DTE Electric Company One Energy Plaza, 1635 WCB Detroit, MI 48226-1279



Jon P. Christinidis (313) 235-7706 Jon.christinidis@dteenergy.com

February 10, 2023

Lisa Felice Executive Secretary Michigan Public Service Commission 7109 West Saginaw Highway Lansing, MI 48917

RE: In the matter of the application of **DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY** for authority to increase its rates, amend its rate schedules and rules governing the distribution and supply of electric energy, and for miscellaneous accounting authority MPSC Case No. U-21297

Dear Ms. Felice:

Attached for electronic filing in the above captioned matter are DTE Electric Company's Application, Proposed Notice of Hearing, Proposed Protective Order, Proposed Nondisclosure Certificates, Testimony, and Exhibits. Also attached is the Proof of Service.

Also provided to the MPSC by hand delivery for filing via two external storage drive are DTE Electric Company's Part II – Financial Information materials, Part III –Supplemental Data and electronic files in Excel and Word format. Concurrently with this filing, the parties to Case Nos. U-20561 and U-20836 are being provided all of these materials via the following secure portal link:

https://dteenergy.sharepoint.com/sites/DiscoveryPortal/Elec/U21297/Documents/Forms/AllItems .aspx

Very truly yours,

Jon P. Christinidis

JPC/erb Attachments cc: Service List

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the matter of the Application of **DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY** for authority to increase its rates, amend its rate schedules and rules governing the distribution and supply of electric energy, and for miscellaneous accounting authority.

Case No. U-21297

APPLICATION

DTE Electric Company ("Applicant," the "Company" or "DTE Electric"), a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Michigan, with its principal office at One Energy Plaza, Detroit, Michigan 48226, files this Application pursuant to, inter alia, MCL 460.6 et seq., and various Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") Orders, requesting authority to increase rates, and amend its rate schedules and rules governing the distribution and supply of electric energy. In support of the relief requested in this Application, the Company respectfully represents to the Commission as follows:

1. DTE Electric is owned by DTE Electric Holdings, LLC, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of DTE Energy providing retail electric service to customers located in Michigan, and is a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

2. The Company is presently serving its electric customers under schedules of rates and charges approved by this Commission in, inter alia, its Order dated November 18, 2022, in Case No. U-20836 (the "U-20836 Order").

3. This Application is being filed in accordance with filing requirements contained in the Commission's Orders in Case No. U-18238, dated July 31, 2017 and October 11, 2017.

4. The Company has determined the need for additional annual revenues in the amount of approximately \$622 million (\$619 million if the investment recovery mechanism (IRM) proposed by the Company is accepted) effective as early as December 10, 2023, in order to recover, among other things, Applicant's increased investments in plant involving generation, to support DTE's carbon reduction plans and the State's goals for cleaner energy, and the electric distribution system, to improve power reliability, as well as the associated depreciation and property tax increases. Other factors driving this deficiency include a sales decline from the level included in current rates as well as inflation and its impact on DTE Electric's O&M and debt costs.

5. This filing provides the rationale, spending, timing, and expected customer benefits associated with significant investments in distribution, generation, technology and customer service. Several of these programs include strategic infrastructure investments in electric distribution infrastructure to modernize equipment, improve worker and public safety, reduce the frequency and duration of power outages and add capacity to the grid to support new load, including electric vehicles, and accommodate distributed energy resources. In addition, the Company's filing supports the continuation of the multi-year tree trimming "surge" program and the operation of the Blue Water Energy Center.

6. The proposed revenue increase described in this Application is necessary to allow the Company to continue providing safe and reliable electric service, meeting customers' service quality expectations, and allowing the Company a reasonable opportunity to recover its operating costs, including a reasonable rate of return.

7. The historical test year being used by DTE Electric is the calendar year ended December 31, 2021. This 12-month period was then normalized and adjusted for known and measurable changes, as supported by the Company's witnesses in this case, to arrive at the Company's December 1, 2023 through November 30, 2024 projected test year.

8. DTE Electric's projected rate base of approximately \$22.6 billion includes actual net plant and working capital as of December 31, 2021 with projected changes through November 30, 2024 and includes the impact of base capital expenditures and further adjustments for specific major projects. Major capital projects from 2021 through the projected period ending November 30, 2024 are described in the testimony and exhibits of the Company's witnesses.

9. DTE Electric's testimony and exhibits filed contemporaneously with this Application evidence a need for additional annual revenue beginning December 1, 2023 of approximately \$622 million (\$619 million if the IRM proposed by the Company is accepted).

10. Attachment 1 to this Application summarizes the Company's request. DTE Electric proposes to allocate the required electric revenue increase among rate classes as set forth on Attachment 2 to this Application. A comparison of typical bills and proposed rates for Residential Service Rate D1.11 is shown on Attachment 3 to this Application. In addition, the Proposed Draft Notice of Hearing is included as Attachment 4 to this Application.

