

March 16, 2005

Dear Tax Tribunal Practitioner,

We are issuing a new ***Tribunal Notice***. The notice addresses the mailing of final decisions and orders to parties, their authorized representatives, and certain non-parties and the revision of this mailing practice. The notice also addresses an upcoming upgrade to our website docketing system that will permit local units of government and others to search pending and closed cases by unit of government.

As previously announced, the Tribunal has selected 100 Detroit Edison Company (“DTE”) and Michigan Consolidated Gas Company (“MichCon”) utility personal property cases for the scheduling of hearings commencing in May, June, and July of 2006. The Order scheduling these cases for hearing indicated that cases involving Consumers Energy, American Electric Power, Cloverland Electric Cooperative, Great Lakes Energy, Homeworks Tri-County Electric Cooperative, International Transmission Company, and Semco Energy Company as petitioner are adjourned and will not be scheduled for hearing until the Tribunal is advised in writing that a global settlement is unlikely or the Tribunal determines that a global settlement is unlikely.

Utility companies that were not specifically named in the above Order have contacted the Tribunal with questions regarding the status of their pending appeals. Although they were not named, the Order clearly indicates that the only cases scheduled for hearing are cases in which Detroit Edison and MichCon are the petitioners. The Order further indicates that all other cases, including those utility companies not named in the Order, “are adjourned and will not be scheduled for hearing until the Tribunal is advised in writing that a global settlement is unlikely or the Tribunal determines that a global settlement is unlikely.”

With respect to physical access to the Tribunal’s Lansing office and hearing rooms, the City of Lansing and the State of Michigan have both announced the beginning of construction projects that will impact arrivals to and departures from the Tribunal. The following link will take you to the City of Lansing web page for updated construction news. http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,1607,7-151-9621_11008_24963---,00.html

CITY OF LANSING PROJECTS:

March-June

Beginning Monday, March 14, 2005, Allegan Street will be closed from the western third of the Capitol Avenue intersection to the state visitor lot entrance (across from the Library & Historical Center). This means that the Pine Street/Allegan Street intersection will be closed. The Walnut Street/Allegan Street intersection will remain open.

May-June

Walnut Street will be closed for reconstruction from Ottawa Street to Allegan Street. The Pine Street/Allegan Street intersection will reopen. Walnut Street will be two-way traffic from Washtenaw Street to Allegan Street.

June-August

The eastern two-thirds of the Capitol Avenue intersection will be closed. Allegan Street will be two-way traffic from Washington Street to Capitol Avenue.

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROJECTS:

May– January

The parking ramp beneath the Hannah Building (directly across the plaza from the Ottawa Building) will be under construction. Concurrently, the plaza between the two buildings will be under construction. Visitor parking availability may be affected, as staff parking beneath that building will be displaced to other lots. The handicap parking places will not be impacted during this phase. Handicap parking will be accessed from the Ottawa Street entrance to the parking structure. As always, access to handicap parking must be prearranged.

Pedestrian access to the Ottawa Building will vary with the progression of the plaza renovation. Temporary boardwalks will be used and access routes changed accordingly. Plaza renovations are slated for completion during this phase of the project.

February, 2006 – October, 2006

The parking ramp beneath the Ottawa Building will be under construction. Visitor parking will be relocated – site yet to be determined. Visitor parking availability may be affected, as staff parking beneath that building will be displaced to other lots.

If you have members, colleagues or acquaintances that would benefit from keeping up-to-date with Tribunal developments, simply send an e-mail message to Marijo Wakley at mewakle@michigan.gov with “SUBSCRIBE” in the subject line. To unsubscribe, simply reply to this e-mail with the word “UNSUBSCRIBE” in the subject line.