cost.

The Commission has selected this case for participation in its Electronic Filing program. All documents filed in this case must be submitted in both paper and electronic versions. An original and four paper copies and an electronic copy in portable document format (PDF) should be filed

with the Commission. The Commission's Electronic Filings Users Manual explains how to file electronic documents at: <http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/efile/>.

The Commission FINDS that:

a. Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1909 PA 106, as amended, MCL 460.551 et seq.; MSA 22.151 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.51 et seq.; MSA 22.1 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; MSA 22.13(1) et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; MSA 3.560(101) et seq.; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1992 AACS, R 460.17101 et seq.

b. These cases should be consolidated.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. Indiana Michigan Power Company and International Transmission Company, on behalf of The Detroit Edison Company, Consumers Energy Company, and Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, shall publish a notice of hearing in newspapers of general circulation in their respective service territories by January 24, 2001.

B. A prehearing conference will be held in the Commission's offices located at 6545 Mercantile Way, Lansing, Michigan at 9:00 a.m. on February 7, 2001.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

/s/ John G. Strand
Chairman

(S E A L)

/s/ David A. Svanda
Commissioner

/s/ Robert B. Nelson
Commissioner

By its action of January 4, 2001.

/s/ Dorothy Wideman
Its Executive Secretary

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MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

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Commissioner

By its action of January 4, 2001.

Its Executive Secretary

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Case No. U-12780

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CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY, and)
GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE.)

Case No. U-12781

Suggested Minute:

“Adopt and issue order dated January 4, 2001 consolidating Cases Nos. U-12780 and U-12781 for hearing, as set forth in the order.”