

I&M Exhibit: _____

INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY

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**INDIANA UTILITY
REGULATORY COMMISSION**

PRE-FILED VERIFIED DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

DANIEL M. WHITE

Cause No. 45933

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DANIEL M. WHITE
ON BEHALF OF
INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY**

I. Introduction of Witness

1 **Q1. Please state your name and business address.**

2 My name is Daniel M. White, and my business address is 1 Riverside Plaza
3 Columbus, OH 43215.

4 **Q2. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

5 I am employed by American Electric Power Service Corporation (AEPSC) as the
6 Managing Director of Economics and Supply Forecasting. AEPSC supplies
7 engineering, accounting, planning, advisory, and other services to the
8 subsidiaries of the American Electric Power (AEP) system, one of which is
9 Indiana Michigan Power Company (I&M or the Company).

10 **Q3. Briefly describe your educational background and professional
11 experience.**

12 I received a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in both Finance and
13 International Business from New Mexico State University in 2006. In 2008 I
14 received a Master of Arts Degree in Economics, also from New Mexico State
15 University.

16 I have worked as an economist since 2008 when I served as a financial
17 economist for the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee. In that role I
18 forecasted revenues and advised policymakers on a wide range of public policy
19 issues concentrated around economic development, public investment, and debt
20 management.

1 In 2010 I joined Moody's Analytics as an economic forecaster and ultimately
2 served in a variety of roles including Director of Public Sector Research, Director
3 of Economic Consulting, and Senior Director of Economic Research.

4 In March of 2023 I joined AEPSC as Managing Director of Economics and
5 Supply Forecasting.

6 Additionally, since 2016 I have taught classes as a member of the economics
7 faculty at Villanova University.

8 **Q4. What are your responsibilities as Managing Director of Economics and**
9 **Supply Forecasting?**

10 I serve as the company's Chief Economist and manage teams responsible for
11 our economic, load, and supply cost forecasting. Those forecasts are provided
12 to each of the AEP operating companies, including I&M.

13 **Q5. Have you previously testified before any regulatory commissions?**

14 I have testified in front of numerous legislative and other governmental bodies
15 around economic and revenue forecasting, but not in front of a regulatory
16 commission.

17 **II. Purpose of Testimony**

18 **Q6. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

19 The purpose of my testimony is to present the kilowatt-hour (kWh or energy),
20 customer, and kilowatt (kW or peak) forecasts used by the Company to develop
21 its test year billing determinants. I also discuss the processes and methodology
22 employed to forecast the Test Year, which is the 12-month period ending
December 2024.

1 **Q7. How is your testimony organized?**

2 My direct testimony is organized into three major sections. First, I share the Test
3 Year load forecast results, showing the comparison to the recent historical
4 actual results. Then I describe the methodology used to develop the Test Year
5 load forecast. Finally, I provide an explanation of some of the key assumptions
6 and drivers of the forecast that are influencing the Test Year load forecast
7 results.

8 **Q8. Are you sponsoring any attachments?**

9 Yes, I am sponsoring the following attachments:

- 10 • Attachment DW-1, which contains the summarized load forecast results
11 (kWh, kW, customers) used in the Test Year. All of the input data, model
12 equations, and statistical results for the various forecast models used to
13 develop the Test Year load forecast are provided in the workpapers
14 described below.

15 **Q9. Are you sponsoring any workpapers?**

16 Yes, I am sponsoring the following workpapers:

- 17 • Confidential WP-DW-1: Long-Term Price Forecast, Large Industrial and
18 Wholesale Energy Models and Input Data
- 19 • WP-DW-2: Model Equations, Results of Statistical Tests and Input Data
20 Sets Pertaining to the 2022 Vintage Load Forecast, Residential and
21 Commercial SAE Model documentation

1 **Q10. Were the attachment and workpapers that you sponsor prepared or**
2 **assembled by you or under your direction?**

3 The attachment and workpapers I sponsor were prepared and assembled
4 before I joined AEPSC by teams that I now supervise. However, I have since
5 reviewed and approved these documents.

6 **Q11. Please summarize your testimony.**

7 The Test Year forecast is a reasonable projection of I&M's customer count,
8 sales, and peak load. I&M's load forecast methodology, which is unchanged
9 from the prior rate case, is proven to produce reliable projections that are useful
10 for planning and setting rates. The forecast techniques utilized by the Company
11 are widely accepted across the electric utility industry and utilize data inputs
12 from recognized third-party sources.

13 This methodology produced an Indiana retail jurisdictional forecast that is 88
14 GWh higher than the normalized actuals in 2022. This includes an increase in
15 Industrial class sales that is partially offset by lower Commercial and Residential
16 class sales. The Test Year forecast reflects an economy dealing with a tight
17 labor market as well as persistent inflation, and a shift from expansionary to
18 contractionary monetary policy. Inflation (as measured by year over year growth
19 in the Consumer Price Index: Urban Consumer – All Items) reached a high of
20 8.9% in June 2022. The pace of inflation has slowed since the Federal Reserve
21 began its aggressive monetary tightening policy. However, higher costs and
22 wages have become more entrenched in overall consumer prices which will
23 cause inflation to continue at levels above the Federal Reserve's target into at
24 least 2024.

III. Test Year Forecast Results

1 **Q12. What are the Test Year load, customer, and peak demand projections?**

2 Attachment DW-1 contains the monthly summary of the load forecast that was
3 used to develop the Test Year billing determinants. For the Indiana retail
4 jurisdiction of I&M in 2024, we are projecting 14,925 GWh with an average
5 customer count of 479,899 and an annual peak demand of 2,889 MW.

6 For the total I&M system, including the retail jurisdictions in Indiana and
7 Michigan as well as the wholesale class, the total Test Year energy is 20,706
8 GWh with an average customer count of 611,486 and an annual peak demand
9 of 3,981 MW.

