



City of Detroit Detroit City Council

FROM THE DESK OF
Mary Waters, Member At-Large
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1340 Detroit, MI 48226

WHEREAS, access to affordable and reliable energy service is now a fundamental human right, necessary for people of all ages to be able to survive and thrive; and

WHEREAS, Michigan and Detroit experience power outages at nearly two times the rate of comparable Midwestern states, with the average citizen without power for nearly 15 hours on average in 2021¹; and

WHEREAS, DTE Energy time and again requests the Michigan Public Service Commission approve substantial rate increases despite consistently failing to produce any improvement in service quality and reliability; and

WHEREAS, recently, DTE Energy has requested the Michigan Public Service Commission approve a \$456 million increase in the rates paid by consumers, costing the average resident an additional \$11 per month on their energy bill; and

WHEREAS, DTE Energy, a publicly-traded company, reported profits of roughly \$6.5 billion in 2023, with profits increasing at an average rate of 6% over the past two years²; and

WHEREAS, DTE Energy has done nothing to share its profits with consumers and continues to place the needs of wealthy Wall Street investors above the needs of small businesses and residents; therefore

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Detroit City Council requests that the Michigan Public Service Commission deny the current proposed rate hike for DTE consumers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Michigan Legislature and Michigan Public Service Commission refrain from supporting or granting any rate increase request to DTE Energy until there is a comprehensive affordability plan in place that controls rates while ensuring that no resident or business is ever shut off from accessing the energy they need to live; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Michigan Legislature and Michigan Public Service Commission investigate mandates that would require public utilities such as DTE Energy to share profits with customers and not just investors through mandatory rate decreases.

¹ <https://www.axios.com/local/detroit/2023/09/05/michigan-power-outage-rates-double-the-national-average>

² <https://www.macrotrends.net/stocks/charts/DTE/dte-energy/gross-profit>