11. Furthermore, DTE Electric is proposing, among other things, certain changes to the Company's tariffs and rules and regulations, including but not limited to, Rate Schedule D1.13, Rider 22, and amendments to Rate Schedule D1.6, Rate Schedule D1.9, Rate Schedule D3, Rider 14, and Rider 21. In addition, the Company is proposing an IRM focused on certain distribution capital expenditures that address customer safety, customer reliability, and the integration of increasing levels of electric vehicle and distributed energy resources that will be recovered by means of an IRM surcharge.

12. In Case No. U-20836, the Commission approved the deferral of tree trim surge amounts above the approved O&M expenses as a regulatory asset through 2024. The Company, in this filing, is requesting that the Commission approve surge funding deferral for the calendar year 2025.

13. DTE Electric is also requesting approval of various accounting proposals, including but not limited to, regulatory asset treatment for certain costs associated with the Company's Delivered Fuel Electrification Pilot and Power Supply Cost Recovery accounting treatment for potential tax credits related to nuclear generation. Additionally, the Company is proposing several pilot programs in this filing pertaining to electric vehicle charging, distribution non-wire alternatives, battery energy storage, demand response initiatives and a customer option to prepay for electric service.

14. DTE Electric is seeking cost recovery of its variable compensation programs that are used to attract and retain employees with the requisite skills and experience to ensure quality customer service, ensure that DTE Electric's employees' total compensation is externally competitive, and that differentiate total compensation based on organizational and individual contributions. The Company is not seeking to recover the variable compensation for the top five DTE Energy executives.

15. DTE Electric is requesting a return on equity of 10.25% with an overall rate of return of 5.70% after tax, 7.11% pre-tax. The Company is requesting a permanent capital structure of approximately 50% equity and 50% long-term debt. The average rate base for the projected test year is approximately \$22.6 billion, which includes an equity base of approximately \$8.9 billion.

16. DTE Electric is requesting that the Commission adopt the PSCR base established in the Commission's Order in Case No. U-15244 on January 13, 2009, adjusted for an updated loss factor.

17. In 2016, the Michigan legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law, PA 341 which, in the part pertinent to this proceeding, amended MCL 460.1 *et seq.* by adding Section 6w (MCL 460.6w). Act 341 became effective on April 20, 2017 and directed the creation of a state reliability mechanism ("SRM") and capacity charge. DTE Electric has calculated the capacity charge consistent with the methodology used in the Commission's Order in Case No. U-20836 dated November 18, 2022.

18. The Company is filing the direct testimony and exhibits of 34 witnesses concurrently with this Application. The contents, recommendations, revenue and expense items and proposed ratemaking items set forth in those documents are incorporated into this Application by reference.

19. The fact that Applicant may not address an item or position addressed by Applicant in previous cases, or which is presently on appeal before the courts, does not constitute a waiver of such item or position by the Company, or of any rights or positions that the Company may wish to take on these matters in this or any other proceedings before the Commission (now or in the future), or in any other appropriate court or venue.

WHEREFORE, DTE Electric requests that the Commission:

A. Accept this Application for filing;

B. Give such Notice to interested parties as may be required by statute or the Commission's rules;

C. Establish a date, place and time for a prehearing conference;

D. Conduct a hearing on this Application in order to determine the just and reasonable rates, effective as early as December 10, 2023, which will provide the Company a reasonable opportunity to recover its costs of operation, including a reasonable rate of return, in the projected test year and beyond;

E. Approve an additional annual revenue increase effective as soon as possible in the

projected test year as described herein;

F. Approve the Company's proposed capital structure and return on equity;

G. Approve new rates effective as early as December 10, 2023 in the manner described in this Application, the accompanying Attachments and the Company's Direct Testimony and Exhibits;

H. Grant the Company's request to approve the PSCR base;

I. Approve the Company's proposals to implement certain customer rate schedules and tariffs;

J. Approve recovery of the Company's generation investments;

K. Approve recovery of the Company's investments related to the strengthening of the Company's distribution system and reliability improvements;

L. Approve the Company's proposed IRM;

M. Approve all proposed pilot programs as requested by the Company;

N. Approve all proposed regulatory accounting treatments as requested by the Company;

O. Approve the capacity charge calculated by the Company which is based on the methodology established in Case No. U-20836 and approve the capacity-related costs supported by the Company in this proceeding;

P. Grant any other relief described in this Application as requested by the Company;

Q. Grant Applicant such further additional relief, as the Commission may deem suitable and appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY

By:

Marco A. Bruzzano Senior Vice President – Corporate Strategy & Regulatory Affairs

DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY Legal Department

By:

Attorneys for DTE Electric Company Andrea Hayden (P71976) Paula Johnson-Bacon (P55862) Jon P. Christinidis (P47352) One Energy Plaza, 1635 WCB Detroit, MI 48226 (313) 235-7706

Dated: February 10, 2023

Attachment 1

MPSC Case No. U-21297

DTE Electric Company

Electric Revenue Deficiency by Major Component

(\$ Millions)

	(a)		(b)
Line	Description	Rev	jected venue ency (1)
1	Rate Base (Plant Investment - Return On & Of, plus Property Taxes)	\$	292
2	Return on Equity		42
3	Cost of Debt and Capital Structure		29
4	O&M		124
5	Sales Margin		102
6	Other		30
7	Total Requested Rate Relief	\$	619

