

FLORIDA

PSC

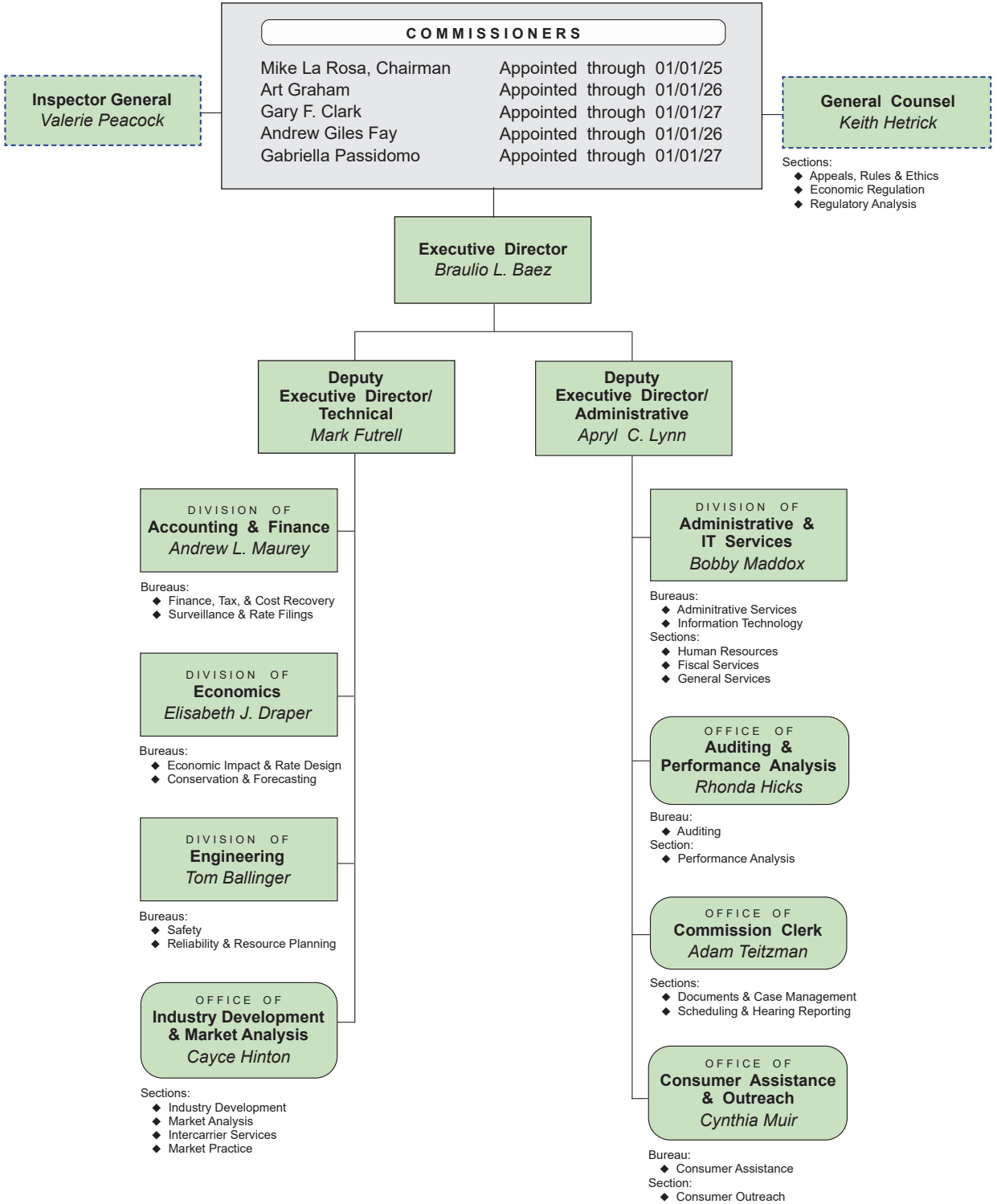
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FPSC ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

