



FEATURES |

MPSC: Annual Video Services Competition Report Issued |

Note: The Michigan Public Service Commission issued the following Press Release on January 31, 2014. For more information contact Judy Palnau at 517.241.3323

January 31, 2014 – The Michigan Public Service Commission (“MPSC”) today issued its seventh annual report on the status of competition for video services in Michigan. The report is required by the Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act (Public Act 480 of 2006). . . .

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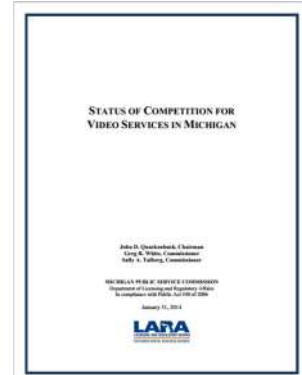
Applications & Complaints |

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Highlights of the report include: Prior to the Act, only 63 municipalities reported having two or more video/cable providers offering service. In 2013, two communities reported four providers; 28 communities reported having three providers; 81 communities reported having two providers; and 243 communities reported having one provider. Thirty communities reported having no providers.

Two new providers began offering video/cable services to Michigan residents in 2013: Mutual Data Services and Sand Creek Telephone Company.



During 2013, providers reported 2,338,067 video/cable customers in Michigan, an increase of 21,870 over what was reported the previous year. (This does not include subscribers to satellite services.)

There are currently 1,969 franchise agreements (both individual franchise agreements entered into before the Act that have not expired and Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreements required by the Act) in Michigan, a net decrease of 22 compared to the previous year. Of the total, 1,494 are classified as the Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement, an increase of 93 from the previous year.

The Commission received 1,229 customer complaints and inquiries in the video franchise area in 2012, a 40 percent increase over 2011. The most frequent complaints were: billing, charges and credits; equipment service problems; and cable line issues.

Of the 42 video/cable providers that responded to the MPSC's survey, 26 providers reported investing \$420 million in the video/cable market in Michigan in 2013.

The MPSC made four recommendations to the legislature: extending the sunset date for Public Act 191 of 2009, which amended the Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act (Public Act 480 of 2006), which provides for the MPSC to recover its actual costs in exercising its duties under the Act; changing the due date of the annual report to March 1 from February 1 to provide survey respondents more time to provide information to the MPSC; requiring providers to provide certain contact information to the MPSC; and requiring a provider to notify the Commission if it changes its name, goes out of business, or merges with another company.

The entire report is available on the MPSC's website at:

<http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mpsc/status_competition_video_446269_7.pdf>

For more information on filing a video/cable complaint, see the MPSC's Consumer Tips sheet <http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mpsc/mpsc-ca_videocomplaint_275049_7.pdf> on the subject.

The MPSC is an agency within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

For more information about LARA, please visit <<http://www.michigan.gov/lara>>. Follow us on Twitter <<http://www.twitter.com/michiganLARA>>, “Like” us on Facebook or find us on YouTube <<http://www.youtube.com/michiganLARA>>.

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Snyder makes reappointments to State 9-1-1 Committee |

Note: Governor Rick Snyder’s office issued the following Press Release on January 24, 2014

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the reappointments of Yvette Collins, of Lansing, and Donald Welch, of Ann Arbor, to the State 9-1-1 Committee.

The 21-member committee, housed within the Michigan Department of State Police, promotes the successful development, implementation and operation of 911 systems throughout Michigan.

“Don and Yvette have been valuable committee members and I am thankful that they will continue to work to improve Michigan’s 911 systems,” Snyder said.

Collins is a Michigan legislative affairs area director for AT&T. In this role she is the MI External wireless coordinator and lead on issues relevant to the AT&T state organization. She previously worked as a regulatory affairs manager for AT&T. Her experience includes work as an advertising services marketing assistant manager for Ameritech. Collins holds a bachelor of applied science in management from Davenport University. She will represent the commercial mobile radio service.