(1) Revenue Deficiency calculated from last approved rate case U-20836

MPSC Case No. U-21297 DTE Electric Company Summary of Present and Proposed Revenue by Rate Schedule

$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	Line No.	(a) Residential	(b) Total Present Revenue (\$000's)	(c) Total Proposed Revenue (\$000's)	^(d) Total Net Increase/ (Decrease) (\$000's)	^(e) Total Net Increase/ (Decrease) (%)
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	3	D1.2 TOD	\$27,458	\$32,110	\$4,651	16.9%
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		Total Other	\$74,929	\$85,571	\$10,643	14.2%
		Total All Classes	\$5,224,808	\$5,843,344	\$618,536	11.8%

MPSC Case No. U-21297 DTE Electric Company Comparison of Typical Bills Under Present and Proposed Rates Residential Service Rate D1.11 (summer)

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Line	Monthly	Present Net	Proposed Net	Incre	ease
<u>No.</u>	<u>kWh Use</u>	Monthly Bill	Monthly Bill	<u>Amount</u>	Percent
1	100	\$26.35	\$28.84	\$2.49	9.45%
2	200	\$43.31	\$48.29	\$4.98	11.51%
3	300	\$60.26	\$67.73	\$7.47	12.40%
4	400	\$77.21	\$87.18	\$9.97	12.91%
5	500	\$94.17	\$106.62	\$12.46	13.23%
6	600	\$111.12	\$126.07	\$14.95	13.45%
7	700	\$128.07	\$145.51	\$17.44	13.62%
8	800	\$145.03	\$164.96	\$19.93	13.74%
9	900	\$161.98	\$184.40	\$22.42	13.84%
10	1,000	\$178.93	\$203.85	\$24.91	13.92%
11	1,500	\$263.70	\$301.07	\$37.37	14.17%
12	2,000	\$348.47	\$398.30	\$49.83	14.30%
13	4,000	\$687.54	\$787.19	\$99.66	14.49%

Assumes ~16% of usage is on peak (as designed)

ATTACHMENT 4

PROPOSED STATE OF MICHIGAN BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION NOTICE OF HEARING

FOR THE ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS OF DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY CASE NO. U-21297

- DTE Electric Company may increase its annual base electric revenues by approximately \$622 million (\$619 million if the investment recovery mechanism (IRM) proposed by the Company is accepted) above existing base electric rate levels along with other requested relief if the Michigan Public Service Commission (Commission) approves its request.
- A TYPICAL RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER'S AVERAGE ELECTRIC BILL MAY BE INCREASED BY UP TO \$12.46 PER MONTH, IF THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION APPROVES THE REQUEST.
- The information below describes how a person may participate in this case.
- You may call or write DTE Electric Company, One Energy Plaza, Detroit, Michigan 48226, 1-800-477-4747, for a free copy of its application, testimony and exhibits. Any person may review the application, testimony and exhibits at the offices of DTE Electric Company or on the Commission's website at: <u>michigan.gov/mpscedockets</u>
- A pre-hearing will be held:

DATE/TIME:	, 2023, ata.m.
BEFORE:	Administrative Law Judge
LOCATION:	
PARTICIPATION:	Any interested person may participate. Persons needing any assistance to participate should contact the Commission's Executive Secretary at (517) 284-8090, or by email atmpscedockets@michigan.gov in advance of the hearing.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a pre-hearing to consider DTE Electric Company's February 10, 2023 application to increase its annual base electric revenues by approximately \$622 million along with other requested relief.

DTE Electric Company's Application states that the requested increase is required to recover the costs associated with significant investments in distribution, generation, and customer service. Several of these programs include strategic infrastructure investments in electric distribution assets to modernize equipment, support growth in customer demand in specific areas, improve worker and public safety, and reduce the frequency and duration of power outages. In addition, DTE Electric Company seeks to recover the costs of continuing its multi-year tree trimming "surge" program and the operation of the Blue Water Energy Center.

DTE Electric Company's requested relief also includes certain changes to its tariffs, and rules and regulations, including but not limited to proposed Rate Schedule D1.13, proposed Rider 22, and proposed amendments to Rate Schedule D1.6, Rate Schedule D1.9, Rate Schedule D3, Rider 14, and Rider 21. In addition, the Company is proposing an IRM focused on certain distribution capital expenditures that address customer safety, customer reliability, and the integration of increasing levels of electric vehicle and distributed energy resources that will be recovered by means of an IRM surcharge.

The Application also requests approval of capital structure cost changes, various accounting proposals and identifies several proposed pilot programs associated with its distribution system, generation, electric vehicles, and electric demand response. In total, DTE Electric Company's Application seeks Commission approval for additional annual revenues of approximately \$622 million (\$619 million if the IRM proposed by the Company is accepted) based upon a December 1, 2023 through November 30, 2024 projected test year with rates effective as early as December 10, 2023.