10 **Q13. Do the Test Year load, customer, and peak demand projections contain**
11 **any proforma adjustments?**

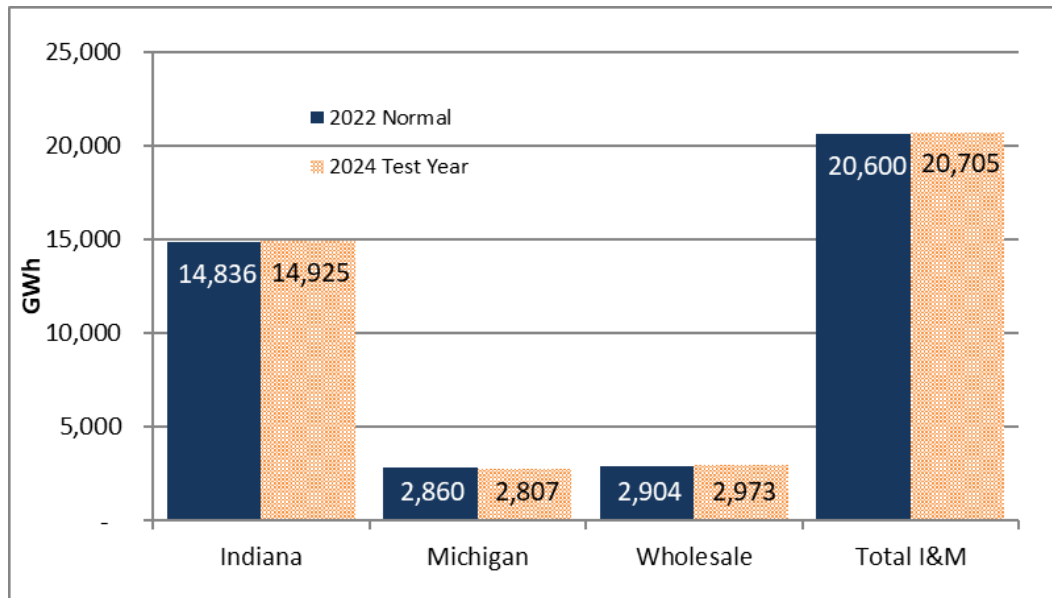
12 No, the Test Year forecast does not contain any proforma adjustments.
13 However, after the Test Year forecast was completed, there was a
14 reclassification of load related to the transfer of a customer from wholesale
15 service to Indiana retail service. Company witness Seger-Lawson discusses this
16 transfer of service in more detail while Company witnesses Fischer and Duncan
17 discuss how the load reclassification from wholesale load to IN Retail load was
18 treated in this case.

19 **Q14. How do the forecasted energy sales for the Test Year compare to actuals**
20 **in 2022 by jurisdiction?**

21 *Figure DW-1* shows I&M's kWh sales forecast comparison over the projected
22 period for each jurisdiction. In summary, the total Test Year kWh are
23 approximately 105 GWh above the weather normalized 2022 actual sales.

1 The increase in the Test Year sales is coming from the 88 GWh increase in
 2 Indiana retail sales. This gain is offset by a 53 GWh decrease in Michigan retail
 3 sales and a 69 GWh increase in the Wholesale class load.

**Figure DW-1. Comparison of 2022 Weather Normalized Actuals to Forecasted Test Year
 (GWh by Jurisdiction)**

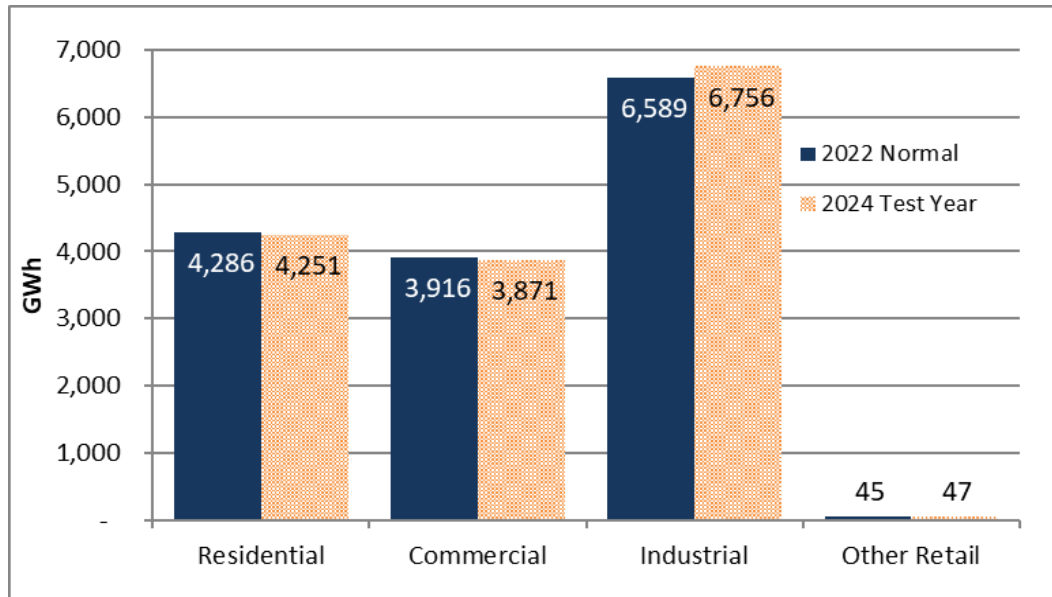


4 **Q15. How do the forecasted energy sales for the Test Year compare to actuals**
 5 **in 2022 by class for the Indiana jurisdiction?**

6 In total, the forecasted Test Year sales are up 88 GWh compared to the
 7 normalized actuals in 2022. *Figure DW-2* shows the forecast comparison for the
 8 Indiana retail jurisdiction by class. The increase in Industrial class sales (167
 9 GWh) is being partially offset by lower Commercial and Residential class sales
 10 (down approximately 45 GWh and 35 GWh, respectively) compared to the 2022
 11 weather normalized actuals.

12

**Figure DW-2. Comparison of 2022 Weather Normalized Actuals to Forecasted Test Year
(GWh by class, Indiana)**



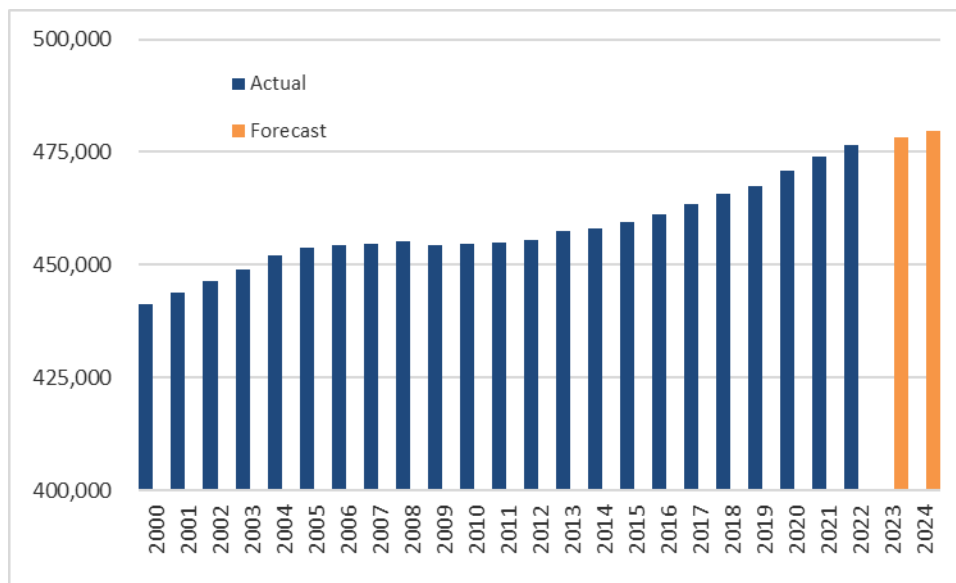
1 **Q16. Please summarize I&M’s customer forecast for the Indiana jurisdiction.**

2 Overall, the customer count for the Indiana jurisdiction was forecasted to grow at
3 a pace less than that of the previous two years. This is in line with the rate of

1 growth experienced prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and consistent with the
 2 demographic and economic projections that are discussed in Section IV below.

