

From Wed. 3/15

Call to Rep. Scott's office in relation to Consumers

- Craig Kloperistine
- 30820 M 60, Leonidas, MI, 49066
- Called our office to complain about Consumers
- Electricity runs high and has multiple outages a year even under non-extreme weather scenarios
- Is upset with the "distribution" charge which is \$200-350 a month
  - Charge is required to maintain the lines
  - Wants to understand the background behind this charge and questions the reliability
- Has a disability physically so he is very affected when he loses power and is paying lots of money for unreliable service

## **DTE customers are demanding a “lot more action”**

You can't put all the blame on climate change for the many thousands of power outages and painfully long restoration times in Michigan.

Certainly not when DTE is ranked as the FIFTH WORST utility company in the US (despite their huge profits) by the Citizens Utility Board.

Other states suffer from climate change and do a whole lot better than we do.

As the country singer, Toby Keith, sang, we need “a little less talk and a lot more action.”

We've heard **lot of talk** from DTE these days on how they promise to do better.

But one of the people pushing for “**a lot more action**” is State House Energy Committee Chair, Helena Scott (D-7th District, Detroit).

She has called for a public hearing March 15 in Lansing where she will be demanding that DTE officials tell us what actions they plan to take to fix the problem.

“We cannot and will not accept that this is normal,” Scott said last week. “The power grid and associated infrastructure must be reinforced, updated and improved.”

You can do your part to help put pressure on our state's investor-owned “public” utility company.

You can attend Wednesday's public hearing or, if you're unable to make it, you can put your frustrations and anger into an email and send it to:

**State Representative Helena Scott, (D-7th District)**  
**[helenascott@house.mi.gov](mailto:helenascott@house.mi.gov)**

As a former community organizer for Southeast Michigan Jobs with Justice, Rep. Scott will make good use of your emails to build her case.

Feel free to also suggest what DTE should do to “reinforce, update and improve” our electrical system.

***But that's NOT all folks.***

Stay tuned for Michigan Public Service Commission (the state body that oversees DTE) hearings, public demonstrations, meetings, rallies and other actions.

**Rep. Helena Scott (District 7)**

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**From:** Rep. Helena Scott <HelenaScott@mail.house.mi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2023 6:02 PM  
**To:** Rep. Helena Scott (District 7)  
**Subject:** RELEASE: Scott Calls for Public Safety, Accountability During Aftermath of Michigan Storms



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**Helena Scott**

(517) 373-2276  
HelenaScott@house.mi.gov  
[Scott.housedems.com](http://Scott.housedems.com)

## **Scott Calls for Public Safety, Accountability During Aftermath of Michigan Storms**

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 27, 2023 — More than 600,000 customers of Detroit-based DTE Energy lost power when the ice storm hit the state last Wednesday, Feb. 22. Due to the high volume of outages, continued rains and high winds, thousands of households and businesses remain without power. With an increase in extreme weather storms, many have called on leadership at DTE and Consumers Energy to better prepare to act quickly during severe climate events. **State Rep. Helena Scott** (D-Detroit) — chair of the Energy, Communications and Technology committee and vice chair of the Detroit caucus — issued the following statement:

“The safety of Detroit residents, and everyone across our state, is my utmost, foremost priority. I have been in frequent contact with leadership at our Detroit utilities, and I can assure you, line crews are working very hard to restore power and remove all downed power lines — I want to give my sincere thank you to

**Rep. Helena Scott (District 7)**

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**From:** Kate Upton  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 11:26 AM  
**To:** Rep. Helena Scott (District 7)  
**Subject:** RE: Reminder: DTE, Consumers, MI Public Service Commission Constituent Complaints

Good morning,  
We have only received one complaint over the last 6 months. Typically when we contact Consumers they are very helpful and seem to resolve the issues at hand. I am unsure if this complaint has been resolved.

From: Matthew & Ann Hughes

Date: 2/8/2023, 6:40:58 PM

Topic: Energy

**Message:** Good evening, I'm writing regarding my consumers energy bills. I have been getting outrageous bills every since they switched our meter to the new meters. This has been occurring since then, around the year 2016. I believe my mother had contacted you some months ago regarding my situation. Well, then my consumers bills suddenly went down to the normal which is appx \$300 per month. Well, seems as they are back to charging me outrageous bills again. They are saying my next bill is trending to over \$800. Now this doesn't sit right with me. We are a single family home. Family of 5. Natural gas runs our furnace. We don't waste electricity. We always shut our lights off etc. I just don't understand. Our economy is tough enough now days as it is. And now consumers bills being outrageous again is really upsetting. Is there any way you could reach out to them? Could you reach out and ask consumers to investigate my meter. My address is 1801 E Washington Rd Ithaca mi 48847 Thank you, Bless you, Matthew & Ann Hughes

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Prefix:

EmailAddress: [macchughes2014@yahoo.com](mailto:macchughes2014@yahoo.com)

PhoneNumber: (989) 388-9801

FirstName: Matthew & Ann

LastName: Hughes

From:

[REDACTED]

To:

"Rep. Regina Weiss (District 6)" <reginaweiss@house.mi.gov>

Subject:

DTE is costing all of us

HTMLTextSource

You don't often get email from dbruza@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Representative Weiss:

I would think it should be clear by now that ensuring reliable power for Michigan must be a high priority. There is no way Michigan can succeed with providers like DTE. It made more than 1 billion of net income in 2022, and almost 12 billion in the last 13 years while its under investment in maintaining, upgrading and repairing its infrastructure is staggering. Per outage information sent to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2021 Michigan ranked third highest in the length of time it took to restore power after an outages. DTE's focus is clearly on its shareholders rather than the citizens of Michigan. The current problems also demonstrate a lack of accountability that falls squarely on our legislators. Michigan has historically ranked high in electric power interruptions and the length of time it takes to restore power and DTE has been allowed to continue as usual. Additionally, the toll these power interruptions take on the elderly and the vulnerable who must go without heat and the electricity needed for medical devices is unacceptable. As my State Representative I am demanding that you take action. Clearly the Michigan Public Service Commission is not doing an adequate job. The fact that DTE has a monopoly and yet is allowed to make the money it does at the expense of customers speaks volumes. At a minimum, we need transparency, the public has a right to know the cause of the significant increase in the frequency and duration of power outages. Legislation should also be considered mandating investments and standards that DTE must meet. Without reliable power Michigan cannot attract either the businesses or individuals it needs to compete in the 21st century.

