



NEWS RELEASE

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LANSING, February 25. The Michigan Public Service Commission today approved Michigan Gas Utilities' December 18, 2001 application for a voluntary customer choice program for its natural gas customers. The Commission also approved the use of deferred accounting for the recovery of gas customer choice implementation costs related to operational and billing requirements of the program but found that rate recovery will be determined in MGU's next general rate case.

Under MGU's program, beginning June 1, 2002, up to 14,000 residential and 1,300 general service customers will be eligible to participate in the program. Effective June 1, 2003, up to 28,000 residential and 2,600 general service customers may participate, and effective June 1, 2004, the number of eligible customers increases to 56,000 residential and 5,200 general service customers. On June 1, 2005, all MGU customers may select an alternative natural gas supplier.

MGU's program is voluntary for its natural gas customers. Participating customers will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Today's order approves residential customer protections, solicitation requirements, supplier registration and code of conduct, and procedures for complaints between suppliers and the company. MGU, headquartered in Monroe, provides natural gas service to about 150,000 in Michigan.

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

Case No. U-13232
February 25, 2002
(MPSC approves MGU's natural gas customer choice program)