3 *Figure DW-3* shows how the forecasted customer count aligns with the historical
 4 data series for I&M's Indiana jurisdiction.

Figure DW-3. I&M Indiana Retail Customer Count Forecast



5 Compared to the 2022 actuals, I&M's forecasted customer count for 2024 is
 6 approximately 3,056 higher than the average customer count in 2022. As a
 7 result of the moratorium on disconnects that was implemented in 2020,
 8 customer counts were temporarily inflated as the Company suspended its
 9 normal operating procedures for counting customers as directed by the IURC.
 10 Since the moratorium was lifted, customer count growth has slowed. The Test
 11 Year forecast in this case reflects a continuation of that trend.

12 **Q17. Please summarize I&M's peak forecast.**

13 I&M's Total Company forecasted peak demand for the Test Year is 3,981 MW in
 14 July of 2024. By comparison, I&M's actual peak demand in 2022 was 3,850 MW

1 on June 21, 2022. The weather normalized peak estimate for 2022 was 3,978
2 MW.

3 A weather normalized peak represents what the peak value would have been if
4 the temperature on the peak day had been normal for a peak day. The normal
5 temperature for any given day is determined by a rolling 30-year average as I
6 will discuss below. In 2022, temperatures were cooler than normal for the peak
7 day, so the actual peak came in lower than it would have been under normal
8 peak day conditions.

9 **Q18. How is the Test Year load forecast you sponsor used in this Case?**

10 Company witness Fischer uses the Test Year load forecast to develop the
11 forecasted billing determinants used in rate design. In addition, Company
12 witnesses Duncan and Small use the load forecast in the jurisdictional and the
13 class cost study allocations, respectively.

IV. Load Forecast Methodology

14 **Q19. How often does I&M prepare a load forecast?**

15 I&M generates a new load forecast once a year as part of its normal planning
16 process. The load forecast is one of the first inputs used in the development of
17 I&M's long-term financial forecast. Typically, the load forecast is completed in
18 the summer months while the rest of I&M's work plans are still being developed.

19 **Q20. Is the load forecast monitored or updated during the year?**

20 Yes. Since the load forecast is completed early in the planning process, we
21 monitor its performance during the last half of the year to ensure accuracy is
22 maintained. Updates to the load forecast may occur during this time period,

1 depending on the degree of the differences between the load forecast and the
2 actual results.

3 **Q21. When was the load forecast used in this proceeding prepared?**

4 The load forecast used in this proceeding was originally completed in May 2022
5 using actual data through December 2021. However, as part of our normal
6 monitoring process, we noticed some slight forecast variance trends developing
7 over the first seven months of 2022. The most impactful trend was within the
8 Industrial sector which was experiencing a slower near-term economic recovery
9 than was previously assumed. Smaller upward revisions were made to both the
10 Residential and Commercial classes. We alerted I&M's management team of
11 the trend and recommended an overall downward adjustment to the load
12 forecast. The load forecast presented as the Test Year in this proceeding is the
13 May 2022 forecast that includes the update that was made in August 2022. The
14 load forecast presented as the Test Year in this proceeding is the same vintage
15 that is being used for I&M's 2023 Control Budget.

16 **Q22. Why are forecasts of customers, energy (kWh), and hourly demand (kW)
17 prepared?**

18 Forecasts of customers, energy sales (kWh), and demand (kW) are prepared to
19 provide planning information for a variety of business uses. These uses include
20 financial, fuel, capacity, and rate planning.

21 **Q23. What are the major objectives considered when determining how the
22 Company will prepare its load forecast?**

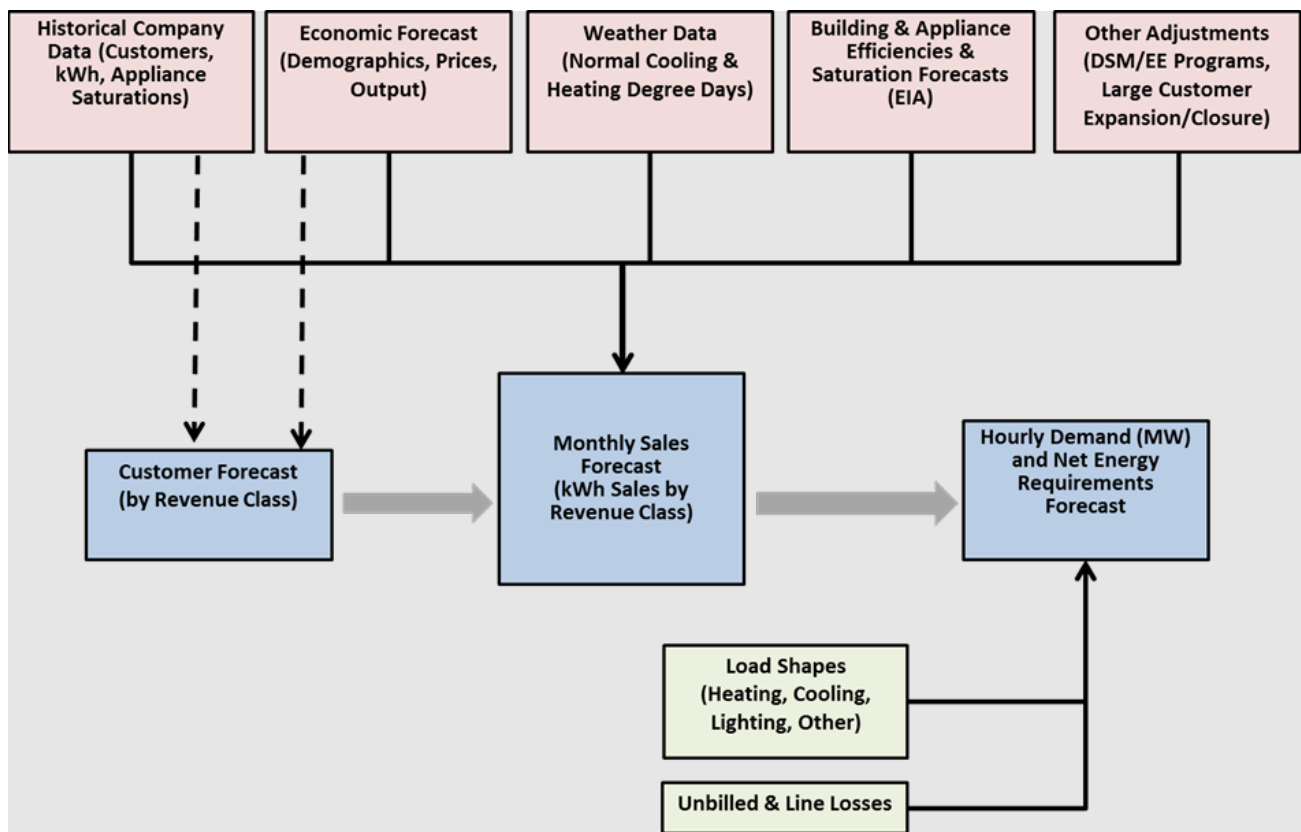
23 The primary objective when determining how to model the Company's load
24 forecast is to utilize models that will accurately predict future electricity
25 consumption. There are many different modeling techniques available, and the
26 Company employs a balanced approach to modeling. In other words, we select