The chart below summarizes DTE Electric Company's proposed base revenue increases.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BASE REVENUE INCREASES

DTE Electric Company Summary of Proposed Base Electric Revenue Increase /(Decrease)

	Total	Total	Total Net	Total Net
	Present	Proposed	Increase/	Increase/
	Revenue	Revenue	(Decrease)	(Decrease)
Residential	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(\$000's)	(%)
D1/D1.6 Residential	\$41,080	\$48,826	\$7,746	18.9%
D1.1 Int. Air	\$53,064	\$61,271	\$8,207	15.5%
D1.2 TOD	\$27,458	\$32,110	\$4,651	16.9%
D1.7 TOD	\$14,290	\$16,795	\$2,505	17.5%

D1.8 Dynamic	\$33,728	\$38,608	\$4,880	14.5%
D1.9 Elec. Vehicle	\$1,588	\$1,832	\$244	15.4%
D1.11 Time of Use	\$2,503,806	\$2,845,715	\$341,909	13.7%
D2 Elec. Space Heat	\$42,173	\$49,157	\$6,984	16.6%
D5 Res. Water Ht.	\$13,200	\$15,424	\$2,224	16.8%
Total Residential	\$2,730,386	\$3,109,737	\$379,351	13.9%
Secondary				
D1.1 Int. Air	\$636	\$706	\$71	11.1%
D1.7 TOD	\$1,202	\$1,382	\$180	15.0%
D1.8 Dynamic	\$166	\$186	\$19	11.6%
D 1.9 Elec Vehicle	\$25	\$28	\$4	14.1%
D3 Gen. Serv.	\$955,074	\$1,061,784	\$106,709	11.2%
D3.1 Unmetered	\$9,424	\$10,601	\$1,177	12.5%
D3.2 Sec. Educ.	\$50,387	\$58,711	\$8,324	16.5%
D3.3 Interruptible	\$6,003	\$6,751	\$747	12.4%
D3.5 Charging Serv.	\$174	\$185	\$11	6.1%
D4 Lg. Gen. Serv.	\$232,766	\$260,166	\$27,400	11.8%
D5 Com. Wat. Ht.	\$934	\$1,049	\$116	12.4%
E1.1 Eng. St. Ltg.	\$1,023	\$1,151	\$128	12.5%
R7 Greenhs. Ltg.	\$414	\$469	\$55	13.2%
R8 Space Cond.	\$8,350	\$9,315	\$965	11.6%
Total Secondary	\$1,266,579	\$1,412,484	\$145,905	11.5%
Primary				
D11 Prim. Supply	\$929,511	\$1,007,582	\$78,071	8.4%
D12 Exp. Lrg Cust	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
D6.2 Pri. Educ.	\$46,946	\$52,051	\$5,105	10.9%
D8 Int. Primary	\$41,902	\$45,578	\$3,675	8.8%
D10 El.Schools	\$2,764	\$2,998	\$233	8.4%
R1.1 Alt. Mtl. Melt.	\$5,398	\$5,732	\$333	6.2%
R1.2 El. Pr. Htg.	\$32,555	\$35,712	\$3,157	9.7%
R3 Standby	\$11,035	\$11,902	\$867	7.9%
R10 Int. Supply	\$74,147	\$63,044	(\$11,103)	(15.0%)
Total Primary	\$1,144,260	\$1,224,598	\$80,338	7.0%
D13 XL	\$8,655	\$10,954	\$2,299	26.6%
Other				
D9 Protective Ltg.	\$10,126	\$12,265	\$2,139	21.1%
E1 Muni Street Ltg	\$59,706	\$67,746	\$8,039	13.5%
E2 Traffic Lights	\$5,096	\$5,560	\$464	9.1%
Total Other	\$74,929	\$85,571	\$10,643	14.2%

Total All Classes	\$5,224,808	\$5,843,344	\$618,536	11.8%

All documents filed in this case shall be submitted electronically through the Commission's E-Dockets website at: <u>michigan.gov/mpscedockets</u>. 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) 284-8090 or by email 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 ______, 2023. (Interested persons may elect to file using the traditional paper format.) The proof of service shall indicate service upon DTE Electric Company's attorney, Jon P. Christinidis, One Energy Plaza, 1635 WCB, Detroit, MI 48226.

The prehearing is scheduled to be held _____. Persons filing a petition to intervene will be advised of the process to participate in the hearing.

Any person wishing to participate without intervention under Mich Admin Code, R 792.10413 (Rule 413), or file a public comment, may do so by filing a written statement in this docket. The written statement may be mailed or emailed and should reference Case No. U-21297. Statements may be emailed to: mpscedockets@michigan.gov. Statements may be mailed to: Executive Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917. All information submitted to the Commission in this matter becomes public information, thus available on the Michigan Public Service Commission's website, and subject to disclosure. Please do not include information you wish to remain private. For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Commission at the above address or by telephone at (517) 284-8090.

Requests for adjournment must be made pursuant to the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules R 792.10422 and R 792.10432. Requests for further information on adjournment should be directed to (517) 284-8130.

A copy of DTE Electric Company's application may be reviewed on the Commission's website at: michigan.gov/mpscedockets, and at the office of DTE Electric Company, One Energy Plaza, Detroit, MI 48226. For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Commission at the above address or by telephone at (517) 284-8090.