As of January 3, 2024



2024 FPSC COMMISSIONERS



COMMISSIONER
Andrew Giles Fay



COMMISSIONER
Art Graham



CHAIRMAN
Mike La Rosa



COMMISSIONER
Gary F. Clark



COMMISSIONER
Gabriella Passidomo

Mike La Rosa was appointed to the Florida Public Service Commission by Governor Ron DeSantis for a four-year term beginning January 2, 2021. He was elected to serve as Commission Chairman from January 2024 through January 2026. ♦ Chairman La Rosa is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and serves on the Committee on Electricity. He also serves on the Florida Virtual School Foundation Board of Directors, an organization that seeks to ensure that all Florida students have access to world-class education. ♦ First elected to the Florida House of Representatives, representing District 42, in 2012, Chairman La Rosa served until he was term limited in 2020. During his legislative career, he served as Chairman of the House Commerce Committee and also on the Appropriations and Rules Committees. As Chairman of the Commerce Committee, he oversaw Energy and Growth Management Policy during times where Florida's growth and economy was growing at a rapid pace. ♦ Chairman La Rosa was also active in multiple Legislative organizations where he was able to expand his horizons to learn, grow and mentor with other State Legislators from around the US. Much of his focus was on policy that fell within the growth sector, including representing the State on the Southern States Energy Board. ♦ Chairman La Rosa has worked in the real-estate and development industries and is one of the original founders of La Rosa Development and La Rosa Realty. ♦ He received his B.A. degree in Interpersonal Communications with a minor in Political Science from the University of Central Florida. ♦ Chairman La Rosa resides in Leon County with his wife and three sons.

Art Graham was appointed to the Florida Public Service Commission in July 2010 to fill the remainder of an unexpired term and was reappointed three times, most recently for a term through January 1, 2026. He was elected three times to serve as Commission Chairman, working with his colleagues to find ways to hold down rates for Florida's consumers and businesses. ♦ Commissioner Graham is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and was recently appointed to the NARUC Board of Directors. He is a member of NARUC's Executive Committee and also serves on NARUC's Committee on Electricity, Subcommittee on Clean Coal and Carbon Management and the Washington Action Program. He previously served on NARUC's Committee on Water from 2010 through 2016 and was appointed Co-Vice Chair in January 2015. He currently serves on the IEEE Standards Association subcommittee updating the National Electrical Safety Code's standards for strength and loading of overhead lines. ♦ Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, he served on the Jacksonville City Council. Among his duties as Council Member, Commissioner Graham helped oversee the budget of JEA, a publicly owned electric, water, and wastewater utility, and chaired the Transportation, Energy, and Utilities Committee. Previously he was on the City Council in Jacksonville Beach, which owns and operates the Beaches Energy electric utility. ♦ He is a past chair of the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization and vice president of the Northeast Florida Regional Council. He was President of ART Environmental Consulting Services from 2005 to 2009, having previously worked on electric power generating boilers and wastewater reduction as a recovery engineer with Georgia Pacific Pulp and Paper. ♦ He received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. He was inducted into the Georgia Tech Living Legends in 2005. He also is a 2001 graduate of Leadership Jacksonville and a member of Leadership Florida's Class XXVII.

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Gary F. Clark was reappointed to the Florida Public Service Commission by Governor Ron DeSantis for a term beginning January 1, 2023. He was first appointed to the Commission by Governor Rick Scott in 2017. Commissioner Clark was elected to serve as Commission Chairman from January 2020 through January 2022. ♦ Prior to his appointment to the PSC, Commissioner Clark served as the Deputy Secretary of Land and Recreation for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. During this time, he oversaw 174 state parks and trails, as well as the Division of State Lands. In this role, he served as the chair of the Florida Acquisition and Restoration Council and as chairman of the governing board of the Florida Communities Trust. ♦ Earlier in his career, Commissioner Clark spent the majority of time at West Florida Electric Cooperative, where he served as the Vice President of Member Services. During his tenure with the cooperative, he worked in many areas and also led its diversification efforts. He also served for many years as a member of the Association of Energy Engineers where he earned the distinction as Certified Energy Manager. ♦ Commissioner Clark is recognized for his leadership and service to his community. He has served in several capacities including Washington County School Board member, Chipola College Board of Trustees, Washington County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board. Because of his noteworthy leadership, he has received numerous awards and recognitions. ♦ Commissioner Clark is a graduate of Chipola College and the University of Phoenix and holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He is a lifelong resident of Washington County, and has owned and managed several small business operations in Northwest Florida. ♦ He and his wife have two children.