Welch is the president and CEO of Merit Network Inc., a position he has held since 2006. Prior to his service with Merit, Welch worked for H-E-B in San Antonio, as director of enterprise technology and merchandising applications. He had a 24-year career with the U.S. Army, leaving as the chief information officer for the Academic Division at West Point. He also served as a software engineering professor at West Point. Welch earned a bachelor’s degree in mechanics from West Point, a master’s degree in computer science from California Polytechnic State University and a Ph.D. in computer science from the University of Maryland. He will continue to represent the general public.

Members will serve two-year terms expiring Dec. 31, 2015, and their appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the state Senate.

#

U-M researchers estimate best time to launch a cyber attack |

Note: The University of Michigan issued the following Press Release on January 13, 2014. For additional information, please contact Greta Guest at 734.936.7821 or at <gguest@umich.edu>.

ANN ARBOR—University of Michigan researchers have developed new ways to analyze Internet security risks by creating a mathematical model that can predict when a cyber attack may be launched.

Robert Axelrod, professor of political science and public policy at U-M’s Ford School, and Rumén Iliev, postdoctoral research fellow at the school, created the model to help develop a basis for understanding the strategic implications of cyber technology.

Focusing on the timing of cyber conflict, their model analyzes when an attacker is most motivated to exploit vulnerabilities in a target’s computer system for espionage or disruption.

“One of our major contributions is to develop some concepts to deal with this new realm of cyber conflict,” Axelrod said. “It took 15 years in the nuclear world for people to understand the implications of nuclear technology. It is our hope that it won’t take that long to understand the strategic capabilities of cyber technology.”

They developed two concepts. One is stealth, which is the ability of a resource to exploit a vulnerability in a target’s computer system to stay undiscovered if it is used. The other is persistence, which is to keep the vulnerability undiscovered if it isn’t used.

“A good resource should have both stealth and persistence,” Iliev said. “The less persistent a resource is, the sooner (it should be used) lest the vulnerability is fixed before (there’s) a chance to exploit it.”

They illustrate their model using four case studies, including the Stuxnet attack on Iran’s nuclear program and the Iranian cyber attack on the energy firm Saudi Aramco.

“We also hope this will encourage other efforts to study these things in a rigorous way,” Axelrod said. “There’s a lot of discussion about cyber problems, but it’s so new that the language isn’t established. People use the word attack to mean anything from stealing a credit card number to sabotage of an industrial system.”

Their research appears in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

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2013 & 2014 LEGISLATION |

Copies of bills and public acts referred to in this column may be obtained by contacting your state Senator or Representative, on the Michigan Legislature Web site, <<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/>>, or from the Legislative Service Bureau Document Room at (517) 373-0169.

Senate Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
SB 033 Schuitmaker	01/16/2013	Campaign finance; campaign practices; automated campaign telephone calls; require to identify who paid for call. Amends 1976 PA 388 (MCL 169.201 - 169.282) by adding sec. 48.	Referred to Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections.
SB 0294 Jones	04/10/2013	Gaming; lottery; sale of lottery tickets; prohibit sale over internet. Amends sec. 9 of 1972 PA 239 (MCL 432.9).	Referred to Senate Committee on Regulatory Reform.

Senate Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
SB 0493 Jones	09/17/2013	Communications; broadcasting; local zoning restrictions for amateur radio; require to conform to federal regulations. Amends 2006 PA 110 (MCL 125.3101 - 125.3702) by adding sec. 205a.	Referred to Senate Committee on Energy and Technology.
SB 0539 Nofs	09/24/2013	Torts; governmental immunity; underground facility damage prevention; define as proprietary function. Amends sec. 7 of 1964 PA 170 (MCL 691.1407). Tie Bar with SB 0540.	12/3/2013 Signed by Governor Synder; assigned 2013 PA 173 with immediate effect.
SB 0540 Nofs	09/24/2013	Public utilities; consumer services; MISS DIG underground facility damage prevention and safety act; create. Creates new act & repeals 1974 PA 53 (MCL 460.701 - 460.718). Tie Bar with SB 0539.	12/3/2013 Signed by Governor Synder; assigned 2013 PA 174 with immediate effect.
SB 0599 Hansen	10/03/2013	Crimes; criminal sexual conduct; use of internet or computer system to solicit prostitute less than 21 years of age; prohibit. Amends sec. 145d of 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.145d).	Referred to Senate Committee on Families, Seniors, and Human Services.
SB 0636 Nofs	10/22/2013	Communications; telecommunications; general amendments; provide for. Amends secs. 304, 310, 313, 315, 317, 320 & 502 of 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2304 et seq.).	12/12/2013 Placed on Third Reading in House.; 12/11/2013 Reported from House Committee on Energy and Technology with amendments..
SB 734 Caswell	01/08/2014	Holidays; other; "Utility Workers Safety Awareness Day"; designate as December 6. Creates new act.	Referred to Senate Committee on Government Operations.
SB 5260 Shirkey	01/29/2014	Public utilities; other; telephone solicitations regarding electric or natural gas service; require certain disclosures. Amends secs. 9 & 10a of 1939 PA 3 (MCL 460.9 & 460.10a).	Referred to Senate Committee on Energy and Technology.

House Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HB 4011 Heise	01/22/2013	Communications; emergency 9-1-1; recordings from 9-1-1 calls; prohibit disclosure under certain circumstances. Amends sec. 13 of 1976 PA 442 (MCL 15.243)	Referred to House Committee on Oversight.
HB 4032 Geiss	01/22/2013	Education; public school academies; cyber schools; require posting educational materials on website and submission to department. Amends 1976 PA 451 (MCL 380.1 - 380.1852) by adding sec. 553b.	Referred to House Committee on Education.
HB 4237 Haines	02/12/2013	Communications; other; authorized use of Michigan public safety communications system; expand. Amends title & secs. 1, 2 & 3 of 1929 PA 152 (MCL 28.281 et seq.).	Referred to House Committee on Energy and Technology.
HB 4531 Cotter	04/11/2013	Gaming; lottery; sale of lottery tickets; prohibit sale over internet. Amends sec. 9 of 1972 PA 239 (MCL 432.9).	Referred to House Committee on Government Operations.
HB 4671 Poleski	05/02/2013	Communications; emergency 9-1-1; distribution of service charge fees for 9-1-1; revise. Amends sec. 408 of 1986 PA 32 (MCL 484.1408).	09/24/2013 Signed by Gov. Synder; assigned 2013 PA 113; with immediate effect.
HB 4702 Franz	05/07/2013	Communications; telecommunications; public service commission report regarding pole attachment rates; require. Amends sec. 6g of 1939 PA 3 (MCL 460.6g).	Referred to House Committee on Energy and Technology.
HB 4843 Forlini	06/13/2013	Campaign finance; other; automated campaign telephone calls; require to identify entity making or paying for call. Amends 1976 PA 388 (MCL 169.201 - 169.282) by adding sec. 48.	Referred to House Committee on Elections and Ethics.
HB 4853 Walsh	06/20/2013	Communications; emergency 9-1-1; additional PSAPs or secondary PSAPs within a 9-1-1 service district; allow county to designate by resolution. Amend sec. 312 of 1986 PA 32 (MCL 484.1312).	Referred to House Committee on Energy and Technology.
HB 4984 Lori	09/17/2013	Communications; emergency 9-1-1; procedure to determine which public safety service unit is closest to a request for public safety service; modify. Amends secs. 102 & 204 of 1986 PA 32 (MCL 484.1102 & 484.1204).	Referred to House Committee on Local Government.

House Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HB 5042 McMillin	10/02/2013	Law enforcement; state police; posting of information concerning speed limit engineering and traffic investigation requests on website; require of state police. Amends sec. 628 of 1949 PA 300 (MCL 257.628).	Referred to House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
HB 5110 Heise	10/29/2013	Law enforcement; investigations; disclosure of call location information by wireless providers to requesting law enforcement agency; require. Creates new act.	Referred to House Committee on Criminal Justice.
HB 5246 Rogers	01/28/2014	Criminal procedure; warrants; use of electronic video equipment for issuance of warrants; allow for law enforcement officials. Amends sec. 1, ch. IV of 1927 PA 175 (MCL 764.1).	Referred to House Committee on Judiciary.

