



DTE Energy



Thomas A. Hughes

Vice President and General Counsel, Detroit Edison

Thomas A. Hughes, 57, is vice president and general counsel of Detroit Edison, an electric utility serving 2.1 million customers in Southeastern Michigan, and the principal operating subsidiary of DTE Energy (NYSE: DTE), a diversified energy company involved in the development and management of energy-related businesses and services nationwide.

Hughes joined Detroit Edison as a senior staff attorney in 1978. In this position, he was directly involved with all aspects of the legal work associated with the company's regulatory proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Michigan Public Service Commission and various courts. From 1983-1988, Hughes was responsible for the supervision of all attorneys working on regulatory matters for the company before various agencies, courts and legislature. Beginning in 1988, as general attorney-regulatory affairs, he was responsible for the direction and control of all legal affairs of the company relating to rates, corporate governance and finance, and general regulatory matters including anti-takeover/corporate preparedness, anti-trust and competitive issues including franchise rights.

In June 1993, Hughes was elected associate general counsel and manager of the day-to-day responsibilities of an approximately 30-lawyer legal department. Elected assistant vice president, manager and associate general counsel in June 1988, Hughes has continued responsibility for day-to-day legal operations. The major area of focus since 1995 has continued to be electric industry restructuring and corporate strategy. Since August 1999, he also served on a special assignment as DTE Energy and MCN Energy Group Merger Transition Manager.

Hughes earned a bachelor of science degree from Missouri Valley College, and a law degree from the University of Missouri. He served in the U.S. Army artillery from 1963-1965.

Prior to joining Detroit Edison, Hughes was the general counsel of the Missouri Public Service Commission.

Hughes has held elected leadership positions with the Administrative Law Section of the Michigan Bar Association, the Michigan Chapter of the American Corporate Counsel Association and the Metropolitan Detroit Bar Association Foundation.

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