The Utility Consumer Representation Fund has been created for the purpose of aiding in the representation of residential utility customers in various Commission proceedings. Contact the Chairperson, Utility Consumer Participation Board, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, P.O. Box 30004, Lansing, Michigan 48909, for more information.

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.; 1969 PA 306, as

amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; and Parts 1 & 4 of the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules, Mich. Admin Code, R 792.10106 and R 792.10401 through R 792.10448.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the application of **DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY** for authority to increase its rates, amend its rate schedules and rules governing the distribution and supply of electric energy, and for miscellaneous accounting authority

Case No. U-21297

PROPOSED PROTECTIVE ORDER

This Protective Order governs the use and disposition of Protected Material that DTE Electric Company ("Applicant") or any other Party discloses to another Party during the course of this proceeding. The Applicant or other Party disclosing Protected Material is referred to as the "Disclosing Party"; the recipient is the "Receiving Party" (defined further below). The intent of this Protective Order is to protect non-public, confidential information and materials so designated by the Applicant or by any other party, which information and materials contain confidential, proprietary, or commercially sensitive information. This Protective Order defines "Protected Material" and describes the manner in which Protected Material is to be identified and treated. Accordingly, it is ordered:

I. "Protected Material" and Other Definitions

A. For the purposes of this Protective Order, "Protected Material" consists of trade secrets or confidential, proprietary, or commercially sensitive information provided in Disclosing Party's Exhibits, discovery or audit responses, any witness' related exhibit and testimony, and any arguments of counsel describing or relying upon the Protected Material. Subject to challenge under Paragraph IV.A, Protected Material shall consist of non-public confidential information and materials including, but not limited to, the following information disclosed during the course of

this case if it is marked as required by this Protective Order:

- 1. Trade secrets or confidential, proprietary, or commercially sensitive information provided in response to discovery, in response to an order issued by the presiding hearing officer or the Michigan Public Service Commission ("MPSC" or the "Commission"), in testimony or exhibits filed later in this case, or in arguments of counsel;
 - a. Examples of such trade secrets, confidential, proprietary, or commercially sensitive information include, but are not limited to, information regarding compensation, generation, transmission and distribution facilities and related equipment, infrastructure, energy market projections or assumptions, forecasts, gas conversion analyses, sensitivity analyses, revenue requirement analyses, or financial arrangements including but not limited to those set forth in contracts.
 - b. Exclusions include Critical Energy Infrastructure Information ("CEII"), technical data subject to U.S. export control laws and regulations, including but not limited to 10 C.F.R. Part 810 et. seq., North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) material and information, DTE Electric distribution system information and operational data including Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) information, confidential Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and ITC Holdings Corp and/or its affiliate companies' information in the possession of DTE Electric Company, and information regarding Cyber Security which shall not be disclosed pursuant to this Protective Order or under any other circumstance. No individual DTE Energy employee's compensation benefits or other personal information is relevant in this proceeding. No individual DTE Energy employee's compensation, benefits or other personal information shall be required to be disclosed in this proceeding in the course of a hearing, through discovery, under this Protective Order, or otherwise.
- 2. To the extent permitted, information obtained under license from a third-party licensor, to which the Disclosing Party or witnesses engaged by the Disclosing Party is a licensee, that is subject to any confidentiality or non-transferability clause. This information includes reports; analyses; models (including related inputs and outputs); trade secrets; and confidential, proprietary, or commercially sensitive information that the Disclosing Party or one of its witnesses receives as a licensee and is authorized by the third- party licensor to disclose consistent with the terms and conditions of this Protective Order.
- 3. Where protection from all means of disclosure is demanded in writing by a vendor of commercially-available market analyses and/or studies concerning

employee compensation levels and such written demand is submitted to the Commission by DTE Electric, no Party shall obtain access to such commercially-available market analyses and/or studies concerning employee compensation levels until the Commission promises confidentiality for such market analyses and/or studies concerning employee compensation levels in writing, the Chairman of the Commission authorizes that promise of confidentiality in writing and the Commission thereafter through issuance of an order grants Protected Materials involving such market analyses and/or studies concerning employee compensation levels exemption from disclosure under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") as "Trade secrets or commercial or financial information" pursuant to MCL 15.243(1)(f) and the material marked "CONFIDENTIAL-SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER IN CASE NO. U-21297 – EXEMPT FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNDER THE MICHIGAN FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT MCL 15.243(1)(f)". If the AG or any other Party to this proceeding is itself subject to disclosure requirements under FOIA and wishes to obtain Protected Materials involving market analyses and/or studies concerning employee compensation levels that have been exempted by the Commission from disclosure under FOIA, the AG or other Party, in addition to executing a Non-Disclosure Certificate, must also exempt such Protected Materials from disclosure under FOIA prior to obtaining such Protected Materials.

