

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**NOTICE OF HEARING  
FOR THE NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS OF  
CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY  
CASE NO. U-16855**

- Consumers Energy Company is requesting approval from the Michigan Public Service Commission to increase its rates for the distribution of natural gas and for other relief.
- The information below describes how a person may participate in this case.
- You may call or write Consumers Energy Company, One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201, (800) 477-5050 for a free copy of its application. Any person may review the documents at the offices of Consumers Energy Company.
- A public hearing will be held:

**DATE/TIME:** October 11, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.  
This hearing will be a prehearing conference to set future hearing dates and decide other procedural matters.

**BEFORE:** Administrative Law Judge Mark E. Cummins

**LOCATION:** Michigan Public Service Commission  
6545 Mercantile Way, Suite 7  
Lansing, Michigan

The Mercantile Way building sustained flood damage and remains closed until further notice. Please consult the Michigan Public Service Commission website at: [www.michigan.gov/mpsc](http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc) for updates on hearing locations or call 517.241.6060.

**PARTICIPATION:** Any interested person may attend and participate. The hearing site is accessible, including handicapped parking. Persons needing any accommodation to participate should contact the Commission's Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160 in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a public hearing to consider the September 2, 2011 application of Consumers Energy Company (Consumers Energy), which seeks approval to increase its rates for the distribution of natural gas and for other relief. Consumers Energy requests the Commission to: authorize the company to adjust its retail natural gas rates to provide additional revenue of \$49.3 million annually above current rates based on a projected 12-month test year ending December 31, 2012; authorize the company to adjust its existing retail natural gas rates to produce a rate of return on common equity of not

less than 10.70%; approve its proposed modifications to the revenue decoupling mechanism; approve its proposals for an Uncollectible Expense True-Up Mechanism; approve its proposals for pension and other post-employment benefit reconciliation mechanisms; grant requested accounting authorizations; and approve its requested modifications to its rates, rules, and regulations.

All documents filed in this case shall be submitted electronically through the Commission's E-Dockets website at: [michigan.gov/mpscedockets](http://michigan.gov/mpscedockets). 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](mailto:mpscedockets@michigan.gov). If you require assistance prior to e-filing, contact Commission staff at (517) 241-6180 or by email at: [mpscedockets@michigan.gov](mailto: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 October 4, 2011. (Interested persons may elect to file using the traditional paper format.) The proof of service shall indicate service upon Consumers Energy's Legal Department - MPSC Regulatory Group, One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201.

Any person wishing to make a statement of position without becoming a party to the case may participate by filing an appearance. To file an appearance, the individual must attend the hearing and advise the presiding administrative law judge of his/her wish to make a statement of position. All information submitted to the Commission in this matter will become public information: available on the Michigan Public Service Commission's website, and subject to disclosure.

Requests for adjournment must be made pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure R 460.17315 and R 460.17335. Requests for further information on adjournment should be directed to (517) 241-6060.

A copy of Consumers Energy's application may be reviewed on the Commission's website at: [michigan.gov/mpscedockets](http://michigan.gov/mpscedockets), and at the office of Consumers Energy Company, One Energy Plaza, Jackson, MI. For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Commission at the above address or by telephone at (517) 241-6180.

Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1909 PA 300, as amended, MCL 462.2 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.54 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1982 PA 304, as amended, MCL 460.6h et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1999 AC, R 460.17101 et seq.

[Details of the proposals are contained in the application and filing materials.]

**[CONSUMERS ENERGY HAS REQUESTED THE INCREASES AND OTHER PROPOSALS DESCRIBED IN THIS NOTICE. THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION MAY GRANT OR DENY THE REQUESTED INCREASES AND OTHER PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND MAY GRANT LESSER OR GREATER INCREASES THAN THOSE REQUESTED AND MAY AUTHORIZE A LESSER OR GREATER RATE FOR ANY CLASS OF SERVICE THAN THAT REQUESTED.]**

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