1 models that are sophisticated enough to be able to produce accurate and
2 reliable results, yet simple enough that they can be readily shared with and
3 understood by management, regulators, interveners, and other stakeholders.

4 **Q24. How are the kWh energy, customer, and kW demand forecasts prepared?**

5 I&M uses a methodical approach to forecasting load. *Figure DW-4* illustrates the
6 various inputs and processes involved in the development of the load forecast.
7 The final forecast is the culmination of a series of underlying forecasts that build
8 on each other (i.e., customer forecast feeds the sales forecast which goes into
9 the demand forecast).

Figure DW-4. Inputs and Processes Used in I&M’s Load Forecast



1 **Q25. What methods does I&M use to develop the load forecast?**

2 Two distinct methods were used for forecasting customers and kWh for the
3 short-term (0 to 24 months following the last actual data point utilized) and the
4 long-term (0 to 30 years following the last actual data point utilized).

5 The last actual data point utilized in the 2022 vintage forecast presented in this
6 proceeding was July 2022. Because the 2024 Test Year falls outside the short-
7 term forecast period, the Test Year forecast uses data from the long-term
8 process, and thus I will focus most of my description on the long-term forecast
9 methodology. Nonetheless, the short-term forecast was used as a reference to
10 confirm the reasonableness of the long-term forecast.

11 To forecast long-term kWh sales, I&M used Itron's Statistically Adjusted End-
12 use (SAE) models for forecasting Residential and Commercial kWh. SAE
13 models are widely used across the industry for long-term planning.

14 SAE models are econometric models with features of end-use models included
15 to specifically account for energy efficiency impacts, such as those included in
16 the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of
17 2007, etc. SAE models start with the construction of structured end-use
18 variables that capture underlying trends in end-use equipment saturation levels
19 and efficiencies. Factors are also included to account for changes in energy
20 prices, household size, home size, income, and weather conditions.

21 The long-term process for forecasting Industrial and Other Retail kWh sales
22 starts with an economic forecast provided by Moody's Analytics for the United
23 States as a whole, each state, and regions within each state. These economic
24 forecasts include forecasts of employment, population, industrial production, and
25 income.

26 The Industrial and Other Retail long-term kWh forecast uses econometric
27 models incorporating the economic forecast to produce a forecast of annual
28 kWh sales. Inputs such as regional and national economic and demographic

1 conditions, energy prices, customer-specific information and informed judgment
2 are all utilized in producing the forecasts.

3 The results of the kWh sales models, in turn, are inputs to the demand (kW)
4 models. As part of the forecast review process, the Company evaluates and
5 validates the historical relationship between the energy (kWh) and peak demand
6 (kW) based on the metered load factors.

7 **Q26. Why does I&M use different methods for short-term and long-term kWh**
8 **forecasting?**

9 I&M uses processes that take advantage of the relative strengths of each
10 methodology. The short-term process utilizes time-series regression models that
11 capture patterns within the recent sales and weather data to represent the
12 variation in kWh sales on a monthly basis for short-term applications like capital
13 budgeting and resource allocation. Although these models can produce
14 accurate forecasts in the short run, without logical ties to economic factors, they
15 are less capable of capturing the structural trends in electricity consumption that
16 are important for longer term planning.

17 The long-term process, with its explicit ties to economics and demographics, as
18 well as efficiency and saturation trends, is more appropriate for longer-term
19 decisions such as capacity planning and distribution planning issues. In some
20 cases, the long-term process may be used for short-term forecasting if the
21 results are determined to be more reasonable and reliable than those produced
22 from the short-term process during the internal review process.

23 **Q27. How were class kWh level energy sales forecasts translated into an hourly**
24 **load forecast?**

25 Historical load and temperature data was used to develop hourly load
26 representations (load shapes) for specific temperature increments by revenue
27 class and load type (e.g., Residential cooling shape, Commercial heating shape,

1 etc.). These load shapes are then applied with the sales forecasts and normal
2 weather file to generate hourly load forecasts.

3 The aggregate of the load shapes for each of the classes is the system load
4 profile. If necessary, the system load profile is calibrated based on the load
5 factor trend to produce an hourly load and peak kW forecast. In this case, the
6 peak forecast is primarily used for production costing and jurisdictional cost
7 allocation development for rate design.

8 **Q28. What are the sources of the data used in the forecast?**

9 All kWh sales, customer, and peak load data are taken from Company billing
10 and operational records. The weather data is provided by the National Oceanic
11 and Atmospheric Administration from weather stations in I&M's service territory
12 (i.e. Ft. Wayne, IN and South Bend, IN).

13 The economic forecasts are based on data gathered by federal, state, and local
14 authorities, as well as propriety sources of Moody's Analytics for the counties
15 served by I&M. The appliance saturations and efficiencies come from company
16 surveys and/or Itron's SAE models which are linked to the Energy Information
17 Administration (EIA's) National Energy Modeling System by census region.

18 The Demand Side Management (DSM)/Energy Efficiency assumptions come
19 from Company reports filed with the IURC (i.e. Energy Efficiency Portfolio Plan
20 and Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)). The large customer assumptions come
21 from I&M's customer service engineers who have direct contact with our
22 customers.

