

DTE's CleanVision Plan: Frequently Asked Questions Document

This document may be updated for new questions or topics

1. What is DTE's CleanVision Plan?

- DTE Electric's (DTEE or DTE) CleanVision Plan is our journey to achieve net-zero carbon emissions for the Electric Company by 2050 while providing clean, reliable, and affordable energy to our customers. In October 2021, DTE announced plans to accelerate our interim goal of 50% carbon emissions reductions, achieving that goal by 2028. We will further outline our goals to provide cleaner, reliable, and affordable energy in our next Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), a required regulatory filing that is made with the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC). The IRP describes in detail how DTE will achieve its CleanVision Plan and is subject to review by the MPSC.

2. What is an Integrated Resource Plan?

- An Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) is a comprehensive plan to meet electricity needs of our customers 5, 10, and 15 years into the future. An IRP details how a power company will provide reliable, affordable electric supply to its customers.
- An IRP evaluates things like the cost and performance of existing power generation, as well as new resources like solar and storage. It also looks at customer demand and energy efficiency, taking into consideration how business and residential customers use energy today and into the future, so the power company can plan to meet those needs with existing or new generation resources.
- Michigan's power companies like DTE Electric are required to file an IRP with the MPSC at least every five years.
- DTE is early in the IRP process and collecting inputs as it prepares detailed analyses. DTE plans to file our IRP in October 2022, about one year earlier than previously planned. The IRP will provide further detail of our CleanVision Plan.

3. Why is an IRP important?

- The energy industry is transitioning to more modern, cleaner, and efficient technologies, and this transition requires investment. Thoughtful and deliberate planning is critical to making well-informed decisions on the energy transition. The IRP provides a robust planning framework to help DTE develop an optimal plan that safely and reliably meets customer needs and is resilient to possible future risks. Ultimately, the goal of IRP modeling is to identify the optimal low-cost plan that meets generation reliability needs and the needs of our customers.

4. What is the status of DTE's IRP?

- DTE is in the beginning stages of preparing an IRP. DTE has started updating its long-term planning models to reflect current assumptions about different energy technologies and other changes since DTE's last IRP, which was filed in 2019 and concluded in early 2020. At this early stage, it is important to hear from the public and other stakeholders to inform DTE's approach.
- DTE conducted four open houses and will be conducting other outreach during the first half of 2022. DTE plans to file the IRP with MPSC in October 2022. The proceeding before the MPSC takes approximately one year and has additional opportunities for public input.

Have additional questions?

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5. Is there a way for me to engage with DTE in the IRP Process?

- Yes! Public input is an important part of the IRP process. You may submit feedback, comments, or questions at any time through this site by clicking on the questions or comments button and/or emailing DTE_Electric_CleanVision@dteenergy.com.
- DTE also hosted four public open houses on January 18, February 22, March 22 and April 19. In order to protect the health and safety of attendees during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to reach people across our service territory, the DTE public open houses were virtual. Recordings, presentations and transcripts from the open houses can be found on this website.

6. What kind of feedback is DTE seeking?

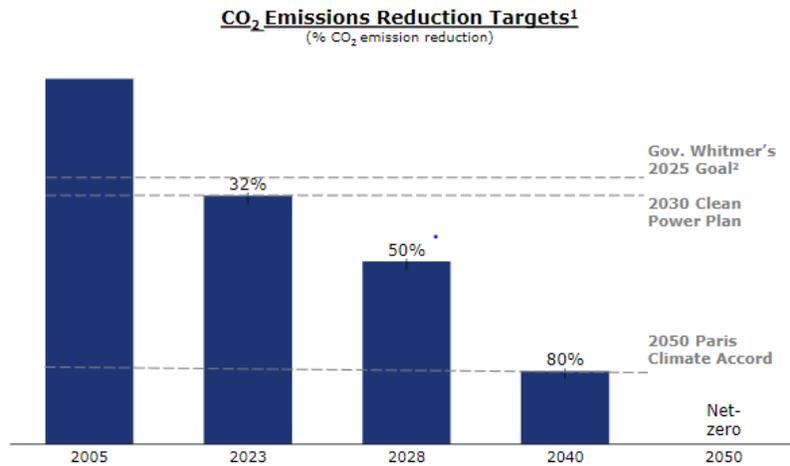
- We are seeking public input as we develop our long-term CleanVision Plan. Stakeholder input in the IRP process helps us understand what you think DTE should consider or prioritize as we plan to meet customer needs in the future. IRPs consider many factors including existing and new sources of generation and have important implications for our customers, communities we serve, our employees, and the environment. Therefore, it is expected that feedback may address a broad range of topics.

