

# MI Summer 2021

Storms, outages, and reliability work

Dan Scripps, Chair Michigan Public Service Commission October 13, 2021 House Energy Committee



# Summer of 2021: Significant Infrastructure Challenges

June 21 – Sept. 22

- 33 reportable outage events between
- Each of Michigan's IOUs experienced at least 1 reportable event
- Average of 4.6 days between storms in DTE service Territory
- 2,484,701 outages reported to the MPSC
- Significant flooding in SE Michigan exacerbated the challenges



### Service Reliability: A Front of Mind Concern

2014

#### 2014 Actions

- Changes in tree trimming specifications
- Establishment of Outside the Right of Way programs

2018

#### 2018 Actions

- DTE Enhanced Tree Trim Program, addressing backlog and putting company on a 5-year trimming cycle
- Consumers Energy ramping up trimming to a 7-year cycle (from a 16-year cycle)
- Commission directed Consumers, DTE, and I&M to file 5-year distribution plans

2019-2021

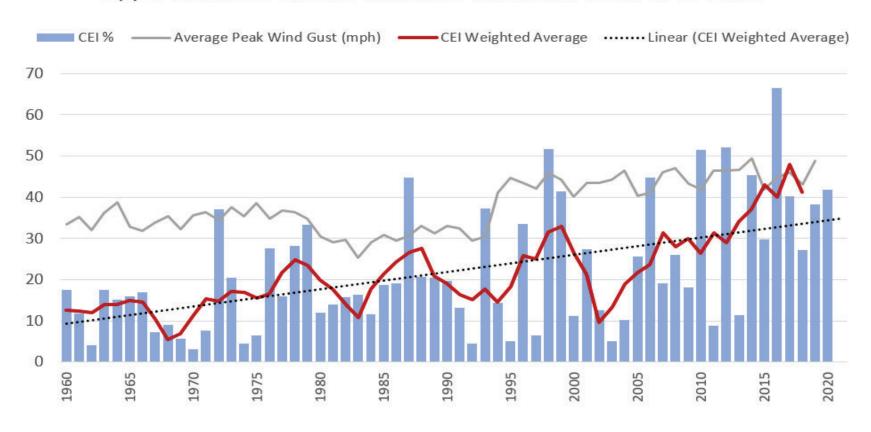
#### 2019-2021 Actions: The Statewide Energy Assessment and MI Power Grid

- Recommended changes to the Commission's Service Quality and Reliability Rules; Rulemaking process currently underway
- Recommended changes to the Commission's Technical Standards for Electric Service; Rulemaking process currently underway
- Required Consumers and DTE to include distribution outage metrics in their updated distribution plans; plans were filed over the summer



# **Challenging Pattern**

#### Upper Midwest Climate Extremes Index and Wind 1960-2020



Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reports

Note: Wind data gathered from several locations near Detroit (Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports) at various methods of measurement since 1960 including fastest 1 minute, peak wind, maximum 5 second and maximum 3 second



## **Measuring Results**

#### The Storms

Statewide, high winds, flooding, tornadoes

#### **Impacts**

- Damage to trees, utility poles and equipment
- Almost 1 Million Customers lost service

#### **Restoration Challenges**

- Limited mutual assistance crews available
- Inclement weather
- High heat and humidity
- Outstanding customer outages from the previous storm







#### August 10-12, 2021 Storm Series

Utility	Affected
DTE	500,000
CE	372,000
Great Lakes Energy	72,000
I&M	20,000
Cherryland	14,560
Presque Isle	8,172
Cloverland	3,140
Midwest	3,100
Homeworks Tri-County	2,956
Total Outages Reported	996,428



# The Commission's Response



The Commission's focus is on the issues of reliability, resilience, and readiness for these extreme [weather] events. Ratepayers have a right to expect the utilities to anticipate extreme weather events, to provide a hardened grid that can withstand extreme weather, and to be prepared to restore power expediently when the grid fails; and the Commission is committed to implementing improvements in these areas.

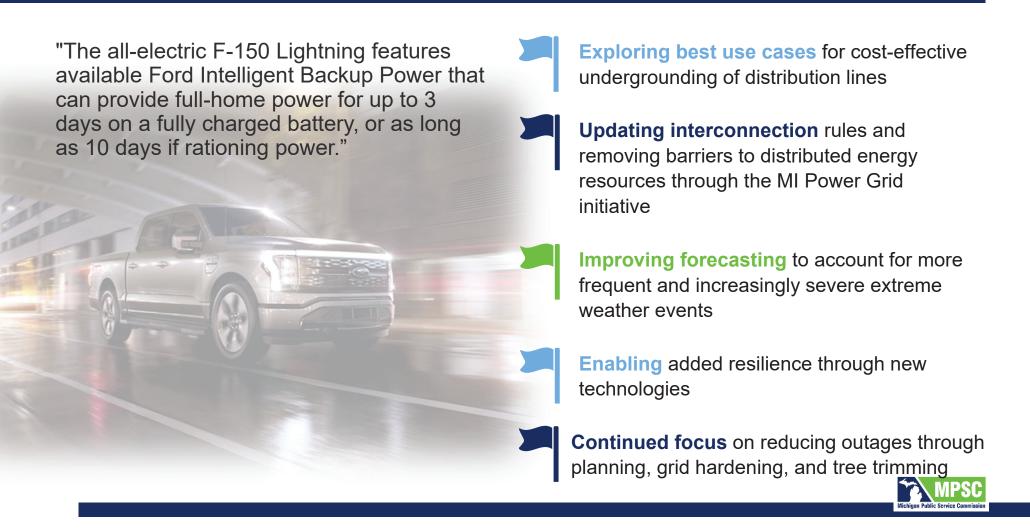
Aug. 25 Order in MPSC Case No. U-21122, page 3

#### **The Commission Order**

- Directed the utilities to file reports containing information on a number of areas of interest
- Invited comment from interested stakeholders on utility distribution plans and current investment and upgrade planning processes
- Announced a technical conference on Emergency Preparedness, Distribution Reliability, and Storm Response will be held October 22 and November 5



#### Where We Go From Here



# Building Resilience Together

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# MPSC Technical Conference on Emergency Preparedness, Distribution Reliability, and Storm Response

October 22

November 5

Additional information available at Michigan.gov/MPSC

