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What a great business to be in.

Detroit Edison recently told the Michigan Public Service Commission that it expects to provide less electricity in 2008 than in 2007 - and less in 2009 than in 2008, for a total reduction of about 2.4 percent. Then the utility said that because it is losing load - and the revenue that comes with that load - it needs to [raise electric rates](#).

Meanwhile, [in another rate case](#), Detroit Edison says it gained customers during 2007 from choice suppliers (largely due to 2004 MPSC rules that imposed new regulations on customers seeking to move from one supplier to another, as you can do for every other purchase you make.) And because it gained customers, it needs to - yep, you got it - raise rates.

An Administrative Law Judge agreed with Detroit Edison that under current state law, when it gains customers and is forced to buy more power on the market to deal with them, it should be allowed to raise rates on everyone.

This kind of behavior won't fly in a competitive system - and that's why Detroit Edison is spending millions of dollars to convince lawmakers to give it a monopoly. That way, it can make money when it sends out less power - and when it sends out more!

Sites of Interest

- [About the Customer Choice Coalition](#)
- [Michigan House of Representatives](#)
- [Michigan Senate](#)
- [Michigan Public Service Commission](#)
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