[REDACTED]

Royal Oak, Michigan 48073  
(248) 797-0928

Address1: 1801 E Washington Rd

Address2:

City: Ithaca

State: Mi

ZipCode: 48847

Type: Correspondence

Subject: Energy: Consumers energy concerns

Name: Topic

Value: Energy

Name: Channel

Value: Web

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**From:** Rep. Helena Scott (District 7) <HelenaScott@house.mi.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 10:50 AM

**To:** Democratic\_Representatives\_DISTRICTS <Democratic\_Representatives\_DISTRICTS@house.mi.gov>;  
Democratic\_Staff <Democratic\_Staff@house.mi.gov>; Republican\_Staff <Republican\_Staff@house.mi.gov>;  
Republican\_Representatives\_DISTRICTS <Republican\_Representatives\_DISTRICTS@house.mi.gov>

**Subject:** Reminder: DTE, Consumers, MI Public Service Commission Constituent Complaints

Hello Colleagues,

The DTE, Consumers, and the Michigan Public Service Commission public hearing is scheduled in the Energy, Communications, and Technology Committee for **tomorrow, Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-10:30am in HOB Room 519.** This is a reminder that if you have constituent complaint emails that you would like to be included in the hearing, please print them off and deliver them to my office, S 686, **by the end of the day today.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

In Service,



**State Representative Helena Scott**

**Michigan House District 007**

**Chair of Energy, Communications, and Technology Committee**

March 14, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Scott,

Thank you for calling for public hearings regarding Michigan's recent climate change disasters and DTE's even more disastrous response.

I don't think I am being unfair in my criticism of our Investor-owned "public" utility.

After our recent heavy snowstorm and strong winds, I noticed the electrical wire to our next door neighbor's house was almost pulled away from the rooftop and nearly touching the ground. The power was still on, but the line was caught underneath a huge fallen limb that was easily 15 inches in diameter.

I decided to report this incident to DTE's Outage Web page while explaining in the Description box that the line was not broken, power was still on and the house was vacant, and, therefore, not an emergency.

The next day, three outstate utility trucks came rolling down our street and stopped next door. I went out to ask if they were sent to repair the electrical wire to our neighbor's house. They said it was reported, but they were not given a ticket to work on it.

However, they said they were sent by DTE to our neighborhood to scout around for possible outages. I explained that there were none, despite DTE's outage map which showed there was an outage one street over and one block down.

I knew the situation personally because that morning I had walked my dog down the street that DTE reported as out. Porch lights were on, and I ran into a guy who was dragging broken branches to the roadside.

I asked him if they they had lost power. He said, "No." I said, "Well DTE says you did." "News to me," he answered.

Other Midwest states have had to contend with the same impacts of climate change, too, but it is DTE that ranks FIFTH WORST in all the United States for reliability and restoration times

Not maintaining their infrastructure, not updating equipment and not funding an aggressive tree trimming program is one issue, which I hope your committee and the Michigan Public Service Commission will address this year.

But sending crews out on wild goose chases while 200,000 customers are sitting in their cold, dark homes to run around looking for possible outages is quite another thing.

Oh by the way, the next day DTE sent out another three truck crew to the same address fix the wire to a vacant house that had power while tens of thousands still did not.

Can anybody say, "Incompetent management?"

Sincerely,  
Sam Stark

21801 Poinciana  
Southfield Mi 48033  
248-827-4547



From:

To:

"Rep. Regina Weiss (District 6)" <reginaweiss@house.mi.gov>

Subject:

DTE Outage

HTMLTextSource

You don't often get email from sarah.scalici@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi, Regina -

Hope you're doing well.

I wanted to reach out about the DTE outage and see if anything's being done to 1) look into why this keeps happening, 2) how DTE will be held accountable and 3) what's being done to prevent this from happening in the future.

We lost power for 4 days last weekend and again this Friday (and are still without).

I refuse to accept "old systems, bad weather" for the following: DTE made a large profit last year - upgrade and enhance your systems. MI has always had inclement weather, this is nothing new. Are we to brace ourselves every time we have a storm? That's an unbelievable answer.

I work as a consultant in the change management space for Fortune 500 organizations - when a problem of this magnitude occurs, the organization always knows of the problem far in advance and chooses not to act on it. I don't fault DTE workers, I'm sure they're doing everything they can. I do, however, fault upper management - whose priority has been and continues to be the profit of their shareholders.

We're fortunate to be able to replace our entire fridge and freezer worth of food two weeks in a row, but others aren't. And DTE's answer is a \$35 credit....come on. Genuinely, if we could, we would absolutely choose a different carrier outside of DTE.

We bought this house as our starter home and love Royal Oak but we can't/won't buy our next home here or in the surrounding area if this infrastructure continues to be so problematic.

Let me be clear, it's not normal to lose power this often and for this duration of length (nor is it acceptable).

I truly hope you and others will look into the happenings at DTE and hold them accountable/work to find a solution.

