STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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LT. GOVERNOR

June 17, 2026

Chair Scripps,

As governor, I hear from Michiganders every day about rising utility bills and energy costs. Right now, too many Michigan families are struggling to pay their bills. Inflation just hit a three-year high, driven by tariffs and the war with Iran. I can't reopen the Strait of Hormuz or bring down prices by myself. But state government can help Michiganders keep more of their hard-earned money.

As you know, my administration is constantly working to lower costs and put more money back in the pockets of Michiganders. Since 2018, we've passed historic clean energy laws that will save households an average of $145 a year, improve reliability and create 160,000 good paying jobs; put Michigan on a path to carbon neutrality by 2040; signed a bipartisan legislative package to help lower utility bills; and expanded home energy rebate programs that have already saved Michiganders thousands of dollars on energy costs.

For its part, the MPSC's disciplined approach in recent years has delivered real cost savings and consumer protection. Despite national inflationary pressures, Michigan held utility cost increases to below the rate of inflation, which kept Michiganders' bills lower than those found in neighboring states. Michigan households now pay on average 16% less than the national average for electricity which is a testament to the diligent work of the Commission.

While I'm proud of the progress we've made, I recognize there's more to do to lower costs and improve reliability for Michiganders. Today, I am asking the Michigan Public Service Commission to identify opportunities to lower utility bills for Michiganders, specifically (1) legislative reforms that improve both affordability and reliability of the utility grid; and (2) opportunities for new or improved energy affordability assistance programs.

These are critically important and timely conversations, and I appreciate your leadership in helping to address affordability and reliability issues in Michigan. Suggestions on possible actions by July 16, 2026, would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Whitmer

Governor