- 4. Information that could identify the bidders and bids, including the winning bid, in a competitive solicitation for a power purchase agreement or in a competitively bid engineering, procurement, or construction contract at any stage of the selection process (*i.e.*, before the Disclosing Party has entered into a power purchase agreement or selected a contractor).
- B. The information subject to this Protective Order does not include:
 - 1. Information that is or has become available to the public through no fault of the Receiving Party or Reviewing Representative and no breach of this Protective Order, or information that is otherwise lawfully known by the Receiving Party without any obligation to hold it in confidence;
 - 2. Information received from a third party free to disclose the information without restriction;
 - 3. Information that is approved for release by written authorization of the Disclosing Party, but only to the extent of the authorization;
 - 4. Information that is required by law or regulation to be disclosed, but only to the extent of the required disclosure; or

5. Information that is disclosed in response to a valid, non-appealable order of a court of competent jurisdiction or governmental body, but only to the extent the order requires.

C. This protective order is insufficient to protect particularly sensitive commercial information regarding current contract negotiations and contract-re-negotiations and such information shall not be disclosed without agreement of the parties or further proceedings regarding this information including, but not limited to, a determination by the presiding officer whether, and if so to what extent, the material is to be disclosed, and any additional protections that may be necessary on a case by case basis. The parties reserve the right to exhaust any appeals to the Commission and any court or appellate court of competent jurisdiction prior to making any ordered disclosure.

D. "Party" refers to the Applicant, MPSC Staff ("Staff"), Michigan Attorney General, or any other person, company, organization, or association that is granted intervention in Case No. U-21297 under the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Mich Admin Code, R 792.10401 et al.

E. "Receiving Party" means any Party to this proceeding who requests or receives access to Protected Material, subject to the requirement that each Reviewing Representative sign a Nondisclosure Certificate attached to this Protective Order as Attachment 1.

F. "Reviewing Representative" means a person who has signed a Nondisclosure Certificate and who is:

- 1. An attorney who has entered an appearance in this proceeding for a Receiving Party;
- 2. An attorney, paralegal, or other employee associated, for the purpose of this case, with an attorney described in Paragraph I.F.1;
- 3. An expert or employee of an expert retained by a Receiving Party to advise, prepare for, or testify in this proceeding; or

4. An employee or other representative of a Receiving Party with significant responsibility in this case.

A Reviewing Representative is responsible for assuring that persons under his or her supervision and control comply with this Protective Order.

G. If a Reviewing Representative's scope of employment includes any of the activities listed under this Paragraph (I)(G), such Reviewing Representative may not use information contained in any Protected Material obtained in this proceeding for a commercial purpose (e.g., to give a Participant or competitor of any Participant a commercial advantage):

- 1. Energy marketing and/or energy development;
- Direct supervision of any employee or employees whose duties include energy marketing and/or energy development; or
- The provision of consulting services to any person whose duties include energy marketing and/or energy development.

A Reviewing Representative who meets any of the three criteria above is "Competitive Duty Personnel."

H. "Nondisclosure Certificate" means the certificate attached to this Protective Order as Attachment 1, which is signed by a Reviewing Representative who has been granted access to Protected Material and agreed to be bound by the terms of this Protective Order.

II. Access to and Use of Protected Material

A. This Protective Order governs the use of all Protected Material that is marked as required by Paragraph III.A and made available for review by the Disclosing Party to any Receiving Party or Reviewing Representative. This Protective Order protects: (i) the Protected Material; (ii) any copy or reproduction of the Protected Material made by any person; and (iii) any memorandum, handwritten notes, or any other form of information that copies, contains, or discloses Protected Material. All Protected Material in the possession of a Receiving Party shall be maintained in a secure place. Access to Protected Material shall be limited to persons authorized to have access subject to the provisions of this Protective Order.

B. Protected Material shall be used and disclosed by the Receiving Party solely in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Protective Order. A Receiving Party may authorize access to, and use of, Protected Material by a Reviewing Representative identified by the Receiving Party, subject to Paragraphs III and V below, only as necessary to analyze the Protected Material; make or respond to discovery; present evidence; prepare testimony, argument, briefs, or other filings; prepare for cross-examination; consider strategy; and evaluate settlement. These individuals shall not release or disclose the content of Protected Material to any other person or use the information for any other purpose.

C. The Disclosing Party retains the right to object to any designated Reviewing Representative if the Disclosing Party has reason to believe that there is an unacceptable risk of misuse of confidential information. If a Disclosing Party objects to a Reviewing Representative, the Disclosing Party and the Receiving Party will attempt to reach an agreement to accommodate that Receiving Party's request to review Protected Material. If no agreement is reached, then either the Disclosing Party or the Receiving Party may submit the dispute to the presiding hearing officer. If the Disclosing Party notifies a Receiving Party of an objection to a Reviewing Representative, then the Protected Material shall not be provided to that Reviewing Representative until the objection is resolved by agreement or by the presiding hearing officer.

D. Before reviewing any Protected Material, including copies, reproductions, and copies of notes of Protected Material, a Receiving Party and Reviewing Representative shall sign a copy of the Nondisclosure Certificate (Attachment 1 to this Protective Order) agreeing to be

bound by the terms of this Protective Order. The Reviewing Representative shall also provide a copy of the executed Nondisclosure Certificate to the Disclosing Party.