Thank you

From:

To:

"Rep. Regina Weiss (District 6)" <reginaweiss@house.mi.gov>

Subject:

URGENT Power loss at 602 W. Webster

TextSource

[You don't often get email from cinirach@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ] Dear Representative Weiss: My name is Rachael and I reside in Royal Oak with my Husband and my infant. I am sure you are beyond tired of these messages and I'm so sorry for that but I'm in need of your help. We are very frustrated with the current power outage and DTEs lack of response. A majority of the Street has power, yet five of us on the street, including us still do not have power since March 3rd. Send our house has gotten down to approximately 50°, and as a mom, with a five month old, we were forced to vacate. I called DTE this morning and was not able to get any additional information aside from what has been provided to us on the website. It seems that they keep postponing when our fix day is going to happen. They have not been able to provide a time which is extremely important as I conduct a lot of business in Royal Oak, and my husband works from home and in the area. We are currently not able to stay in the area because our home is freezing and it's not safe for our child. Aside from the evidence, safety issues of our child, I have a breast milk that is frozen, and I'm afraid of losing the supply. With formula shortage as you can imagine how stressful this is. I'm hoping you can help us get help more quickly than what DTE was able to assist us with because currently, I feel very blown off by them and do not feel heard. Anything you can do to help is appreciated. Thank you again. Rachael Cini Darin, MSM Associate Broker Phil Cini Realty Group C21 Sakmar 248-752-4653

**Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)**

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**From:** Mariah Zeisberg <mzeisberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 1, 2023 12:36 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32); senjirwin@senate.michigan.gov  
**Cc:** gillian.ream@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: Ford Early Learning Center power outage communication request

You don't often get email from mzeisberg@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Rep. Wilson and Sen. Irwin,

I am a parent at Ford Elementary in Ypsilanti, and a member of the PTO.

We have been without power at the school for 7 full days. Every day they notify us at 5am that there will be no school that day.

Can you please call a press conference or publicize this situation? Why hasn't DTE put a generator at the school? Why are we not being prioritized? What is wrong with DTE's project management capabilities? When will we have school again for our preschoolers, kindergartners, and first graders?

Your help would be greatly appreciated. Our community really needs focus and attention.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Mariah Zeisberg, 1220 Sherman St. in Ypsilanti and Ford parent and PTO member

PS Attached is an email I sent to YCS.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Mariah Zeisberg <mzeisberg@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Wed, Mar 1, 2023 at 10:40 AM  
**Subject:** Ford Early Learning Center power outage communication request  
**To:** <communications@ycschools.us>

Dear YCS,

I am a parent at Ford and a member of the PTO.

I request that DTE would provide a comprehensive statement about WHAT happened at Ford with the power; WHY it has taken 7 days with no end in sight to restore power; WHETHER DTE has undertaken a comprehensive overview of the situation; and WHY Ford is still without power when DTE stated that schools would be prioritized.

Every school in Ann Arbor has been back since Monday. Many neighborhoods in Ypsilanti have been functioning since Sunday. In what sense has Ford been "prioritized"?

I request that DTE will give us a sense of expectation so that we know whether there is school before 5am every morning. I understand if crews are working all night, that there may be early morning judgment calls. However, with no school today Wednesday March 1, it makes me think that our latebreaking communication on Sunday night and Tuesday morning cannot be explained by wondering whether crews would make an early-morning deadline. It should have been clear on Sunday that this would take at least 2 days and information should go out to families so that we can plan. Inflicting this level of stress on families and school communities is very disrespectful to us.

Thank you for your help YCS in engaging with this absolutely awful power company. Power on YCS.

Sincerely,

Mariah Zeisberg

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Gillian Ream Gainsley <gillian.ream@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 1, 2023 12:21 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Ford Elementary Power situation

You don't often get email from gillian.ream@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Jimmie,

I hope you and your family are doing well with all the power outages. I wanted to formally reach out to your office to request your assistance with restoring power to Henry Ford Early Learning Center, at 2440 E. Clark Rd in Ypsilanti Township.

While most of our other buildings were restored and able to open on Monday, Ford ELC has been without power since last Wednesday February 22, and we had to cancel school again today, Wednesday March 1. We still have no estimate on when power will be restored.

I understand that crews are working hard, but I would like to ask that schools be prioritized in restoration timelines. Ford serves the most vulnerable children in our district, children in Head Start/GSRP preschool as well as Kindergarten and first graders. Because of the age of these children, their parents must also stay home or find child care which has caused significant hardship for our families.

I am asking for your support in doing whatever you can to work with DTE to prioritize this building, as well as to consider how we could address similar situations in the future, since ice storms like this are a key impact of climate change and the frequency is likely to increase in the coming years.

Even if underground lines are not feasible for residential service, perhaps the state could require the utilities to provide hardened, protected power service for our most critical buildings -- public safety, public works, and schools. As we learned during COVID, in addition to educating our young people schools are also critical social infrastructure, providing a safe, warm place for our youth as well as food, medical, therapy, and mental health services that families and children rely on.

Thank you for your help in this important matter. I appreciate the work you do for our community. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to be of service.

All the best,  
Gillian

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** catdiggs@everyactionadvocacy.com on behalf of Catherine Diggs  
<catdiggs@everyactionadvocacy.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 2, 2023 5:10 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** I Support Holding DTE Accountable for Reimbursing Residents

[You don't often get email from catdiggs@everyactionadvocacy.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Representative Jimmie Wilson,

Each time the power goes out, our community takes a hit. We spend hundreds of dollars replacing spoiled food, and miss days of work or school. For elderly family members and neighbors, who are vulnerable to heat exposure, and for people with medical devices that require electricity, blackouts can be deadly. Nearly a million people in Michigan are without power today, with nighttime temperatures falling well below freezing in the coming days.

Meanwhile, our state's investor-owned monopoly utilities shovel profits to shareholders and evade accountability for the real costs of their failing infrastructure.

In short, hundreds of thousands of families are sitting in the cold without power again because DTE has prioritized shareholder profits over affordable, reliable electricity for customers. What's worse, DTE pours money into campaign donations and lobbying because it's paid off for them. More than 90 percent of state legislators took money from DTE in the 2022 election. They've effectively escaped accountability despite consistent public outrage at their awful service, long blackouts, and rising rates.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Michiganders shouldn't go days on end without power while nothing is done because we haven't mustered the political courage to stand up to an investor-owned utility bully.