23 **Q29. Is Moody's Analytics a reliable source of economic forecast information?**

24 Yes. Moody's Analytics is a trusted and reputable provider of economic forecast
25 data. In addition to the numerous accuracy accolades, Moody's Analytics has a
26 broad client base across the globe including approximately fifty-seven utilities

1 throughout the US. This includes at least four utilities that provide electricity
2 service to customers in the state of Indiana.

3 Furthermore, PJM, the RTO of which I&M is a member, also utilizes Moody's
4 Analytics as its economic forecast provider in the development of its load
5 forecasts. While it is not required for I&M to use the same economic forecast
6 provider as PJM, there are benefits to having some of the load forecast model
7 assumptions in sync.

8 **Q30. Is Itron's SAE model a reliable forecasting tool used by others in the**
9 **electric utility industry?**

10 Yes. Itron Inc. is a leading technology provider to the global energy and water
11 industries. They introduced the SAE models in the early 2000's. Today, over 60
12 companies across North America utilize Itron's SAE models for forecasting
13 including three Indiana utilities, as well as the PJM load forecasting team.

14 **Q31. Does the Test Year forecast assume normal weather conditions, and if so,**
15 **how is this accomplished?**

16 Yes, the forecast assumes normal weather conditions throughout the entire
17 forecast horizon including the Test Year. It is appropriate to utilize weather
18 normalized billing determinants when setting customer rates since it represents
19 the most likely outcome (i.e., highest probability of occurrence) that minimizes
20 the possibility that the Company will under or over collect the intended revenue
21 requirement set by the Commission. The Company uses a rolling 30-year
22 average of heating and cooling degree days to compute the projected normal
23 degree days that are used in the forecast models.

1 **Q32. How does the Company account for energy efficiency in the long-term**
2 **load forecast?**

3 As mentioned earlier, the SAE model integrates end-use saturation and
4 efficiency information into the forecast modeling that already incorporates the
5 impact of federal energy standards and other relevant energy efficiency factors.

6 The appliance saturation statistics are calibrated with the Company's periodic
7 Residential Appliance Saturation Survey results, which are conducted every
8 three to four years. In addition to the energy efficiency impacts that are included
9 in the base SAE model framework, I&M also adjusts the load forecast for the
10 impacts of its DSM and Energy Efficiency programs that are approved by the
11 Commission or for the longer term, contained within the Company's IRP.

12 **Q33. What DSM program assumptions were used to adjust the load forecast?**

13 The Company used the most recent DSM assumptions that were available at
14 the time the load forecast was developed. That means that for the Test Year,
15 the Company adjusted the load forecast for the impact of DSM programs that
16 had been implemented prior to 2020 or were included in I&M's 2020-2022 DSM
17 Plan filing in Cause No. 45285.

18 **Q34. How does the Company account for changes in specific large customer**
19 **loads (i.e., a major expansion or closure) within the load forecast?**

20 As part of the normal forecast routine, the Economic Forecasting team reaches
21 out to I&M's customer service engineers to ask about any significant load
22 additions or closures that are expected during the forecast horizon.

23 Once we compile the list of expansions or closures, we then compare the list
24 with the base forecast to see if these known expansions are implicitly accounted
25 for in the base economic forecast. To the extent the specific customer changes

1 are material and not already included in the base forecast, we make an
2 adjustment to account for the difference.

3 **Q35. Is the methodology used to produce the load forecast reasonable?**

4 Yes. I&M's load forecast methodology is proven to produce reliable projections
5 that are useful for planning and setting rates. The forecast techniques utilized by
6 the Company are widely accepted across the electric utility industry.

7 Furthermore, the necessary input data comes from reliable sources (e.g. the
8 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Moody's Analytics, the U.S.
9 EIA, Itron, and I&M's customer billing and accounting systems, etc.).

10 **Q36. Is this the same load forecast methodology that was used in Cause Nos.
11 45235 and 45576?**

12 Yes. The load forecast methodology has not changed from what was filed in
13 I&M's two previous base rate cases (Cause No. 45235 and 45576).

14 **Q37. Did the Commission make any findings or statements about the
15 Company's load forecast in its Final Orders from those cases?**

16 Yes. The Commission did make specific findings in Cause No. 45235. In its
17 findings regarding the load forecast, the Commission's Final Order states that it
18 found "I&M's test year forecast to be reasonable."¹ The Commission also
19 approved a settlement agreement in Cause No. 45576, which I understand is
20 not precedential,

¹ IURC Final Order in Cause No. 45235, Section 12 (Revenue Forecast) Part 4 (Discussion and Findings) Pg.77.

1 **Q38. Is this the same load forecast methodology that is used in I&M's Fuel**
2 **Adjustment Clause filings?**

3 Yes. The same methodology is used in every filing where the Company's
4 projection of kWh sales is used to set the rates. The most recent at the time of
5 the filing of this testimony being Cause No. 38702, FAC 90.

6 **Q39. Is this also the same load forecast methodology that was used in the**
7 **Company's most recently filed 2021 IRP?**

8 Yes, with the exception of the assumptions for long-term DSM savings.

9 For the Financial Forecast, the long-term DSM assumptions come from the most
10 recently completed IRP. For the IRP optimization, the load forecast excludes the
11 impact of future DSM programs so that the IRP optimization can determine the
12 optimal level of DSM for the Company to pursue in future years, based on
13 market fundamentals, technology costs, etc.

14 **Q40. Has staff from any state regulatory commission reviewed the load forecast**
15 **methodology used in I&M's IRP?**

16 Yes. In Indiana, IURC staff reviewed the Company's 2018-19 IRP and
17 published their assessment of the load forecast methodology in the final
18 Director's Report.² In the Director's Comments on load forecasting, the report
19 states, "I&M's forecast methodology was well done, the data sources and tools
20 were appropriate for this IRP, and the forecast was well documented both in the
21 report itself and in the appendices." (Page 8)

22 In Michigan, Staff witness Roger Doherty from the Michigan Public Service
23 Commission testified in Case No. U-20591 (I&M's 2018-19 IRP filing) that:

² IURC Electricity Director's Final Report for Indiana Michigan Power Company's 2018-2019 IRP, February 12, 2020. <https://www.in.gov/iurc/files/IMs-2019-Directors-Report-Final-Version-2.12.21.pdf>