E. No person who is afforded access to any Protected Material by reason of this Order shall disclose the Protected Material to anyone not specifically authorized to receive such information pursuant to the terms of this Order. Nor shall such persons use the Protected Material in any manner inconsistent with this Order. All persons afforded access to Protected Material pursuant to this Order shall keep the Protected Material secure in accordance with the purposes and intent of this Order and shall adopt all reasonable precautions to assure continued confidentiality, including precautions against unauthorized copying, use, or disclosure thereof.

F. A party seeking or intending to disclose in or on the public record information taken directly from materials identified as Protected Material must – before actually disclosing the information – do one of the following: (a) contact DTE Electric's counsel of record and obtain written permission to place the information in the public record, (b) take affirmative steps to confirm and actually confirm that the information is otherwise public information and within an exclusion in section 7 of this Order and comply with the notice provisions in section 7, or (c) challenge the confidential nature of the Protected Material and obtain a ruling under section 10 that the information is not confidential and may be disclosed in or on the public record

G. Even if no longer engaged in this proceeding, every person who has signed a Nondisclosure Certificate continues to be bound by the provisions of this Protective Order. The obligations under this Protective Order are not extinguished or nullified by entry of a final order in this case and are enforceable by the MPSC or a court of competent jurisdiction. To the extent Protected Material is not returned to a Disclosing Party, it remains subject to this Protective Order.

H. Members of the Commission, Commission staff assigned to assist the Commission with its deliberations, and the presiding hearing officer shall have access to all Protected Material that is submitted to the Commission under seal without the need to sign the Nondisclosure Certificate.

I. A Party retains the right to seek further restrictions on the dissemination of Protected Material to persons who have or may subsequently seek to intervene in this MPSC proceeding.

J. Nothing in this Protective Order precludes a Party from asserting a timely evidentiary objection to the proposed admission of Protected Material into the evidentiary record for this case.

III. Procedures

A. The Disclosing Party shall mark any information that it considers confidential as "CONFIDENTIAL: SUBJECT TO THE PROTECTIVE ORDER ISSUED IN CASE NO. U-21297." Software executable files containing protected material may not be capable of being marked with the foregoing required protective language. The inability to mark software executable files containing protected material with such protective language shall not diminish the requirements of this Protective Order. It shall be sufficient if the medium used to deliver software executable files containing protected information is marked with the required protective language. However, any output from the software executable files containing protected material that is generated only as a reproducible document, whether electronic or non-electronic, that is capable of being marked with the required protective language, shall be marked by the party who generated the output with such protective language and subject to the requirements of this Protective Order. If the Receiving Party or a Reviewing Representative makes copies of any Protected Material, they shall conspicuously mark the copies as Protected Material. Notes of Protected Material shall also

be conspicuously marked as Protected Material by the person making the notes.

B. If a Receiving Party wants to quote, refer to, or otherwise use Protected Material in

pleadings, pre-filed testimony, exhibits, cross-examination, briefs, oral argument, comments, or in

some other form in this proceeding (including administrative or judicial appeals), the Receiving

Party shall do so consistent with procedures that will maintain the confidentiality of the Protected

Material. For purposes of this Protective Order, the following procedures apply:

- Written submissions using Protected Material shall be filed in a sealed record to be maintained by the MPSC's Docket Section, or by a court of competent jurisdiction, in envelopes clearly marked on the outside, "CONFIDENTIAL – SUBJECT TO THE PROTECTIVE ORDER ISSUED IN CASE NO. U-21297." Simultaneously, identical documents and materials, with the Protected Material redacted, shall be filed and disclosed the same way that evidence or briefs are usually filed;
- 2. Oral testimony, examination of witnesses, or argument about Protected Material shall be conducted on a separate record to be maintained by the MPSC's Docket Section or by a court of competent jurisdiction. These separate record proceedings shall be closed to all persons except those furnishing the Protected Material and persons otherwise subject to this Protective Order. The Receiving Party presenting the Protected Material during the course of the proceeding shall give the presiding officer or court sufficient notice to allow the presiding officer or court an opportunity to take measures to protect the confidentiality of the Protected Material; and
- 3. Copies of the documents filed with the MPSC which contain Protected Material, including the portions of the exhibits, transcripts, or briefs that refer to Protected Material, shall be marked or identified as, "CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER IN CASE NO. U-21297" and shall be maintained in a separate portion of the record under seal, segregated in the files of the Commission, and withheld from inspection by any person not bound by the terms of this Order.
- C. The Protected Material subject to this Order shall be shielded from disclosure to

the extent permitted by law. If any person files a Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request

with the Commission seeking access to documents subject to this Order, then the Commission's

Executive Secretary shall notify DTE Electric as soon as reasonably practicable and DTE Electric may take whatever legal actions it deems appropriate to protect the Protected Material from disclosure. If the Commission denies a claim of confidentiality, in whole or in part, then the Commission shall give notice to DTE Electric at least five (5) business days prior to the Commission's contemplated disclosure in response to the request. The notice shall briefly explain why DTE Electric's objections to disclosure were not sustained by the Commission. In the event that the FOIA requester commences suit against the Commission to compel disclosure of a document for which privilege is claimed, the Commission shall immediately notify DTE Electric of the suit.