That is why I am writing to encourage you to stand firmly in your values & show people whose side you're on. Customers deserve automatic, hourly compensation for hours in the dark – and utilities should not be able to raise rates to cover the costs of compensation if they perform worse than their peers in the industry.

We need reliable, affordable, people-centered energy that meets the needs of all Michiganders. When the power goes out, it's always an inconvenience, but for many it can have huge consequences for their health and finances.

Will you take action to reimburse customers who've been consistently failed by DTE, and take further action to hold DTE accountable for the damage they've caused our communities?

Thank you,

Sincerely,  
Catherine Diggs  
156 S Prospect St Apt 3 Ypsilanti, MI 48198-5636 catdiggs@umich.edu

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** svandam@everyactionadvocacy.com on behalf of Suzanne Van Dam  
<svandam@everyactionadvocacy.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 2, 2023 8:34 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** Hold DTE Energy accountable

[You don't often get email from svandam@everyactionadvocacy.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Representative Jimmie Wilson,

I recently learned that DTE wants to raise rates by \$622 million, the highest rate increase in state history. We already pay the highest rates paired with the worst reliability in the Midwest. We can't afford another rate increase, especially when DTE can't keep the power on as it is.

Over the past 12 months, DTE has tried to raise our rates by \$1 billion. Enough is enough. DTE is asking for more of our money and they aren't being made to improve their service. DTE must do better, and I ask that you hold them accountable.

Sincerely,  
Suzanne Van Dam  
601 Hollis Ave Ypsilanti, MI 48198-3920 svandam@michiganlcv.org

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Joanna & Josh Kovacevich <teamkovacevich@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 4, 2023 4:55 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** DTE Outages

[You don't often get email from teamkovacevich@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

We write this as we sit in our home, without power. Since the ice storm that hit our area on February 22, 2023 - ten days ago - we have had only 2 full days of electricity. Most critically, only 3 nights of heat as overnight temperatures made it difficult to stay warm.

During that time, my husband has continued to work at his hospital job, and I have been home sick with and recovering from Covid-19.

We're writing to implore you to lead us in seeking more reliable electricity sources in Ypsilanti Township. Our energy bills increased in 2022, and now DTE seeks to raise rates even higher. Without any alternatives other than DTE, we feel as if we have no voice and no choice. Without the proper infrastructure to support winter storms such as the ones we've seen in the past ten days, we are certainly doomed to repeat this experience year after year.

While our past experiences with DTE have been primarily positive, this is not the first February that we have gone days without power. We have piles of large branches from a DTE-led tree trimming performed in 2021. And we are enraged by the \$35 rebate offer that undoubtedly was set in order to protect their own profit margins.

DTE does not put customers best-interest first. In addition to paying for our service and the planned rate hikes, we will need to spend hundreds (if not more) out of pocket to purchase, install, and maintain a generator. They are not reliable to supply consistent electricity to the Ypsilanti area, and we ask for your help.

We simply cannot take it anymore.

Joanna



## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Alena Zachery-Ross <azacheryross7@ycschools.us>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 5, 2023 10:58 AM  
**To:** Gillian Ream Gainsley  
**Cc:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** Re: Power outages at Perry and Chapelle

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good morning,

Thank you for making the connection. My cell phone number is 248-252-0347, just in case you need to call me. I know you typically call the office number. Thank you for any support you can provide.

On Sun, Mar 5, 2023 at 8:38 AM Gillian Ream Gainsley <ggainsley@ycschools.us> wrote:

Hi Rep Wilson,

Thanks so much for your offer of support in the school power outages we have been having at YCS. I'm connecting you with Superintendent Alena Zachery Ross who has been working to resolve this issue.

Currently there is no power at Perry Early Learning Center and Chapelle business center (which houses several preschool programs including our EMU/YMCA partnership). Perry is on the south side of Ypsilanti and Chapelle is adjacent to Recreation Park.

Closing school has a huge impact on our most vulnerable families. We would appreciate any help you can provide to get these buildings prioritized for restoration.

Thank you so much! We appreciate your help!

--

Alena E. Zachery-Ross, Ed.D  
Superintendent

**YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
1885 Packard Road | Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Phone: 734.221.1230 | [www.ycschools.us](http://www.ycschools.us)

<https://azacheryross.youcanbook.me/>

*Grizzly Pride ... Feel the Energy!*

YCS is a Systemic Reconfiguration district! "Disrupting the status quo to save the lives of children!"

We use these codes to ensure emails are answered (when necessary) in a timely and professional manner.

**RR= Response Required | NRR = No Response Required | AR = Action Required**

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## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Andrew Christensen (personal) <andrew20190@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 5, 2023 5:06 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** bury the power lines, improve reliability

You don't often get email from andrew20190@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mr Wilson,

I'm writing on behalf of my mom, who lives at 1135 S Congress St, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, and on behalf of her neighbors, many who STILL have no electricity back after the recent winter storms.

It's time to bury the power lines and take steps to improve the reliability of electricity.

It's not reasonable in 2023 that people in SE Michigan are without power for a week or more, during cold weather, when they need their heaters running (even gas heat still requires electricity to circulate air, after all). We're not talking about a remote cabin in the Upper Peninsula: this is an area where there are houses every 50 feet, many of them which are rented to multiple tenants.

It's not good financial sense that people should have to think about getting generators.

Other cities, states, and countries buried their lines decades ago. There is enough money to do this. Buried power lines last 40+ years, so a bond measure or rate increase spread over a decade would make it easy to afford.

A winter storm, during the winter, in Michigan is not an unexpected event, so it's insane when the power utility pretends this couldn't be foreseen, and that there's nothing that could be done. There is something that can be done, other places have done it (burying lines), and the power stays on there. Nobody that lives in dense areas like Ypsilanti should end up without power when the weather means they need it the most.