PUBLIC ACTS OF 2013 & 2014 |

Listed below are Public Acts related to telecommunications that were passed during the current legislative session (2013-2014). Copies of Public Acts may be obtained by contacting your state Senator or Representative, on the Michigan Legislature Website, <<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/>>, or from the Legislative Service Bureau Document Room at (517) 373-0169. Acts passed since the previous edition of the *Michigan Telecommunications Report* are in bold.

Public Act #	Effective Date	Description	Enrolled Bill # and Sponsor
2013 PA 113	09/24/2013	Communications; emergency 9-1-1; distribution of service charge fees for 9-1-1; revise. Amends sec. 408 of 1986 PA 32 (MCL 484.1408).	HB 4671 Poleski.
2013 PA 173	12/3/2013	Torts; governmental immunity; underground facility damage prevention; define as proprietary function. Amends sec. 7 of 1964 PA 170 (MCL 691.1407).	SB 0539 Nofs
2013 PA 174	12/3/2013	Public utilities; consumer services; MISS DIG underground facility damage prevention and safety act; create. Creates new act & repeals 1974 PA 53 (MCL 460.701 - 460.718).	SB 0540 Nofs

ORDERS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION |

The Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued the following Orders at its regularly scheduled meeting held on Thursday, January 23, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. at the Commission’s temporary offices located at 4300 West Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan.

Case No. U-17349

Interconnection Agreement Arbitration

Sprint Spectrum L.P. v AT&T Michigan

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17349>

On January 23, 2014, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) granted Sprint Spectrum L.P. and AT&T Michigan’s second joint motion and stipulation requesting that the Commission grant the parties a three week extension, specifically until February 11, 2014, to file a conforming Interconnection Agreement.

Case No. U-17456

License

Local Access LLC

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17456>

On January 23, 2014, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued an Order approving the August 7, 2013 Application of Local Access LLC, as Amended on November 15, 2013, for a license to provide basic local exchange services throughout the state of Michigan in the zones and exchange areas in which Frontier North Inc., f/k/a Verizon North Inc., Frontier Midstates Inc., f/k/a Verizon North Systems, and AT&T Michigan are the incumbent local exchange carriers. This license replaces the temporary license issued to Local Access LLC by the Commission on December 6, 2013.

Case No. U-17489

License

Big River Telephone Company, LLC

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17489>

On January 23, 2014, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued an Order approving the October 9, 2013 Application of Big River Telephone Company, LLC, as Amended on November 6, 2013, for a license to provide basic local exchange services throughout the state of Michigan in the zones and exchange areas in which incumbent local exchange carriers presently provide service. This license replaces the temporary license issued to Big River Telephone Company, LLC by the Commission on December 6, 2013.

Case No. U-17512

License

Midwest Energy Cooperative d/b/a Midwest Connections

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17512>

On January 23, 2014, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued an Order approving a temporary license for Midwest Energy Cooperative d/b/a Midwest Connections to provide basic local exchange services in the exchanges of Watervliet, Coloma, Kalamazoo, Benton Harbor, Niles, Vicksburg and Eau Claire served by AT&T Michigan, the Bloomingdale exchanges served by Bloomingdale Telephone Company, Inc., the Sturgis, Cassopolis, Three Rivers, Mattawan, Lawton, Bangor, Hartford, Edwardsburg, Decatur, Sister Lakes, Constantine, Dowagiac, Vandalia, White Pigeon, Mendon, Union, Marcellus, Paw Paw, Schoolcraft, Gobles, Covert, and Centreville

exchanges served by Frontier North Inc., and the Lawrence exchange served by Frontier Midstates Inc. This temporary license will expire upon issuance of a final order granting or denying Midwest Energy Cooperative d/b/a Midwest Connection's November 25, 2013 Application for a permanent license, as amended on January 14, 2014.

Case No. U-17525

Interconnection Agreement

365 Wireless, LLC and AT&T Michigan

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17525>

Application filed December 11, 2013, for approval of an Interconnection Agreement.

On January 23, 2014, the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") approved the Interconnection Agreement listed above.