IV. Termination of Protected Status

A. A Receiving Party reserves the right to challenge whether a document or information is Protected Material and whether this information can be withheld under this Protective Order. In response to a motion, the Commission or the presiding hearing officer in this case may revoke a document's protected status after notice and hearing. If the presiding hearing officer revokes a document's protected status, then the document loses its protected status after 14 days unless a Party files an application for leave to appeal the ruling to the Commission within that time period. Any Party opposing the application for leave to appeal shall file an answer with the Commission no more than 14 days after the filing and service of the appeal. If an application is filed, then the information will continue to be protected from disclosure until either the time for appeal of the Commission's final order resolving the issue has expired under MCL 462.26 or, if the order is appealed, until judicial review is completed and the time to take further appeals has expired.

B. If a document's protected status is challenged under Paragraph IV.A, the Receiving Party challenging the protected status of the document shall explicitly state its reason for challenging the confidential designation. The Disclosing Party bears the burden of proving that the document should continue to be protected from disclosure.

V. Retention of Documents

Protected Material remains the property of the Disclosing Party and only remains available to the Receiving Party until the time expires for petitions for rehearing of a final MPSC order in Case No. U-21297 or until the MPSC has ruled on all petitions for rehearing in this case (if any). However, an attorney for a Receiving Party who has signed a Nondisclosure Certificate and who is representing the Receiving Party in an appeal from an MPSC final order in this case may retain copies of Protected Material until either the time for appeal of the Commission's final order resolving the issue has expired under MCL 462.26 or, if the order is appealed, until judicial review is completed and the time to take further appeals has expired. On or before the time specified by the preceding sentences, the Receiving Party shall return to the Disclosing Party all Protected Material in its possession or in the possession of its Reviewing Representatives-including all copies and notes of Protected Material-or certify in writing to the Disclosing Party that the Protected Material has been destroyed.

VI. Limitations and Disclosures

The provisions of this Protective Order do not apply to a particular document, or portion of a document, described in Paragraph II.A if a Receiving Party can demonstrate that it has been previously disclosed by the Disclosing Party on a non-confidential basis or meets the criteria set forth in Paragraphs I.B.1 through I.B.5. A Receiving Party intending to disclose information taken directly from materials identified as Protected Material must-before actually disclosing the information-do one of the following: (i) contact the Disclosing Party's counsel of record and obtain written permission to disclose the information, or (ii) challenge the confidential nature of the Protected Material and obtain a ruling under Paragraph IV that the information is not confidential and may be disclosed in or on the public record.

VII. Remedies

If a Receiving Party violates this Protective Order by improperly disclosing or using Protected Material, the Receiving Party shall take all necessary steps to remedy the improper disclosure or use. This includes immediately notifying the MPSC, the presiding hearing officer, and the Disclosing Party, in writing, of the identity of the person known or reasonably suspected to have obtained the Protected Material. A Party or person that violates this Protective Order remains subject to this paragraph regardless of whether the Disclosing Party could have discovered the violation earlier than it was discovered. This paragraph applies to both inadvertent and intentional violations. Nothing in this Protective Order limits the Disclosing Party's rights and remedies, at law or in equity, against a Party or person using Protected Material in a manner not authorized by this Protective Order, including the right to obtain injunctive relief in a court of competent jurisdiction to prevent violations of this Protective Order.

> MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM For the Michigan Public Service Commission

Administrative Law Judge

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the application of) **DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY** for) authority to increase its rates, amend its rate schedules and rules governing the distribution and supply of electric energy, and for miscellaneous accounting authority

Case No. U-21297

NONDISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE

By signing this Nondisclosure Certificate, I acknowledge that access to Protected Material is provided to me under the terms and restrictions of the Protective Order issued in Case No. U-21297, that I have been given a copy of and have read the Protective Order, and that I agree to be bound by the terms of the Protective Order. I understand that the substance of the Protected Material (as defined in the Protective Order), any notes from Protected Material, or any other form of information that copies or discloses Protected Material, shall be maintained as confidential and shall not be disclosed to anyone other than in accordance with the Protective Order. I understand that I may not use Protected Material for a commercial or competitive purpose.

Reviewing Representative

Date:

Title:			
Representing	:		
Printed Name	<u>,</u>		
Email addres	S		
Competitive	Duty Person	nel: Yes	_/ No

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the matter of the Application of) **DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY** for) authority to increase its rates, amend its) rate schedules and rules governing the) distribution and supply of electric energy,) and for miscellaneous accounting authority)

Case No. U-21297

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)) ss. COUNTY OF WAYNE)

ESTELLA R. BRANSON states that on February 10, 2023, she served a copy of DTE Electric Company's Application, Proposed Notice of Hearing, Proposed Protective Order, Proposed Nondisclosure Certificates, Testimony and Exhibits, DTE Electric Company's Part II – Financial Information materials and Part III –Supplemental Data materials (are being provided via a secure portal link) in the above captioned matter, via electronic mail and secure portal link, upon the persons listed on the attached service list.

ESTELLA R. BRANSON

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ABATE

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