

9-B

RESOLUTION TO MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
REGARDING DTE ENERGY SMART METERS

APPROVED FOR
AGENDA OF
4-10-12

WHEREAS, DTE Energy ("DTE") has begun a comprehensive program for the installation of new meters to customers in the Metro Detroit area, and are expected to eventually replace existing meters within the City of Dearborn Heights with Smart Meters, which are computerized electronic devices allowing for remote reading by DTE via radio frequencies and two-way communication between DTE and the smart meters; and,

WHEREAS, The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) has jurisdiction in this matter and is currently undertaking a review process of Smart Meter Technology; and,

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2012 the MPSC announced that it was launching an investigation into smart meters (case # U-17000), and gave deadlines of March 16th for electric utilities to submit information and April 16th for comments from the general public; and,

WHEREAS, the FCC has not revised their current standards that pertain to radio frequencies and Smart Meter Technology in the last 30 years; and,

WHEREAS, public utilities have indicated that Smart Meters provide a benefit to themselves by providing improved energy efficiency and emergency response time thus eliminating the need for on-site personnel and equipment to read each consumer meter; and,

WHEREAS, a number of Dearborn Heights residents and residents from neighboring communities have expressed concerns regarding Smart Meter Technology in the areas of health, safety, and privacy; and,

WHEREAS, DTE Energy has offered an opt-out provision for its customers in its response to the MPSC review; and,

WHEREAS, the Dearborn Heights City Council believes it is appropriate to assist its concerned residents in obtaining consideration of their issues by requesting a careful and thorough review and analysis of the health, safety, and privacy issues thereof by the MPSC; and,

WHEREAS, the Dearborn Heights City Council encourages the MPSC to review the opt-out provision provided by DTE Energy and allow individual customers to decline smart meter installation in their homes without penalties or additional fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Dearborn Heights supports the MPSC's investigation into DTE Energy's deployment of smart meters relative to the expressed public concerns over the potential health, safety, and privacy issues with smart meters and urges the MPSC to include an open public forum for discussion of these issues within the commission's review process on this matter; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dearborn Heights City Council imposes a moratorium on smart meter installation within the city limits until further notice; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is directed to post this resolution in a prominent location on the City's website, and to deliver a copy of this resolution to Governor Rick Snyder, State Senator Tupac Hunter, State Representatives Bob Constan and Phil Cavanagh, DTE Energy regulatory affairs, SEMCOG, and Michigan Municipal League.

1674