Burying power lines increases property values, both by improving aesthetics, and ensuring power and internet are reliable enough for people to work from home.

Unreliable power lines, on the other hand, decrease property values, because after a week or more without power, suddenly more people are thinking about leaving their current homes if they can, to move somewhere with better infrastructure.

Wasn't the bipartisan infrastructure deal supposed to include money to improve power infrastructure? Why isn't it being spent on this? Michigan has access to federal funds for this sort of thing, right?

If the utilities genuinely need to raise rates to bury lines and improve reliability, that would be money well spent -- as long as there is good oversight to make sure that's how raised funds are actually used. It's gonna be cheaper than forcing everybody to repair their homes and appliances after power outages, or having lots of people spending thousands of dollars on noisy, polluting, and high-maintenance generators.

Sincerely,

Andrew Christensen  
Tel 703-401-6720

**Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)**

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**From:** Lisa Fein <user@votervoicenet>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 6, 2023 10:54 AM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** DTE Power Outages

A small sample of the 70+ calls + emails for Dist. 32

Dear Representative Wilson,

Dear Senator Irwin and Representative Wilson,

My name is Lisa Fein. I am a constituent of yours.

I am writing to ask what your plan is to hold DTE Energy and other electric utilities accountable for the unacceptable electric service reliability issues plaguing Michigan recently. More specifically, what action are you taking to prevent these issues in the future?

It is clear that market forces alone cannot and will not convince DTE to sufficiently invest in reliability. They will continue to report record profits and return hundreds of millions of dollars to shareholders while Michiganders freeze in their homes or pack into hotel rooms at their own expense. They will return insulting \$35 credits to families who lost hundreds of dollars in groceries. Due to this, a legislative solution is necessary to force DTE to prioritize reliability.

I would encourage you to return any campaign contributions you may have accepted from DTE Energy and throw your support behind the bill being introduced to the Michigan House by Abraham Aiyash to hold utilities accountable for outages.

This bill would force utilities to pay their customers for each hour their power is out, but let me be clear — the motivation for this bill is not these potential payments. We simply want our electricity to work. Unfortunately, DTE has proven that their priorities are not in line with our own.

We need a bill like this to change the value proposition for making investments in reliability. Once this bill is passed, DTE has a simple choice to make. Will they invest in reliability? Or will they make hefty payments to their customers and help them to recoup costs from hotel rooms and groceries associated with power outages? The decision is theirs.

Thank you. I look forward to hearing about the actions you are taking to protect your constituents.

Lisa Fein

Sincerely,

Lisa Fein  
2347 Colony Way  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
lisafein1234@gmail.com

**Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)**

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**From:** Chelsea Davis <davischelseamarie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 7, 2023 11:47 AM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** District 32 Constituent - Energy Outage Actions

You don't often get email from davischelseamarie@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mr.Wilson,

My name is Chelsea Davis and I am in District-32.

I am writing to you today after the recent weather events we have experienced here in Michigan. I'd like to ask what your office's plan is to hold DTE Energy, and the other electric utilities, accountable for their electric service reliability issues? And what actions will your office be taking to prevent these issues in the future?

I'm concerned that DTE continues to report record profits, yet many local families were frozen out of their homes at their own expense. I implore you to seek legislative avenues that will result in DTE and other electric companies to prioritize reliability of their grid. Perhaps helping along or finding ways to participate in meetings on HB 6044 or [HB 6046](#), which have been referred to the Committee on [Energy](#), both were put forth by Abraham Aiyash (whom you know from [HB 4173](#) that you have thrown in your support of). Personally, [HB 6044](#) is my favorite as it highlights not increasing customer rates without receiving committee approval first. This HB intended effect would help to ensure residents in Michigan are not unduly upcharged for grid repair, upkeep, and maintenance on every occurrence of a grid failure due to weather.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from you and your office about any actions you are taking to protect your constituents.

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Best regards

宜しくお願いします

Chelsea Davis

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## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Nancy StoverPontois <Nancy.StoverPontois.zttu3a1m@user.resistbot.email>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 24, 2023 10:25 AM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** DTE ENERGY needs to be held accountable for their constantly failing

[You don't often get email from nancy.stoverpontois.zttu3a1m@user.resistbot.email. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Representative Jimmie Wilson,

DTE ENERGY needs to be held accountable for their constantly failing infrastructure. Lots of other places in the US have storms and extreme weather. DTE constantly has outages at my home, where I have lived for 12 years in Washtenaw county. I receive letters about how infrastructure upgrades are being made and trees are being trimmed yet the power still goes out frequently. My power has been out since Wednesday and the estimated repair time is Sunday night. As you know, grocery prices are very expensive right now and I recently went shopping and paid \$300 on groceries that will likely need to be thrown away. DTE needs to prove that they are upgrading their infrastructure to prevent these multiple outages. Traffic lights are still out across the region. This is unsafe. Being home in freezing temperatures is unsafe. There are possibilities of burst pipes in my home. I saw a car accident at an unlit traffic light in Ypsilanti yesterday. I have seen articles about homes and cars catching on fire due to DTE Energy's negligence and incompetence in promptly handling downed power line. Something needs to be done to hold them accountable. These outages happen all the time and we are fed up. I'm tired of throwing away my groceries after a power outage and rates going up every year. This is unacceptable.

Nancy Stover-Pontois

Constituent from  
8900 Nottingham Dr  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198  
nstover610@yahoo.com  
+15862123987

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Nancy StoverPontois <Nancy.StoverPontois.zttu3a1m@user.resistbot.email>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** My son has not been able to go to school since last Wednesday because DTE has

[You don't often get email from nancy.stoverpontois.zttu3a1m@user.resistbot.email. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Representative Jimmie Wilson,

My son has not been able to go to school since last Wednesday because DTE has not restored power. This is unacceptable. My son receives essential services like speech therapy and needs his routine to be relatively stable. What are you doing to hold DTE Energy accountable for their lack of service to our communities? Please make a public statement. We need public utilities, not rich privately owned ones that rip us off and don't provide adequate service.