Andrew Giles Fay was reappointed to the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) by Governor Ron DeSantis for a term ending on January 1, 2026. He was first appointed to the PSC by Governor Rick Scott in February 2018. He was elected to serve as Commission Chairman from January 2022 through January 2024. ♦ Commissioner Fay currently serves as the Chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) Critical Infrastructure Committee where he leads a national effort to enhance the resiliency and reliability of America's energy grid. He also serves on NARUC's Subcommittee on Education and Research where he is the lead faculty member of the nation's premier rate development program, also known as Rate School. ♦ Commissioner Fay was named by his peers as one of Florida Trend's "Legal Elite Government and Nonprofit Lawyers" and has also been recognized as the "Government Attorney of the Year" for his work on a wide array of issues including assisting victims of the attack on the Pulse nightclub in Orlando. He was also recently appointed to advise the Florida Bar Board of Governors on the use of Artificial Intelligence within the judicial system. ♦ Commissioner Fay earned his Bachelor's and Juris Doctorate from Florida State University. While in Law School, Commissioner Fay served as the Editor-In-Chief of the Florida State Business Review and was also recognized nationally for his work in public service while representing the law school as Student Bar Association President.

Gabriella Passidomo was reappointed to the Florida Public Service Commission by Governor Ron DeSantis for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2023. She was first appointed to the Commission in 2021 to fill a vacant seat. ♦ Commissioner Passidomo is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). She serves on the NARUC Committee on Gas, the NARUC Gas Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety, and was recently appointed to serve on NARUC's Task Force on Gas Planning. Commissioner Passidomo is a member of the Financial Research Institute's Advisory Board and was recently appointed to the Gas Technology Institute's Public Interest Advisory Council and New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities Advisory Council. ♦ Before being appointed to the Commission, Commissioner Passidomo served in the FPSC's Office of General Counsel, where she provided analysis and recommendations on issues spanning the Commission's regulatory jurisdiction. ♦ Commissioner Passidomo served as a law clerk for the Florida solicitor general in the Office of the Attorney General. As a law student, she interned in the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Electricity and Fossil Energy. Commissioner Passidomo also authored a report on federal certifications for natural gas pipeline construction under the National Environmental Policy Act, becoming very familiar with federal energy and environmental policy. ♦ Commissioner Passidomo graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Florida. She earned a Juris Doctorate from the Washington and Lee University School of Law and is a member of the Florida Bar. She received her MBA from Florida State University.

FPSC Commissioners

Chairman Mike La Rosa
(850) 413-6044

Commissioner Art Graham
(850) 413-6040

Commissioner Gary F. Clark
(850) 413-6038

Commissioner Andrew Giles Fay
(850) 413-6046

Commissioner Gabriella Passidomo
(850) 413-6042

Executive Management

Executive Director
Braulio L. Baez, (850) 413-6463

Deputy Executive Director/Administrative
Apryl C. Lynn, (850) 413-6345

Deputy Executive Director/Technical
Mark Futrell, (850) 413-6055

General Counsel

General Counsel
Keith Hetrick, (850) 413-6199

Inspector General

Inspector General
Valerie Peacock, (850) 413-6071

Division Directors and Office Heads

Director, Division of Accounting & Finance
Andrew L. Maurey, (850) 413-6900

Director, Division of Administrative & IT Services
Bobby Maddox, (850) 413-6330

Director, Office of Auditing & Performance Analysis
Rhonda Hicks, (850) 413-6854

Director, Division of Economics
Elisabeth J. Draper, (850) 413-6842

Director, Division of Engineering
Tom Ballinger, (850) 413-6910

Commission Clerk, Office of Commission Clerk
Adam Teitzman, (850) 413-6826

Director, Office of Industry Development & Market Analysis
Cayce Hinton, (850) 413-7160

Media

Director, Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach
Cynthia Muir, (850) 413-6482

Consumer Assistance

Florida Public Service Commission
Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Local Consumer Assistance Line: 850-413-6100
Toll Free Consumer Assistance Line: 1-800-342-3552
Toll Free Fax: 1-800-511-0809

E-mail address: contact@psc.state.fl.us
Website: www.FloridaPSC.com

PSC Mission Statement

To facilitate the efficient provision of safe and reliable utility services at fair prices.

