

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**NOTICE OF HEARING
FOR THE ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS OF
CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
CASE NO. U-16191**

- Consumers Energy Company may increase its retail electric rates to provide additional revenue of approximately \$178 million annually above current base rate levels, if the Michigan Public Service Commission approves its request.
- **A TYPICAL RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER USING 680 KILOWATT HOURS (kWh) PER MONTH MAY SEE AN ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE OF ABOUT \$77 PER YEAR.**
- The information below describes how a person may participate in this case.
- You may call or write Consumers Energy Company, One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201, (800) 477-5050 for a free copy of its application. Any person may review the application at the offices of Consumers Energy Company, or at the Commission's Lansing offices, 6545 Mercantile Way, Suite 7, Lansing, Michigan.
- The first public hearing in this matter will be held:

DATE/TIME: February 16, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.
This hearing will be a prehearing conference to set future hearing dates and decide other procedural matters.

BEFORE: Administrative Law Judge Sharon L. Feldman

LOCATION: Michigan Public Service Commission
6545 Mercantile Way, Suite 7
Lansing, Michigan

PARTICIPATION: Any interested person may attend and participate. The hearing site is accessible, including handicapped parking. Persons needing any accommodation to participate should contact the Commission's Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160 in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a public hearing to consider the January 22, 2010 application of Consumers Energy Company (Consumers Energy), seeking approval to increase its existing retail electric rates to provide additional revenues of approximately \$178 million annually and for other relief.

Consumers Energy's application states that factors contributing to the requested increase include: (i) ongoing investments in electric utility generation facilities, distribution facilities, and other electric utility infrastructure in order to provide safe and reliable service; comply with environmental and legal requirements; and invest in technology improvements; (ii) increasing operation and maintenance costs, and (iii) maintaining a reasonable capital structure and balance sheet to maintain credit ratings and to attract capital necessary for utility operations during a period in which Consumers Energy is experiencing higher financing costs, costs of capital are increasing, and investors are more risk averse.

Consumers Energy states that, as set forth in 2008 PA 286, if the Commission has not acted upon the Company's application within 180 days of the filing, the Company may implement up to the amount of the proposed annual rate request through increases applied to all rates.

All documents filed in this case shall be submitted electronically through the Commission's E-Dockets Website at: michigan.gov/mpscedockets. Requirements and instructions for filing can be found in the User Manual on the E-Dockets help page. Documents may also be submitted, in Word or PDF format, as an attachment to an email sent to mpscedockets@michigan.gov. If you require assistance prior to e-filing, contact Commission staff at (517) 241-6170 or by e-mail at mpscedockets@michigan.gov.

Any person wishing to intervene and become a party to the case shall electronically file a petition to intervene with this Commission by February 9, 2010. (Interested persons may elect to file using the traditional paper format.) The proof of service shall indicate service upon Consumers Energy's attorney, H. Richard Chambers, One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201.

Any person wishing to make a statement of position without becoming a party to the case, may participate by filing an appearance. To file an appearance, the individual must attend the hearing and advise the presiding administrative law judge of his or her wish to make a statement of position. All information submitted to the Commission in this matter will become public information: available on the Michigan Public Service Commission's Web site, and subject to disclosure.

Requests for adjournment must be made pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure R 460.17315 and R 460.17335. Requests for further information on adjournment should be directed to (517) 241-6060.

A copy of Consumers Energy's request may be reviewed on the Commission's Web site at michigan.gov/mpscedockets, and at the office of Consumers Energy Company, One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan. For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Commission at the above address or by telephone at (517) 241-6170.

Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1909 PA 106, as amended, MCL 460.551 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.54 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1982 PA 304, as amended, MCL 460.6h et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1999 AC, R 460.17101 et seq.

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Jennifer M. Granholm
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STANLEY "SKIP" PRUSS
DIRECTOR

Monica Martinez
COMMISSIONER

Orjiakor N. Isiogu
CHAIRMAN

Greg R. White
COMMISSIONER

January 28, 2010
Case No. U-16191

Mr. H. Richard Chambers
Consumers Energy Company
One Energy Plaza
Jackson, MI 49201

Dear Mr. Chambers:

Consumers Energy Company shall mail, by February 4, 2010, a copy of the enclosed notice of hearing to all cities, incorporated villages, townships and counties in its electric service area and to all intervenors in Cases Numbers U-15645 and U-16045. Proof of service shall be filed by the prehearing conference on February 16, 2010.

Consumers Energy Company shall also cause the enclosed notice of hearing to be published in daily newspapers of general circulation throughout its electric service area by February 4, 2010. Affidavits of publication shall be filed by the prehearing conference on February 16, 2010.

Pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure R460.17305(1), the Commission's Executive Secretary finds good cause exists to shorten the notice period to allow for publication.

Consumers Energy Company shall, by February 16, 2010, serve upon each person who has petitioned to intervene a copy of the written direct testimony of its proposed witnesses and the proposed exhibits as filed with the Commission. Proof of service shall be filed with the Commission by February 23, 2010.

Issuance of this notice is a ministerial act and does not constitute a determination that Consumers Energy Company's application is complete within the meaning of MCL 460.6a(1).

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Kunkle
Executive Secretary

Enclosures

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