Nancy Stover-Pontois

Constituent from  
8900 Nottingham Dr  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198  
nstover610@yahoo.com  
+15862123987

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** David Brown <dave\_m\_brown@toast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 24, 2023 11:52 AM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** Hold DTE Energy Accountable For Winter Storm Outages

You don't often get email from dave\_m\_brown@toast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Jimmie Wilson,

I am David Brown, a Michigan resident. I'm emailing to let you know that I am sick and tired of the lack of action from DTE Energy to provide an affordable, reliable grid. And now they want another more than \$600 million more to do what? The same thing that clearly isn't working!

I am asking you to hold these greedy utilities accountable, and create local solutions that actually work.

A new report found that grid outages cost Michigan residents nearly \$3.5 billion in 2021. An unreliable grid is expensive, and Michiganders like me are ultimately footing the bill. Instead, localized resources like rooftop solar paired with batteries have reduced the frequency and severity of rolling blackouts across the country. That is what we need here in Michigan!

Will you hold DTE and their peers accountable and offer better solutions for Michigan residents like me?

Thank you for standing up for my right to reliable and resilient energy,

Sincerely,  
David Brown  
dave\_m\_brown@toast.net  
210 W. Cross, Apt. 50  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
United States

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Davi Lebow <dlebow@wayne.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2023 5:13 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** Regulation of DTE Energy

You don't often get email from dlebow@wayne.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Representative Wilson,

I am a constituent of yours in Ypsilanti. Today, for the second time within a year, I am without power (and do not know when it will be restored) because DTE has failed to maintain and upgrade its equipment adequately to withstand severe weather.

DTE is a public utility that is enormously profitable. It is unacceptable for DTE to repeatedly fail to bury powerlines and otherwise maintain equipment, enrich itself year after year, and then blame the weather when its equipment fails to withstand Michigan's famously severe weather.

I am writing to urge that DTE be compelled to upgrade its equipment and compensate consumers for outages (rather than simply blame weather DTE should be prepared to handle).

Davi Lebow



**Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)**

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**From:** Ryan Vis <ryan.vis@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2023 10:12 AM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** DTE Accountability

You don't often get email from ryan.vis@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Rep. Wilson,

I am writing as a constituent affected by the recent power outages from the storm on Feb 21-22.

It is unconscionable that a company making hundreds of millions in profits is unable to either prevent widespread, catastrophic damage to their systems nor repair that damage in a timely manner. Some customers will be without power for nearly a week by the time DTE manages to get to them.

As a state-regulated company, I urge you to examine DTE's operations, expenditures, and salaries to find ways to make the company serve the people of Michigan more efficiently and reliably. Until DTE can provide services reliably, the State should allow no increases in rates and hold DTE's highly-paid leadership accountable for failures impacting and threatening the lives of millions of Michiganders.

Sincerely,  
Ryan Vis  
Ypsilanti, MI

**Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)**

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**From:** Thomas <michalsen.thomas@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 25, 2023 8:00 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** Saturday night still in the dark

[You don't often get email from michalsen.thomas@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

It's Saturday night and your constituents are still in the dark. Please investigate DTE about their lack of investment of infrastructure in this area. We cannot raise property values with infrastructure 70 years old.

Do something

Sent from my iPhone

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** smithab96@everyactionadvocacy.com on behalf of Adam Smith <smithab96@everyactionadvocacy.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 24, 2023 6:55 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** I Support Holding DTE Accountable for Reimbursing Residents

[You don't often get email from smithab96@everyactionadvocacy.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Representative Jimmie Wilson,

Each time the power goes out, our community takes a hit. We spend hundreds of dollars replacing spoiled food, and miss days of work or school. For elderly family members and neighbors, who are vulnerable to heat exposure, and for people with medical devices that require electricity, blackouts can be deadly. Nearly a million people in Michigan are without power today, with nighttime temperatures falling well below freezing in the coming days.

Meanwhile, our state's investor-owned monopoly utilities shovel profits to shareholders and evade accountability for the real costs of their failing infrastructure.

In short, hundreds of thousands of families are sitting in the cold without power again because DTE has prioritized shareholder profits over affordable, reliable electricity for customers. What's worse, DTE pours money into campaign donations and lobbying because it's paid off for them. More than 90 percent of state legislators took money from DTE in the 2022 election. They've effectively escaped accountability despite consistent public outrage at their awful service, long blackouts, and rising rates.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Michiganders shouldn't go days on end without power while nothing is done because we haven't mustered the political courage to stand up to an investor-owned utility bully.

That is why I am writing to encourage you to stand firmly in your values & show people whose side you're on. Customers deserve automatic, hourly compensation for hours in the dark – and utilities should not be able to raise rates to cover the costs of compensation if they perform worse than their peers in the industry.

We need reliable, affordable, people-centered energy that meets the needs of all Michiganders. When the power goes out, it's always an inconvenience, but for many it can have huge consequences for their health and finances.

Will you take action to reimburse customers who've been consistently failed by DTE, and take further action to hold DTE accountable for the damage they've caused our communities?

Thank you,

Sincerely,  
Adam Smith  
1081 Nash Ave Ypsilanti, MI 48198-6208  
smithab96@gmail.com

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Caryn Charter <caryn.charter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 8:53 AM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** DTE and response to storm-related power outages

You don't often get email from caryn.charter@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

February 27, 2023

Dear Senator Irwin and Representative Wilson:

I encourage State lawmakers to hold hearings into DTE's response to the February 2023 ice storm. Understanding that this was a horrific storm that reeked havoc on our electrical infrastructure, DTE management failed miserably in its response to address customer needs, especially the need for clear and transparent information. DTE's ongoing failures in recent years calls the broader question, "Is a for-profit company able to put its customers above its shareholders, and if not, how can we possibly protect health and safety the public without greater regulation?"