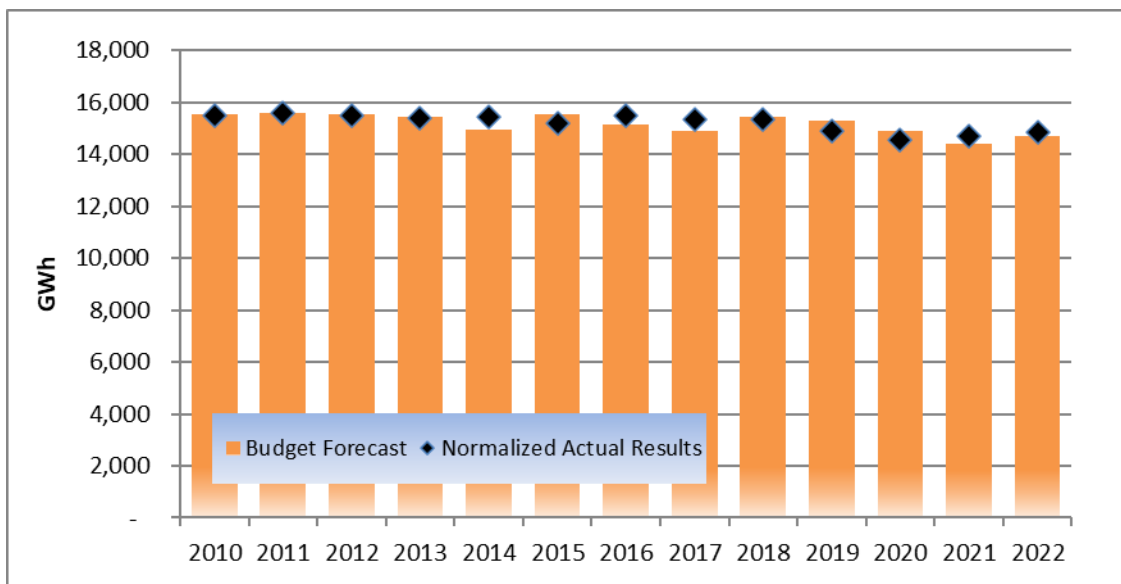
- 1 • the Company’s “energy sales and peak demand forecasts [were]
- 2 consistent with other load growth projections in the region” (at 5),
- 3 • “the Company’s forecasting methodology with respect to weather aligns
- 4 with industry norms” (at 7), and
- 5 • “the load forecasts used by the Company in the IRP [are] reasonable” (at
- 6 7).

7 **Q41. Do you know how accurate the Company’s forecasts have been using the**
 8 **methodology described above?**

9 Yes. As described earlier, part of my job is to monitor the performance of our
 10 load forecast on a routine basis. In the analysis, we identify the forecast
 11 variance that is caused by weather (deviations from normal weather). Since our
 12 forecast is based on normal weather, we focus most of our attention on the
 13 weather-normalized variances to determine how well the forecast is performing.

14 The average accuracy of our budget load forecasts (GWh) for I&M since 2010
 15 has been 0.2% on a weather-normalized basis, as shown in *Figure DW-5*.

Figure DW-5. I&M-IN Normalized Budget Variance (GWh)



1 **Q42. How accurate was the load forecast that was used in the Company's last**
2 **base rate case (Cause No. 45576) that used a forecasted 2022 test year?**

3 The final load forecast that was filed in Cause No. 45576 predicted I&M's total
4 retail sales in Indiana would be 14,595 GWh in 2022. The weather-normalized
5 results for 2022 came in at 14,837 GWh, which means the weather normalized
6 actual results were 1.7% higher than the load forecast that was used to develop
7 the billing determinants.

8 **Q43. What caused the normalized actual results in 2022 to come in higher than**
9 **the load forecast that was used to develop the billing determinants in**
10 **Cause No. 45576?**

11 Primarily, sales to the commercial sector came in higher than expected.
12 Residential sales were slightly higher than had been expected, while industrial
13 sales were slightly lower than forecasted.

14 The US economy went into an unprecedented recession in February 2020 as a
15 result of the COVID-19 pandemic. That recession in 2020 was the shortest on
16 record, but also the steepest since the Great Depression.³ By May 2020, the
17 US economy had already hit the trough of the economic cycle and had started
18 on the road to recovery. The load forecast used in Cause No. 45576 assumed a
19 recovery for both the US economy and that of I&M's Indiana service territory.⁴
20 However, for the I&M Indiana service territory, the economic decline was not
21 quite as deep as assumed in the previous forecast and the recovery proved to
22 be faster. In Cause No. 45576, gross regional product for the Indiana
23 jurisdiction of I&M's service territory was expected to grow by 3.9% from 2020 to
24 2022. During that period, gross regional product actually grew by 4.9%.
25 Likewise, in Cause No. 45576, I&M Indiana's total non-farm employment was

³ NBER Business Cycle Dating Committee Announcement July 19, 2021
(<https://www.nber.org/cycles/main.html>).

⁴ See Company witness Burnett's direct testimony (pgs 22-24) in Cause No. 45576.

1 expected to grow by 1.1% from 2020 to 2022 as the economy opened back up
2 and businesses re-opened. In fact, the service territory experienced growth in
3 total non-farm employment of 3.3%.

V. Drivers of the Test Year Load Forecast

4 **Q44. Please summarize the results of the economic forecast for I&M's Indiana**
5 **service territory.**

6 Moody's Analytics projects population within I&M's Indiana service territory will
7 grow at an average annual rate of 0.1% per year from 2022 to 2024, which is
8 slightly slower than the 0.2% per year growth over the past decade (2010-2020).
9 Over the same forecast period, the gross regional product for the Indiana
10 jurisdiction of I&M's service territory is expected to grow at an average rate of
11 2.3% per year through 2022, which is better than the 1.2% per year growth from
12 the past decade but slower than the initial recession-recovery rate of 4.9% over
13 the period of 2020 to 2022. Finally, non-farm employment is expected to
14 increase at an average annual rate of 1.4% per year compared to the 0.5% per
15 year growth over the past decade. This is also slower than the early recession-
16 recovery rate of 3.3%.

17 **Q45. How has normalized load growth for the I&M-Indiana retail jurisdiction**
18 **recovered since the COVID-19 pandemic and recession?**

19 The recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting recession has varied
20 across the different classes of normalized retail sales within the I&M-Indiana
21 service territory. Soon after the pandemic hit, on March 23, 2020, Governor
22 Holcomb issued a stay-at-home provision for the state of Indiana. Included in
23 this provision was the condition that all non-essential businesses would close or
24 allow employees to work from home. As a result of these actions, Residential
25 sales increased, but were more than offset by lower sales in the Commercial