APPLICATIONS AND COMPLAINTS |

Case No. U-17552

Consumer Complaint: Cable

James Geddis v Comcast

On January 27, 2014, James Geddis, of Pontiac, filed a formal Complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") against Comcast alleging that he received poor service and when he left Comcast continued to receive bills from Comcast.

Case No. U-17553

Consumer Complaint: Cable

Nicol Willis v Charter Communications

On January 30, 2014, Nicol Willis, of Millington, filed a formal Complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") against Charter Communications alleging that a Charter Communications' installer destroyed two flat screen televisions while installing cable at Ms. Willis' residence.

Case No. U-17557

Consumer Complaint: Cable

Alisha Cruden v Dan Hoogerhyde and Main Street Cable and Satellite

On January 23, 2014, Alisha Cruden, of Midland, filed a formal Complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") against Dan Hoogerhyde and Main Street Cable and Satellite, of Clare, alleging that Mr. Hoogerhyde and Main Street Cable and Satellite had entered into a contract with Dish Network Satellite, in Ms. Cruden's name, without her authorization.

NOTICES OF OPPORTUNITIES TO COMMENT |

The following Notices of Opportunity to Comment have been issued by the Michigan Public Service Commission's Executive Secretary. Any interested person may submit comments on the application by sending written comments to the Commission by mail to: Executive Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 30221, Lansing, Michigan 48909. Electronic comments may be e-mailed to: <mpscefilecases@michigan.gov>. Any comments should reference the applicable docket number.

No Telecommunications Notices of Opportunities to Comment are currently pending before the Michigan Public Service Commission.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS |

The following Notices of Hearings have been issued by the Michigan Public Service Commission's Executive Secretary. Unless otherwise noted, all hearings are held at Constitution Hall, 525 W. Allegan, Lansing, Michigan.

*No Telecommunications Notices of Hearing are currently pending
before the Michigan Public Service Commission.*

MPSC HEARINGS SCHEDULE |

Note: Unless indicated otherwise, hearings are held in Constitution Hall, 525 W. Allegan, Lansing, Michigan. Hearing dates and times are subject to change or cancellation. Please check with the Commission's Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160 to confirm that a hearing will be taking place.

KNOWN TELECOMMUNICATIONS HEARINGS SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT FORTNIGHT (FEBRUARY 3, 2014 THROUGH FEBRUARY 14, 2014)

*There are no known Telecommunications hearings scheduled during the upcoming fortnight
before the Michigan Public Service Commission*

FUTURE TELECOM HEARINGS SCHEDULED

March 5, 2014, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-17512/Evidentiary Hearing
Midwest Energy Cooperative, d/b/a Midwest
Connections (license)

2014 REGULAR MPSC MEETING DATES[†] |

<u>MONTH & DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>
February 3	Monday	1:30 p.m. [‡]
February 20	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
March 4	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
March 18	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
April 1	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
April 15	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
April 30	Wednesday	2:00 p.m.
May 13	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
June 6	Friday	1:30 p.m.
June 24	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
July 8	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
July 22	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
August 5	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
August 19	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
September 9	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
September 23	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
October 7	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
October 23	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
November 6	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
November 21	Friday	1:30 p.m.
December 4	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
December 18	Thursday	1:30 p.m.

[†] Additional meetings may be scheduled, as needed, on 18 hours-notice as permitted by Section 5(4) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.265(4).

All meetings of the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) are open to the public. Until further notice, all meetings will be held at the Commission’s temporary offices, which are located at 4300 W. Saginaw St., Lansing, MI 48917, unless posted and notified in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. The meeting site is accessible, including handicapped parking. People with disabilities requiring additional accommodations, such as information in alternative formats in order to participate in the meeting, should contact the Commission’s Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160.

Agendas for all Regular and Special Meetings will be posted on 18-hours notice. A posted agenda is subject to amendment as determined by the Commission. Any person with a question about a Regular or a Special Meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission may make an inquiry by calling the Commission’s Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160.

[‡] On January 23, 2014, the Michigan Public Service Commission announced a time change for its Regularly Scheduled Meeting of February 3, 2014. The meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m.

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