Early in the response, the Red Cross indicated in a press release about warming centers in Washtenaw County that 77,000 Ann Arbor/Washtenaw County residents were without power. This morning, (while DTE patted itself on its back for restoring power to 600,000 customers) its map indicated that 50,000 Washtenaw County residents remained without power. This outage map (a disastrous communication tool in and of itself) also indicated virtually no outages in Oakland County. Others, primarily in Detroit and Western Wayne, had yet to have power restored. I may be making inaccurate assumption here, but I'm piecing it together from different sources while trying to preserve battery power. This response seems unbalanced, and without clear information from DTE that explains why, unfair.

I would like to see DTE improve its outage map to clearly show how many customers are without power. I would like DTE to provide regular updates **at a municipal level** that includes a summary of the damage, the number of linemen working in those areas, and any anticipated challenges that might cause further delays beyond their estimated restoration date. I would like to know how much of this damage was due to DTE's lack of maintenance and how will that be addressed. I would like to know how restoration work is prioritized and how DTE ensures those with the fewest resources and greatest need, like our home-bound seniors, are cared for. These are just a few questions I have for DTE, I'm sure the 50,000 people still without power this morning [2/27/2023] in Washtenaw County have many more.

DTE's President and CEO has a base salary of around \$1.2 million annually. DTE reported about \$1.3 billion in profits last year, an average of \$1,083 per customer. It's not just the response to this one really bad storm, but a string of failures over recent years. I'd encourage lawmakers to

seek answers, and possibly consider new legislation as it seem that the Michigan Public Service Commission doesn't have the teeth to hold DTE accountable to the public.

Sincerely,

Caryn Charter  
510 Holmes Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

**Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)**

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**From:** housedems.com <michiganhousewebdev@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 3:44 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** housedems.com "DTE electric rate increase"

From: ArthurRosen <Dedge1@aol.com>

First Name: Arthur

First Name: Rosen

Address: 3307 Primrose Ln

City: Ypsilanti

ZIP Code: 48197

Phone:

Email: Dedge1@aol.com

Subject: DTE electric rate increase

Message Body:

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I just received notice from DTE of their intention to raise my electric rates by near 50% this summer! They dishonestly claim it will save me money by not using electricity during "peak hours," which guess what is during the hot time of the day in the summer. Asking us not to use our air conditioners is like telling us we shouldn't use our cars! They claim this increase is due to added load caused by EVs amongst other issues. I don't own an EV and don't think I should pay (I'm already paying for the roads more than the EV owners). Further, I believe it is DTE's move toward renewable energy and away from carbon fuels that is causing their difficulties handling the summer loads.

What options do we, as citizens, have in this matter. What happened to the commission overseeing rates, or are they ultimately responsible?

If so I'd ask you to see to it the members do not get your vote when their terms come up.

Best Regards,  
Arthur G. Rosen

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on housedems.com

(<https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhousedems.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7CJimmieWilson%40house.mi.gov%7Caca1ac3a39814df55d9008dafa4bb7a3%7C2d22da34df4044e581670c9860b4a3a9%7C1%7C0%7C638101898420677870%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwILCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3R%2BKfXIBenmvEA2iX8vqqzTG85LhoWIF6JDwBuCLSYU%3D&reserved=0>)

## Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)

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**From:** Crystal R. Forbes <crystalr.forbes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2023 3:11 PM  
**To:** senjirwin@senate.michigan.gov; Rep. Jimmie Wilson Jr. (District 32)  
**Subject:** DTE Trimming and Power Outage

You don't often get email from crystalr.forbes@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Senator Irwin and Representative Wilson,

I'm sure your offices are flooded with concerns regarding the power outages affecting Ypsilanti Township and other surrounding areas.

I am writing to you specifically concerning DTE's efforts (or lack thereof) regarding preventative maintenance trimming.

This summer DTE conducted extensive tree trimming in my neighborhood, my property was fortunate enough to have several trees removed that were located very close to a high voltage DTE line. We are thankful for their efforts at removing these old trees. I am certain they would have fallen in the most recent ice storm.

Nonetheless, we were surprised at the limited parameters DTE used when identifying trees/growth posing risks to their lines. The approach used by the DTE tree trimming teams appeared to be "remove as little as possible". We certainly would have been happier for them to remove all tree growth above or near their lines for the safety of the grid, but that did not appear to be the case.

This minimal tree trimming approach does present a hazard when we have the combination of ice and high winds experienced this week. Tree branches are remarkably flexible when covered with large amounts of ice and in our own yard and in other areas in our immediate neighborhood we have witnessed numerous instances of white pine branches breaking loose after being heavily coated with ice.

In the interests of maximizing the effectiveness of all preventative tree maintenance, would it be possible for the state to partner with DTE and Consumers Energy to ensure that when tree trimming is conducted efforts are made to truly ensure the widest possible "path of safety" for all electric lines are created.

In our instance, DTE did a remarkable job removing several old (and near the end of their lifespan) pines closest to their high voltage line on our property. However, we were disappointed that more efforts were not made to trim or remove the other pines posing a risk to the remainder of their lines on our property. We asked the tree trimming folks about this when they were here this summer and their answer amounted to "Well, DTE only wants us to remove limbs impacting high voltage lines so we don't care about those trees" (never mind these trees were in the same immediate area/line of sight as the other trees removed).

It just feels like an instance where a little more aggressive action taken last summer might have lessened the impact of the storms this past week.

Although we survived the initial storm with our power intact, our street (Bagley Avenue, Ypsi Township) lost power on Saturday night and as of today (3 pm on Monday) we are still without power. Despite the numerous branches lost from the white pine, DTE did not feel inclined to trim this summer, the low voltage lines across the back of our property appear to be intact.

In the meantime, our neighborhood and the low income apartment complex at 940 Holmes Road continue to be without power.