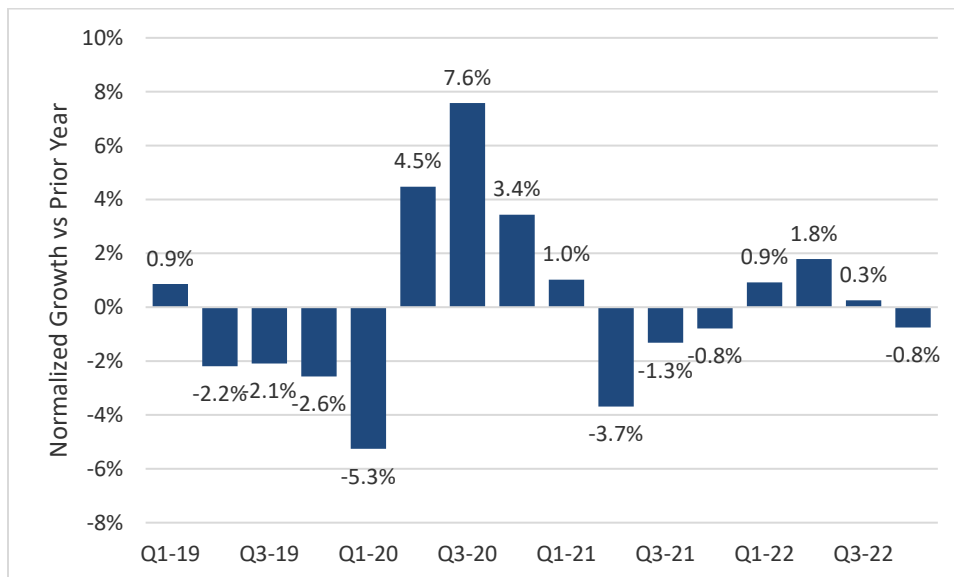
1 and Industrial classes. As conditions improved and the stay-at-home provision
 2 was lifted, the economy began to re-open. Reactions by Residential and
 3 Industrial sales were less prolonged than those in the Commercial class.

4 **Q46. What has the recovery looked like, as reflected in Residential normalized**
 5 **sales within I&M’s Indiana jurisdiction, since the recession and pandemic**
 6 **ended?**

7 *Figure DW-6* illustrates the recovery of normalized Residential sales within
 8 I&M’s Indiana service territory. As a result of the stay-at-home provision in
 9 Indiana, Residential sales reached a maximum year-over-year growth rate of
 10 7.6% in Q3-20. After that, growth began to slow and by Q2-21, Residential
 11 sales started to decline in comparison to prior year levels.

12 By the end of 2022, normalized Residential sales had returned to levels
 13 comparable with those in Q1-19.

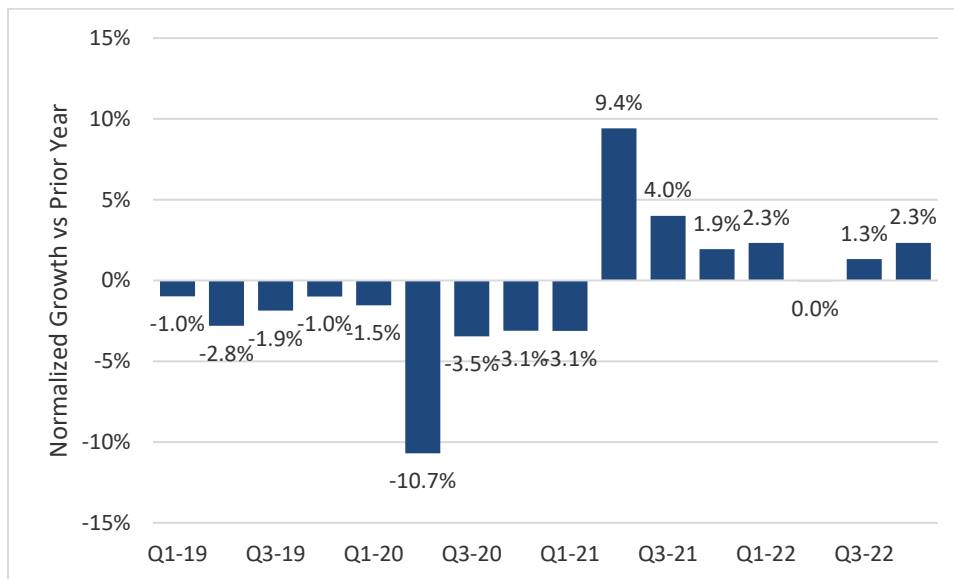
Figure DW-6. I&M-IN Normalized Residential GWh Growth Through Q4-22



1 **Q47. What has the recovery looked like, as reflected in Commercial normalized**
 2 **sales within I&M’s Indiana jurisdiction, since the recession and pandemic**
 3 **ended?**

4 *Figure DW-7* illustrates the significant decrease in weather-normalized
 5 Commercial sales in Q2-20, as much of Indiana’s economy was effectively
 6 closed down, followed by the gradual improvement as the economy began the
 7 process of opening back up. In Q2-20, Commercial sales declined by 10.7%
 8 from the prior year level. Re-opening the economy took some time.
 9 Commercial sales did not begin to attain year-over-year growth until Q2-21.
 10 However, slowly improving supply chains and pent up consumer demand have
 11 allowed the recovery within the Commercial sector to outlast those of the
 12 Residential and Industrial sectors. With the exception of Q2-22, normalized
 13 Commercial sales have experienced year-over-year growth in every quarter
 14 since the recovery began in Q2-21.

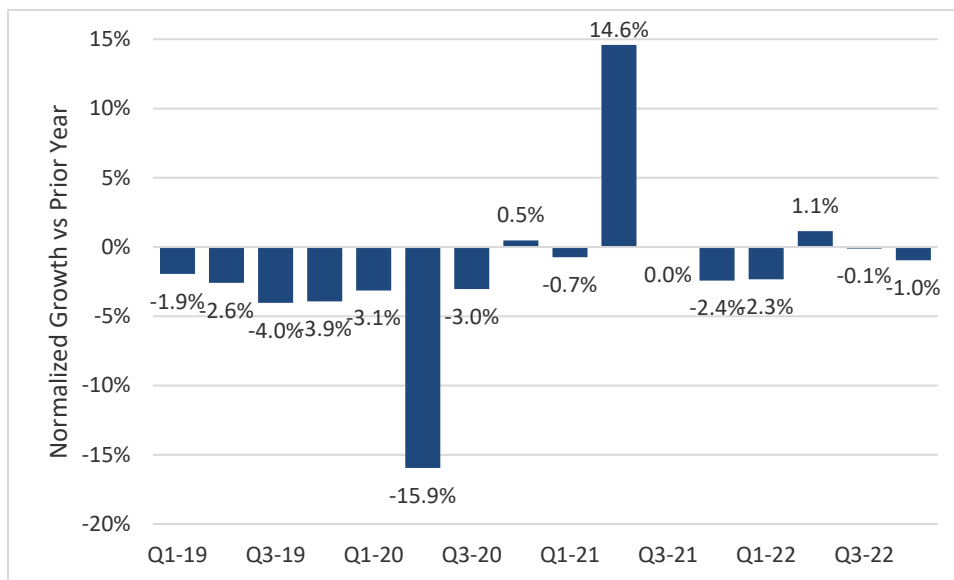
Figure DW-7. I&M-IN Normalized Commercial GWh Growth



