



# KEEPING LIGHTS ON & COSTS DOWN FOR MICHIGAN FAMILIES

Michigan families are tired of seeing their monthly electric bills climb while power outages become more common. Michigan's energy laws, utility regulators and plans for the future all need serious reform. House Republicans have a plan that makes real changes to deliver savings and accountability to the people who rely on our state's grid every day.

Our plan puts Michigan families back at the center of energy policy by focusing on real-world needs and common-sense solutions. Politically-driven decisions have increased bills by billions of dollars, costing the average family \$120 every year – enough to buy school supplies this fall. It is time to put politics aside and make affordability and reliability the core principles for the state's energy policy.

Here's how the plan works:

## PUTTING AFFORDABILITY AND RELIABILITY FIRST

The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) approves new utility rates and expansions to our grid. Currently, they are required by law to base their decisions on political motivations like 'environmental justice' and use loopholes to pretend wind turbine programs are cheap on paper when they're not in reality. That leads to higher monthly bills for families and thousands in higher costs for local businesses that drive up prices on the shelves. This new plan requires the MPSC to make every decision based only on affordability and reliability, and that's the way it should be.

## EMBRACING AMERICAN ENERGY ABUNDANCE

New mandates force utility companies to follow ideology instead of focusing on reliability and costs for Michigan families. Failed green energy mandates cut off Michigan's effective nuclear power and locally produced natural gas plants. Those decisions rocked the energy industry, and estimates say it could lead to costs in the thousands for the average customer once fully implemented. In just the past ten years, utility companies have asked for billions of dollars in higher rates citing these increased costs. Under this plan, utilities will build new power plants based on what strengthens our grid the most and what makes the most competitive price for Michigan families.

## STOPPING THE RATE SKIM THAT FUNDS POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Families and small businesses are already paying enough in their monthly bills. Now things have gotten worse as the MPSC takes money out of our utility bills and hands it to groups who fight for our bills to go even higher. Michiganders' monthly payments are currently funding left-wing groups like *Soulardarity*, and lobbyists like the *Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association*, and the *Michigan Municipal Association for Utility Issues*. These groups organize protests, fight for

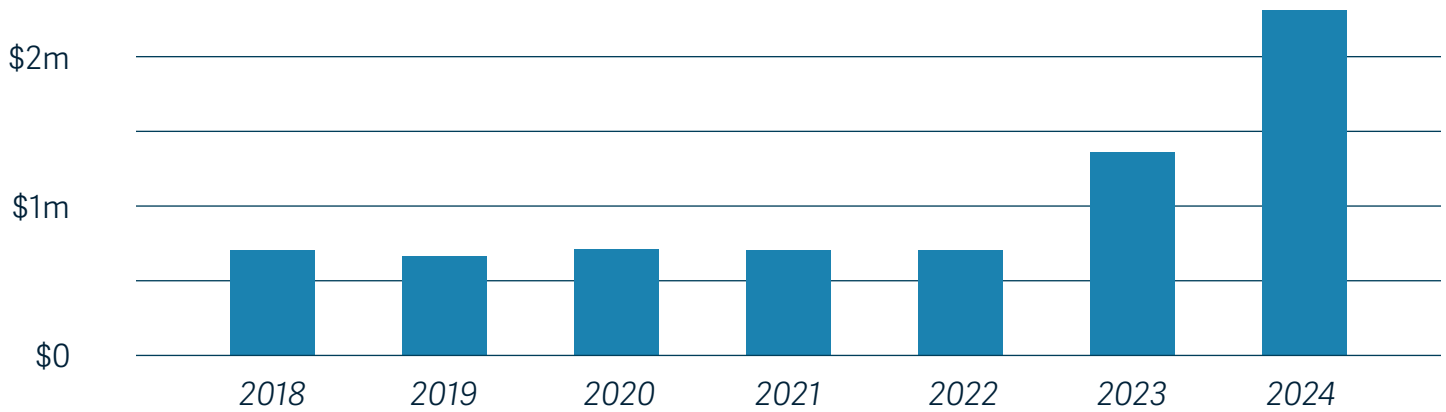
**Rate hikes  
approved by  
the MPSC:**

**\$1 billion**  
since 2023

**Savings  
under  
this plan:**

**\$500  
PER YEAR**  
for every family

## Funds Skimmed by Political Groups



“energy democracy” and advocate for “environmental implications” over lower rates. The people making the grant decisions also have incredible conflicts of interest, working for companies like *Earthjustice* and *Carbon Solutions*. Spending on these political activities has increased by 300% in recent years, even as the cost of living continues to go up. Our plan puts an end to the rate skim and empowers the next attorney general to fight on behalf of ratepayers, not lobbyists.

### FAST-TRACKING INVESTMENTS THAT STRENGTHEN OUR GRID

Dozens of outdated laws, obscure requirements and failed mandates have slowed new construction to a crawl. Michigan is ready to build and grow, and this plan gets the government out of the way. New streamlined approvals and cost recovery plans will reduce the risk and length of power outages. And lower construction costs will let utilities build new plants, upgrade old tech and invest in more efficient and cost-effective power.

Dollars  
spent on  
energy  
reduction  
since 2016:

**\$3.1**  
**BILLION**

### NO LONGER SPENDING MORE TO GET LESS POWER

Utility companies are required by law to offer rebates on things like LED bulbs and power strips to reduce energy consumption. But those costs are simply passed on to customers through higher rates and often tack on more than what people save from lower usage. That makes no sense. Families have been overcharged by an average of \$760 over the past decade for this program. Based on the rebate amounts, they would need to buy an unrealistic number of products just to break even – roughly *30 washing machines* at a \$25 rebate each, or about *70 power strips* at \$10 each. Michigan families working hard to make ends meet shouldn't be forced to subsidize programs that cost them more than they benefit. This plan reforms these mandates that drive up costs without delivering real savings.

### PAIRING ENERGY REFORM WITH THE HELP UP TAX RELIEF PLAN

Our energy reform plan works alongside the HELP UP plan – Hall Effectively Lowering Property Taxes and Utility Payments. HELP UP would eliminate state property taxes and guarantee a \$1 billion reduction in utility bills through a mandatory rate rollback. Under that plan, families would save more than \$1,100 every year. Together with this energy reform plan, families will save nearly \$1,400 every year through lower property taxes and lower monthly electric bills.