I realize power outages are an inconvenience to everyone and this is a massive disruption to the work, school and general livelihoods of many in our area this week.

However, it is frustrating to think that a bit more preventative maintenance on behalf of the utility companies could have reduced the scope and duration of this outage.

I hope that you will work with your colleagues in the Michigan Legislature to hold DTE and Consumers liable for their duty to provide reliable and consistent electricity to all Michiganders in every time of weather condition.

I look forward to learning your ideas to address these types of situations going forward.

Sincerely,  
Crystal Forbes  
734-276-2760

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Crystal R. Forbes

734-276-2760  
[CrystalR.Forbes@gmail.com](mailto:CrystalR.Forbes@gmail.com)



- I keep wondering if those unfilled jobs and limited overtime and postponed maintenance had something to do with the long wait on power restoration times after our recent storms.

Michigan residents and small business owners are understandably frustrated and angry. We are here today to get to the bottom of why these outages keep happening. We are holding this hearing to take a close look at the utility companies and anyone who should be held accountable for the long wait on restoration times for Michigan consumers. So, we have asked officials from the energy utility companies and ~~Don Scripps~~, chair of the Michigan Public Service Commission, to attend today for this public hearing. With the increase in severity and frequency of storms and severe weather, it is imperative that we find ways to safeguard our communities and strengthen our electrical grid. We cannot and will not simply accept that this is our new normal. The power grid and associated infrastructure must be reinforced, updated and improved so that Michigan residents are safe and warm and receive the services they pay for. With that background on the table for us all, let's continue with the hearing and testimonies.

#### Sources (for Policy reference):

- DTE Energy cut operations to meet profits months before power outages | Bridge Michigan
- DTE seeks to raise electrical rates, this time by \$622 million

Seniors  
- Veterans  
- Breast Feeding moms

Michigan Residents  
the 11th highest rates  
for electricity in the US

pay the 11th highest rates for electricity

**From:** [Christopher Harris \(charris1460@hotmail.com\)](mailto:charris1460@hotmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message  
**To:** [Rep. Rachelle Smit \(District 43\)](#)  
**Subject:** Hold Michigan's Energy Utilities Accountable For Power Outages  
**Date:** Thursday, March 2, 2023 1:16:19 PM

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Dear Rep. Rachelle Smit,

I am writing to voice my concern over our utilities failure to deliver on their responsibility to provide reliable and affordable energy to their customers, specifically DTE. Over the last week, an ice storm knocked out power to over 600,000 DTE and over 200,000 Consumers Energy ratepayers in Michigan. Almost a week later, tens of thousands are still without power. This is unacceptable and we as ratepayers deserve answers and action.

For far too long, Michigan's utility companies have been charging astronomical rates while providing some of the most unreliable service in the nation with no repercussions or action from the Michigan legislature. It's left our communities without power or stuck struggling to pay the bills. It has created dangerous public health conditions where people are without power for more than three days in the cold and are not able to use the medicine and medical machines they need to survive. People have lost their groceries, and our children have not been able to go to school.

Meanwhile, DTE has filed for a record-breaking rate increase that could increase electric bills by almost 14%, threatening to make electric bills even more unaffordable.

That's why I am asking you to hold or request hearings in the legislature's energy committees as soon as possible to hold both DTE and Consumers accountable for the massive power outages throughout their service territories. At these hearings it is critical that lawmakers not only hear from the utilities, but hear from outside experts, advocacy groups, and impacted community members as well.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christopher Harris  
11795 Marsh Rd  
Shelbyville, MI 49344  
[charris1460@hotmail.com](mailto:charris1460@hotmail.com)  
(231) 580-9579

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [core.help@sierraclub.org](mailto:core.help@sierraclub.org) or (415) 977-5500.

## Rep. Abraham Aiyash (District 9)

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**From:** Andree Tarrant <andree928at@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 6:55 PM  
**To:** Rep. Abraham Aiyash (District 9)  
**Subject:** Power outage since Thursday, February 23rd ongoing

You don't often get email from andree928at@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good evening. This is my 6th evening freezing in my home with no light or heat. I am a 69 year old retired veteran who has not been able to use my CPAP oxygen machine since last Thursday. I am suffering as is my neighbor next door and disabled neighbors across the street from me. We have watched numerous DTE vehicles drive down our street and park and do nothing like they're at a drive-in movie. I have made 4 calls reporting this outage. The updates I sporadically receive keep changing the date when power will be restored. However, Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods, a few blocks away, either never lost power or it was restored 3 nights ago. The children that attend our neighborhood elementary school (Carleton) can't eat warm meals or sleep properly in the freezing cold. How will they concentrate in school? Obviously our Black and Brown lives don't matter. I and my neighbors have lost hundreds of dollars worth of food. I am cold and in the dark right now. Please help us get heat and light today Representative Aiyash. Thank you, A. Tarrant

Representative Outman Constituent Complaint – Consumers Energy

Mr. Gerald Eastman - 1206 S. Sheridan Rd, Stanton, Michigan 48888. (989) 294-3364.

In October of 2022, Gerald's usage was 579 KW. It went up to 1,016 in November, 1449 in December, and 2004 in January (costing over \$600), and his most recent bill is \$370. He lives in a single wide mobile home with two bedrooms and relatively fixed usage. Gerald has not received any explanation as to what is causing the increase, and he's certain his usage is not increasing at the rate he's being billed for. Typically, he pays ~\$200 a month for service (give or take ~\$25). He would like to know how and why this is happening, who's making these decisions, and how he can be expected to sustain a doubling or tripling of his bill.

He also had issues surrounding his appliance protection plan. He was told he was going to be able to replace a furnace through Consumers' "gold plan", but he was never given access to the gold plan and ended up fronting the bill for a new furnace which cost him several thousand dollars.

Gerald would really appreciate some assistance in understanding the issues with his service, and he's concerned about his ability to maintain his residency if costs continue at these levels.