1 **Q48. What has the recovery looked like, as reflected in Industrial sales within**
 2 **I&M’s Indiana jurisdiction, since the recession and pandemic ended?**

3 *Figure DW-8 illustrates that I&M’s industrial sales, which were also already in a*
 4 *state of decline before the recession and pandemic converged, experienced*
 5 *their biggest decline of 15.9% in Q2-20. Industrial sales began to recover at the*
 6 *same time Commercial sales did. However, the recovery was much less*
 7 *prolonged than that of the Commercial sector. Industrial sales rebounded by*
 8 *14.6% in Q2-21 but have only experienced one additional quarter of year-over-*
 9 *year growth since then. Industrial sales remain below their pre-pandemic 2019*
 10 *level.*

Figure DW-8. I&M-IN Industrial GWh Growth



11 **Q49. Does this conclude your pre-filed verified direct testimony?**

12 Yes.

VERIFICATION

I, Daniel M. White, Managing Director of Economics and Supply Forecasting for American Electric Power Service Corporation, affirm under penalties of perjury that the foregoing representations are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Date: 8/8/23



Daniel M. White

I&M- Indiana Jurisdiction
Forward Looking Test Year Ending December 2024
Energy Sales (MWh)

	<u>Jan-24</u>	<u>Feb-24</u>	<u>Mar-24</u>	<u>Apr-24</u>	<u>May-24</u>	<u>Jun-24</u>	<u>Jul-24</u>	<u>Aug-24</u>	<u>Sep-24</u>	<u>Oct-24</u>	<u>Nov-24</u>	<u>Dec-24</u>	<u>Total</u>
Residential	456,672	423,774	356,109	281,161	303,745	338,974	422,105	425,849	286,376	291,749	299,692	364,782	4,250,989
Commercial	323,718	313,198	299,505	273,825	333,608	354,840	365,743	372,035	298,578	335,587	313,961	285,924	3,870,519
Industrial	536,948	547,005	566,208	539,602	603,912	590,550	570,527	597,034	533,535	578,134	566,828	525,888	6,756,171
<u>Other Retail</u>	<u>5,030</u>	<u>4,180</u>	<u>4,079</u>	<u>3,606</u>	<u>3,288</u>	<u>2,959</u>	<u>3,132</u>	<u>3,532</u>	<u>3,680</u>	<u>4,359</u>	<u>4,628</u>	<u>4,826</u>	47,298
<i>Total IN Retail</i>	<i>1,322,367</i>	<i>1,288,157</i>	<i>1,225,902</i>	<i>1,098,193</i>	<i>1,244,553</i>	<i>1,287,323</i>	<i>1,361,507</i>	<i>1,398,450</i>	<i>1,122,168</i>	<i>1,209,829</i>	<i>1,185,108</i>	<i>1,181,420</i>	14,924,977
<i>Total MI Retail</i>	<i>253,497</i>	<i>243,688</i>	<i>227,063</i>	<i>205,188</i>	<i>222,578</i>	<i>241,341</i>	<i>259,997</i>	<i>275,628</i>	<i>212,768</i>	<i>218,274</i>	<i>220,908</i>	<i>226,484</i>	2,807,416
<i>Total Wholesale</i>	<i>262,273</i>	<i>243,321</i>	<i>245,965</i>	<i>232,067</i>	<i>240,746</i>	<i>244,381</i>	<i>260,623</i>	<i>267,914</i>	<i>238,413</i>	<i>241,383</i>	<i>238,617</i>	<i>257,477</i>	2,973,178
<i>Total I&M</i>	<i>1,838,137</i>	<i>1,775,166</i>	<i>1,698,930</i>	<i>1,535,448</i>	<i>1,707,877</i>	<i>1,773,045</i>	<i>1,882,126</i>	<i>1,941,991</i>	<i>1,573,349</i>	<i>1,669,486</i>	<i>1,644,634</i>	<i>1,665,380</i>	20,705,571

Customer Counts

	<u>Jan-24</u>	<u>Feb-24</u>	<u>Mar-24</u>	<u>Apr-24</u>	<u>May-24</u>	<u>Jun-24</u>	<u>Jul-24</u>	<u>Aug-24</u>	<u>Sep-24</u>	<u>Oct-24</u>	<u>Nov-24</u>	<u>Dec-24</u>	<u>Avg Customers</u>
Residential	420,454	420,383	420,532	419,684	419,169	419,030	418,966	419,248	419,423	419,526	420,011	420,757	419,765
Commercial	54,471	54,488	54,505	54,522	54,538	54,554	54,570	54,586	54,602	54,617	54,632	54,647	54,561
Industrial	4,018	4,018	4,018	4,018	4,018	4,018	4,017	4,017	4,017	4,017	4,017	4,017	4,018
<u>Other Retail</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,555</u>	1,555
<i>Total IN Retail</i>	<i>480,498</i>	<i>525,767</i>	<i>525,963</i>	<i>525,162</i>	<i>524,693</i>	<i>524,601</i>	<i>524,583</i>	<i>524,912</i>	<i>525,133</i>	<i>525,281</i>	<i>525,813</i>	<i>526,604</i>	479,899
<i>Total MI Retail</i>	<i>131,464</i>	<i>131,437</i>	<i>131,585</i>	<i>131,472</i>	<i>131,515</i>	<i>131,625</i>	<i>131,615</i>	<i>131,712</i>	<i>131,642</i>	<i>131,696</i>	<i>131,684</i>	<i>131,599</i>	131,587
<i>Total I&M</i>	<i>611,961</i>	<i>657,204</i>	<i>657,547</i>	<i>656,634</i>	<i>656,208</i>	<i>656,226</i>	<i>656,198</i>	<i>656,624</i>	<i>656,775</i>	<i>656,978</i>	<i>657,497</i>	<i>658,203</i>	611,486

Peak Demand

	<u>Jan-24</u>	<u>Feb-24</u>	<u>Mar-24</u>	<u>Apr-24</u>	<u>May-24</u>	<u>Jun-24</u>	<u>Jul-24</u>	<u>Aug-24</u>	<u>Sep-24</u>	<u>Oct-24</u>	<u>Nov-24</u>	<u>Dec-24</u>	<u>Annual Max</u>
I&M System Peak Demand (MW)	3,393	3,293	2,901	3,003	3,135	3,606	3,981	3,844	3,300	3,236	2,891	3,043	3,981