7. How will DTE use the input it receives from the public in its IRP?

- DTE is collecting input on its IRP through several ways, including public open houses, customer focus groups, and meetings with stakeholders on technical modeling assumptions. All of this input will be important to better understand priorities of customers and the communities we serve as we develop the IRP, which will outline DTE's detailed plans to meet customer demand in a reliable, affordable, and environmentally protective manner.
- Comments or questions can also be submitted at any time via DTE_Electric_CleanVision@dteenergy.com.

8. What is DTE's progress in meeting its goal to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050?

- DTE is on track to meet its net zero goal by 2050 and has recently accelerated its interim goal to achieve a 50 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2028. We will continue to evaluate opportunities to further accelerate our carbon reductions as we engage with stakeholders and customers and prepare an updated IRP this year. Achieving the net zero goal means DTE would substantially cut greenhouse gases emitted by electricity production and any residual emissions would be offset by other technologies or carbon offsets.



1. Compared to 2005 baseline: CO₂ emissions associated with energy generated for DTE customers
 2. [Whitmer - Executive Directive 2020 - 10 \(michigan.gov\)](#)

9. What does Net Zero emissions mean?

- Net zero means that any carbon emissions created are balanced by taking the same amount out of the atmosphere. Net zero is achieved when the amount of carbon emissions added is no more than the amount taken away.

10. Consumers Energy recently announced its plans to retire all remaining coal plants by 2025. Will DTE do the same?

- No. As part of the IRP, we will evaluate our existing supplies of power including coal generation to ensure clean, affordable, and reliable power. We consider any decisions around plant retirements very carefully and have been taking a phased approach.
- By 2023 DTE Electric will have retired ~3,300 MW of coal powered generation from six power plants – Conners Creek, Harbor Beach, Marysville, River Rouge (2021), St. Clair (2022) and Trenton (2022) power plants.
- DTE also recently [announced](#) that it would cease burning coal at Belle River by 2028 instead of 2030 as previously planned. The Monroe power plant has a planned retirement of 2040. DTE will evaluate earlier retirement dates as part of the IRP and consider cost, reliability impacts, supply adequacy, community impacts and other factors. Any plan DTE puts forward will reflect our commitment to affordable, reliable, and clean power for customers 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

11. 2040 seems like a pretty late target date to retire such a large coal plant as the Monroe Power Plant. Is there a possibility that date will move up?

- Our current retirement date for the Monroe Power Plant is by 2040 although plant retirement dates and the future generation mix will be evaluated in the upcoming and future CleanVision Plans.
- DTE considers any decisions around plant retirements very carefully. It's important to remember that as we retire our plants, we have an objective to do this successfully focusing on how we work with the communities and our employees. We also take into consideration how we will balance decarbonization, affordability, and reliability keeping in mind impacts to customers.

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12. I heard the phase Retire with PRIDE related to plant retirements. What is this?

- In preparation for plant retirements, DTE established a vision to retire coal-fired power plants with PRIDE, which stands for People, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Engagement.
- This approach is rooted in the concept that the plants, and the employees who operate them every day, have been partnering with the communities for nearly 100 years and this initiative seeks to ensure a thoughtful, dignified transition of these power plants, the employees, and their host communities. The plants have been around for decades and played an important role in both DTE Electric's and the State of Michigan's history.
- This is built upon a foundation of collaboration and communication among all stakeholders. We continue to work closely with community leaders, government officials and local businesses to foster development and investment within impacted communities through grants and volunteer efforts.

13. Will DTE expand the use of renewable energy as part of its IRP?

- Yes. DTE is committed to growing renewable power in Michigan. We are currently the largest producer of renewable energy in the state. Our 50-plus wind and solar projects generate enough clean energy to power nearly 700,000 homes. By 2025, DTE will double its renewable energy generation capacity, investing an additional \$3 billion.
- The IRP will examine the amounts, types, and timing of future investments in renewable energy such as wind and solar as well as other technologies such as battery storage.

14. What programs does DTE have available for customers wanting to support renewable energy, save money, and reduce carbon emissions?

- DTE has a number of customer programs supporting cleaner energy and customer savings. You can find out more about each program on this website under **Join Us**, by clicking [here](#) or the links below:
 - [Energy Efficiency](#)
 - [MIGreenPower](#)
 - [Electric Vehicles](#)
 - [DTE Insight](#)
 - [Rooftop Solar and Private Generation | DTE Energy](#)
 - [CleanVision Natural Gas Balance](#)
 - [Energy Assistance](#)

15. If I make my home or business more energy efficient, is that considered in generation resource planning?

- Yes. Actions to reduce energy use in your home or business impact total customer needs. Actions you take to cut energy waste can reduce the amount electricity generation needed to serve customers and related emissions. DTE offers programs to help customers save on their energy bills and considers the role of energy efficiency in its IRP.

