

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairperson: Frank O. Heintz, 1993

Appointed by Governor with Senate advice & consent: Lilo K. Schifter, 1989; Linda M. Thomas, 1990; William A. Badger, 1991; Claude M. Ligon, 1992.

Bryan G. Moorhouse, *General Counsel*
 Ronald E. Hawkins, *Executive Secretary*
 Michael J. Scibinico II, *Executive Director*

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Budget (Code 22.07.00)	
FY1989 Total Appropriation	\$7,689,548
General Funds	\$7,235,249
Special Funds.....	\$ 454,299
FY1989 Total Authorized Positions	138.5

Annual Report to Governor & General Assembly due third Wednesday of March.

Annual Report to General Assembly on terminations of service during previous heating season due June 1.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CONSUMER ASSISTANCE & PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION
 Shirley L. Bigley, Director 333-6028

GENERAL COUNSEL
 Bryan G. Moorhouse, 333-6011

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
 Ronald E. Hawkins, 333-6066

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
 Donald P. Eveleth, Assistant Executive Secretary 333-6064

HEARING EXAMINER DIVISION
 Paul H. Harrington, Chief Hearing Examiner 333-6030

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 Michael J. Scibinico II 333-2768

ENGINEERING DIVISION
 John W. Dorsey, Chief Engineer 333-6085

ACCOUNTING DIVISION
 Charles J. Kruff, Chief Auditor..... 333-6019

TRANSPORTATION DIVISION
 Richard P. Page, Director 333-6060

RATE RESEARCH & ECONOMICS DIVISION
 Douglas E. Kinney..... 333-6022

STAFF COUNSEL DIVISION
 Allen M. Freifeld, Staff Counsel 333-6020

The Public Service Commission was established in 1910 (Chapter 180, Acts of 1910). The Commission exercises jurisdiction over all gas, electric, telephone, telegraph, water, sewage disposal, and steam heating companies operating within the State. The Commission has the power to fix rates and to suspend rate schedules pending the determination of the reasonableness of proposed rates. Public utilities may not abandon or discontinue any franchise without permission of the Commission.

The Commission has jurisdiction over common carriers engaged in the public transportation of passengers or freight within Maryland, except those carriers of passengers that come within the jurisdiction of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission (Chapter 613, Acts of 1959). The Public Service Commission also has jurisdiction over all taxicabs operating in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Cumberland, and Hagerstown. The Commission licenses taxicab drivers in Baltimore City. It also has assumed the rate-setting function formerly exercised by the Board of Examiners of Maryland Pilots (Chapter 726, Acts of 1984).

The Commission deals with rate adjustments; applications to exercise franchises; approval of issuance of securities; promulgation of new rules and regulations; and quality of utility and common carrier service. It has authority to issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for construction of new generating stations or transmission lines of a certain capacity (Code 1957, Art. 78, secs. 1-107).

The Commission is authorized to make joint investigations, hold joint hearings, and issue joint or other concurrent orders in conjunction with any official state or federal board or commission under agreements and compacts between states, under the concurrent powers of states to regulate interstate commerce as an agency of the federal government, or otherwise (Code 1957, Art. 78, sec. 59). In accordance with the federal Motor Carriers Act, the Commission also is represented on joint boards created by the Interstate Commerce Commission to hear and pass upon applications and proceedings pertaining to interstate motor carrier operations conducted in or through not more than three states.

Each utility and common carrier under Commission jurisdiction is assessed a proportionate share of the Commission's direct and indirect expenses.

Appointed by the Governor with Senate advice and consent, the Commission consists of five members, one of whom is designated as chairperson. Members serve five-year terms. The General Counsel of the Commission is an attorney-at-law of the State and is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Commission (Code 1957, Art. 78).