Composition of the PSC

The Public Service Commission consists of five members selected for their knowledge and experience in one or more fields substantially related to the duties and functions of the Commission. These fields include economics, accounting, engineering, finance, natural resource conservation, energy, public affairs, and law.

The Chairman is the chief administrative officer of the Commission, presiding at all hearings and conferences when present, setting Commission hearings, and performing those duties prescribed by law. The Chairman is elected by the Commission pursuant to law.

A Commissioner is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Commissioners serve terms of four years, as provided in Chapter 350, Florida Statutes. Prior to 1979, three Commissioners were elected in a statewide election. The 1978 Legislature changed the Commission to a five-member appointed board.

Maintaining the Balance

The work of the Florida Public Service Commission is a balancing act. The Commission must balance the needs of a utility and its shareholders with the needs of consumers. Traditionally, the Commission achieved this goal by establishing exclusive utility service territories, regulating the rates and profits of a utility, and requiring the utility to provide service to all who requested it. For electric and water customers in the state, many of the Commission's traditional methods for achieving the balance continue today. Legislative action during the 1995 session to open up the local telephone market to increased competition, however, required the Commission to facilitate entry of new firms into the local telephone market, while at the same time ensuring that neither the new entrant nor the incumbent local exchange company is unfairly advantaged or disadvantaged. Section 364.01(4), F.S., calls for the Commission to exercise its jurisdiction to encourage and promote competition.

In 2011, legislation was approved that reduced the Commission's jurisdiction over the telecommunications industry. The Commission retains the authority to ensure that incumbent local exchange carriers meet their obligation to provide unbundled access, interconnection, and resale to competitive local exchange companies in a nondiscriminatory manner. And, the Commission oversees the federal Lifeline Assistance program in Florida, and the administration of a statewide telecommunications access system to provide Telecommunications Relay Services for the deaf, hard-of-hearing, or speech impaired.

Calendar of Historical Events Related to the PSC

1887	Florida Railroad Commission was established, Chapter 3746
1891	Repeal of Chapter 4068, abolishing the Florida Railroad Commission
1897	Enactment of Chapter 4700, re-establishing the Florida Railroad Commission
1911	Jurisdiction over telephone services added
1929	Jurisdiction over motor carrier transportation added
1947	Name changed to Florida Railroad and Public Utilities Commission
1951	Jurisdiction over investor-owned electric utilities added
1952	Jurisdiction over investor-owned natural gas utilities and safety only for municipally owned gas utilities added
1959	Jurisdiction over privately owned water and wastewater companies added
1963	Name changed to Florida Public Utilities Commission
1965	Name changed to Florida Public Service Commission
1972	Jurisdiction over airlines added
1974	Rate structure jurisdiction over municipal and rural cooperative electric utilities added
1978	Airlines were deregulated
1979	Commission composition changed from three elected to five appointed Commissioners
1980	Motor carriers were deregulated
1985	Railroads were deregulated
1986	Safety jurisdiction over all electric utilities added
1992	Jurisdiction over intrastate natural gas pipelines added
1995	Legislature opened up local telecommunications market to increased competition
2011	The Commission's jurisdiction over telecommunications was reduced

Commission Responsibilities

The Florida Legislature adopted Florida Statutes 350 and 364-368 to establish the powers and responsibilities of the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission) as a regulator of public utilities under its jurisdiction. The Commission is committed to making sure that Florida's consumers receive some of their most essential services -- electric, natural gas, telephone, water, and wastewater -- in a safe, affordable, and reliable manner. In doing so, the PSC exercises regulatory authority over utilities in one or more of three key areas: rate base/economic regulation; competitive market oversight; and monitoring of safety, reliability, and service issues. Those areas are briefly described as follows:

- ◆ Rate base/economic regulation involves analyzing requested rate changes and conducting earnings surveillance to ensure that regulated utilities are not exceeding their authorized rates of return.
- ◆ Competitive market oversight entails facilitating the development of competitive markets and issues associated with them.
- ◆ Safety, reliability, and service monitoring ensures an uninterrupted supply of utility services to the general public, and confirms that such services are provided in a reasonable and timely manner with minimal risks.

