

bill, and shall not exceed \$1. Section 9t(7) provides that electric utilities, including the municipally-owned and cooperative electric utilities, may elect not to collect the funding factor by annually filing a notice with the Commission by July 1; however, utilities that do not collect the funding factor shall not shut off service to any residential customer from November 1 to April 15 for nonpayment of a delinquent account. For utilities that do not opt out, Section 9t(8) provides that they shall annually, by July 1, provide to the Commission the number of retail billing meters the utility serves in Michigan that are subject to the funding factor. The Commission will thereafter determine the funding factor by July 31.

On May 31, 2017, the Commission issued an order reminding all affected utilities of the need to file the required information by July 1, 2017, in this docket. Bayfield Electric Cooperative,¹ Upper Michigan Energy Resources Company, Wisconsin Electric Power Company, d/b/a We Energies, Cloverland Electric Cooperative, Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association, and Cherryland Electric Cooperative filed notice of their intent to opt out. Northern States Power Company, Alpena Power Company, Consumers Energy Company, DTE Electric Company, Indiana Michigan Power Company, Upper Peninsula Power Company, Alger-Delta Co-operative Electric Association, Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, Midwest Energy Cooperative, HomeWorks Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Presque Isle Electric and Gas Co-op, and Thumb Electric Cooperative filed notice of their intent to participate and their meter counts.

¹ Bayfield Electric Cooperative (Bayfield) did not make a filing in 2016 or 2017. In 2013, Bayfield elected to opt out, and Bayfield re-filed its 2013 notice. For purposes of calculating the proposed factor, the Commission has assumed that Bayfield is again opting out. The Commission notes that, in any case, Bayfield's meter count could not affect the calculation of the proposed factor. The Commission reminds Bayfield that, unless it informs the Commission otherwise, it may not discontinue service to any residential customer from November 1, 2017, to April 15, 2018, for nonpayment of a delinquent account.

The Michigan Municipal Electric Association² (MMEA) filed notice that all of its members will be opting out with the exception of Village of Baraga, Bay City Electric Light & Power, City of Gladstone, City of Hart Hydro, Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities, Lowell Light and Power, City of Marshall Electric Department, Negaunee Department of Public Works, Newberry Water and Light Board, Niles Utilities Department, City of Norway, City of Petoskey, City of St. Louis, and Union City Electric Department.

Section 9t(6) provides that “The amount used by the public service commission to calculate a low-income energy assistance funding factor during each fiscal year shall not exceed \$50,000,000.00 minus both the amount appropriated from the general fund in that fiscal year for home energy assistance and the amount remaining in the fund from the prior fiscal year.” The Commission is informed that the latter two amounts are zero. Thus, in reliance on the information that has been filed in this docket, the Commission calculates a funding factor of \$0.93 per meter per month for the coming fiscal year, and invites comment on that factor.

Any person may submit written and electronic comments regarding the proposed funding factor. The comments should reference Case No. U-17377, and must be received no later than July 21, 2017. Written comments should be mailed to: Executive Secretary, Michigan Public

² The MMEA’s members include Village of Baraga, Bay City Electric Light & Power, City of Charlevoix, Chelsea Department of Electric and Water, Village of Clinton, Coldwater Board of Public Utilities, Croswell Municipal Light & Power Department, City of Crystal Falls, Daggett Electric Department, City of Dowagiac, City of Eaton Rapids, City of Escanaba, City of Gladstone, Grand Haven Board of Light and Power, City of Harbor Springs, City of Hart Hydro, Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities, Holland Board of Public Works, Village of L’Anse, Lansing Board of Water & Light, Lowell Light and Power, Marquette Board of Light and Power, Marshall Electric Department, Negaunee Department of Public Works, Newberry Water and Light Board, Niles Utility Department, City of Norway, City of Paw Paw, City of Petoskey, City of Portland, City of Sebewaing, City of South Haven, City of St. Louis, City of Stephenson, City of Sturgis, Traverse City Light & Power, Union City Electric Department, City of Wakefield, Wyandotte Department of Municipal Service, and Zeeland Board of Public Works.

Service Commission, P.O. Box 30221, Lansing, MI 48909. Electronic comments should be e-mailed to: mpscedockets@michigan.gov. If any person requires assistance prior to filing, they may contact Commission staff at (517) 284-8090 or by e-mail at mpscedockets@michigan.gov. All information submitted to the Commission in this matter will become public information available on the Commission's website and subject to disclosure; and all comments will be filed in Case No. U-17377.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that any person may file written comments regarding the calculated proposed funding factor of \$0.93 per meter per month. To be considered, all comments must be received at the Commission no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 21, 2017, and should reference Case No. U-17377.

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

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Sally A. Talberg, Chairman

By its action of July 12, 2017.

Norman J. Saari, Commissioner

Kavita Kale, Executive Secretary

Rachael A. Eubanks, Commissioner