16. What is MIGreenPower?

- MIGreenPower is a voluntary green program that enables customers to attribute up to 100% of their energy use to Michigan-made wind and solar, whether they own or rent their home or office space. Nearly 500 customers are joining MIGreenPower each week, reducing their carbon footprint and bringing more clean energy onto the grid.
- Customer participation in the MIGreenPower voluntary program has doubled for the third year in a row. Today, the program has achieved more than 50,000 residential, 500 small business and 35 industrial customer enrollments.

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- On an annual basis, MIGreenPower customers have enrolled 1.9 million megawatt hours of clean energy in the program, avoiding 1.5 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions, or the greenhouse gas emissions from more than 293,000 passenger cars.

17. Does DTE consider changes in customer demand when they prepare a CleanVision Plan?

- Yes, the plan, through the sales forecast, considers how much energy residential, commercial, and industrial customers will need today and, in the future, and when energy is needed the most or the peak time – including a reserve amount.
- Changes in customer demand could be driven by things like the adoption of electric vehicles or rooftop solar, economic activity, or business additions/business closures. DTE only includes publicly announced business additions or losses that are known at the time the sales forecast is being generated.

18. Does DTE consider distributed generation resources, like rooftop solar, in their CleanVision Plan?

- Yes. The CleanVision Plan will consider distributed generation, like rooftop solar in it; we are working through the best way to include this in the modeling.

19. The CleanVision Plan considers distribution and transmission reliability impacts. Can you describe distribution and transmission and how impacts are analyzed?

- The CleanVision Plan does consider distribution and transmission reliability impacts, as the generation resources that produce electricity need to reach customers and changes in electric generation may impact the flow of power.
 - Transmission lines are the long cables or conductors on the tall towers that you often see running alongside highways. Transmission lines are high-voltage lines, carrying large amounts of power from generation centers to places like substations, where the power is then distributed to homes and businesses through the distribution system.
 - The distribution system includes substations, poles and the distribution lines you often see near your homes and businesses. The distribution lines are the low voltage lines carrying electricity from the substation to the residential and commercial end users.
- DTE's generation planning team works with the distribution planning team to identify opportunities to collaborate. For transmission, utilities analyze how their plan may impact the transmission system. DTE does not own transmission lines; transmission in DTE Electric's service territory is owned by ITC Holdings. We work closely with ITC Holdings to understand if there are any impacts from the CleanVision Plan on the transmission system.

20. DTE Electric just filed a proposal to raise electric rates. What can you tell me about it?

- On January 21, 2022, DTE Electric filed an electric rate review proposal with the MPSC detailing the need for the filing and expected customer benefits.
- The proposed investment in the state's energy grid, electric storage and generation system will prepare our region for 21st century demands posed by growing electrification needs, climate change, and the fast-evolving preferences of consumers and businesses.
- Put another way, DTE is proposing to advance investments in a 21st century smart grid – the grid of Michigan's future, delivering clean energy of the future.
- This rate review proposal represents a major commitment to reliability for our customers and innovation for the years ahead. DTE is seeking approval of significant infrastructure investments to improve the reliability and resilience of its electric distribution system as detailed in our Distribution Grid Plan filed with the Commission last year.

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21. What investments are included in DTE’s proposed electric rate review?

- The rate review filing will address investments in two main areas, **grid infrastructure** and the **transition of electric generation to cleaner sources**.
- Investments in the electric grid infrastructure will include:
 - Continuation of the multi-year tree trimming surge program
 - Strategic infrastructure investments in substations, poles, wires, transformers and other assets to modernize the grid and improve reliability
 - Investing and installing smart technologies to help detect and prevent large-scale interruptions
- These investments will not only reduce how often and how long customers experience power outages, they will also enable us to support customer adoption of new technologies such as batteries, solar, and electric vehicles (EVs).
- Investments in the transition of electric generation to cleaner sources will include:
 - The expected start-up of the Company’s new natural gas plant, Blue Water Energy Center (BWEC), in the second quarter of 2022 and continuing the retirement of our Tier 2 coal fleet
 - Enhanced information technology capabilities to improve the customer experience
 - Energy storage in the form of batteries and green hydrogen
 - Expanded programs to support deployment of EVs
- DTE Electric has retired four of its coal-fired facilities (Marysville, Harbor Beach, Conners Creek and River Rouge) and plans to retire two of its four remaining coal plants – St. Clair and Trenton Channel – in 2022.
- We will lay out our long-term vision for additional clean energy investments as part of our CleanVision Plan (IRP) in October 2022.

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