In 2023, the FPSC regulated 4 investor-owned electric companies, 5 investor-owned natural gas utilities, and 146 investor-owned water and/or wastewater utilities and had competitive market oversight for 289 telecommunications companies in Florida.

The number of certificated telecommunications companies as of November 2023 was as follows:

- ◆ 10 incumbent local exchange companies (ILECs)
- ◆ 257 competitive local exchange companies (CLECs)
- ◆ 22 pay telephone companies (PATs)

The FPSC does not regulate the rates and service quality of publicly owned municipal or cooperative electric utilities; however, the Commission does have jurisdiction regarding rate structure, territorial boundaries, bulk power supply operations, and power supply planning over 35 municipally owned electric systems and 18 rural electric cooperatives. The FPSC has jurisdiction regarding territorial boundaries and safety, over 27 municipally owned natural gas utilities and 4 gas districts. In addition, the Commission exercises safety authority over all electric and natural gas systems operating in the state.

How Rates Are Set

Whenever a jurisdictional rate-base-regulated gas, electric, or water or wastewater company wants to change its rates, it must receive permission from the PSC. The PSC then investigates its request and sets new rate levels if the request is valid. The investigation is extensive with many PSC staff members helping the Commission assess the company's request. The Public Service Commission has the responsibility to set rates that are fair, just, and reasonable. It is also required to set rates to allow utility investors an opportunity to earn a reasonable return on their investment.

Public Input

As part of its investigation in rate cases, the PSC often holds a customer hearing within the utility's service area so that the Commissioners can hear from the public. Customers may comment or ask questions on the proposed rates or make statements relating to the utility's operations. The Office of Public Counsel (OPC), who is appointed by the Florida Legislature, represents customers at rate case hearings.

Technical Hearings

Following customer hearings, technical hearings similar to courtroom proceedings are held in which evidence is presented by expert witnesses in support of each viewpoint represented. Witnesses are cross-examined by the utility, intervenors, staff, and the OPC. This information is utilized by the Commission when it evaluates company requests.

Commission Decision

The utility is required to justify all of its expenses for the operations of the utility. An expense that the Commission determines to be improper, imprudent, or unnecessary is disallowed and is excluded from the amount the utility is allowed to collect from customers.

The Commission also looks at the amount utility stockholders have invested in utility plant and other facilities and allows a reasonable return on the investment necessary to provide good service.

After all evidence is presented, the Commission reviews the record that has been developed and renders a decision. The decision it makes will determine the level of rates the company will be permitted to collect.

Rates are calculated to generate revenues that allow a company the opportunity to earn the amount needed for the approved expenses plus the authorized return. However, there is no guarantee that the authorized return will be achieved.

Once the final order is issued, the Commission's decision can be appealed to the state's appellate court system.

Public Involvement at the PSC

The Public Service Commission is aware of the importance of public involvement in decisions that affect utility companies and their consumers. Public involvement may take several forms, from simply receiving news releases or other notices of PSC activities, to appearances at public meetings or formal participation in rate cases.

General Information

General information about all PSC programs is available from the Florida Public Service Commission's Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach at 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850. You may also call 1-800-342-3552, or fax your questions and/or comments to 1-800-511-0809. In addition, you may contact the PSC via the following E-mail address: contact@psc.state.fl.us. 24-hour online complaint forms are available at www.FloridaPSC.com.

A variety of brochures on utility regulation, conservation, and PSC programs are available from our home page (www.FloridaPSC.com), or may be obtained by calling our consumer line at 1-800-342-3552.

Consumer Brochures & Reports

- ◆ A Guide to Utility Assistance in Florida
- ◆ Area Codes and Why They Change (English & Spanish)
- ◆ Conserve Your World (English & Spanish)
- ◆ Conservation House (English & Spanish)
- ◆ Consumer Publications Available from the FPSC (English & Spanish)
- ◆ Electric Power Interruptions (Momentary Outages)
- ◆ Florida Be Prepared (English & Spanish)
- ◆ FPSC Bookmark
- ◆ FPSC Facts & Figures (English & Spanish)
- ◆ FPSC Scam Alert
- ◆ Get Wise and Conserve Florida!
- ◆ Hurricane House - Be Prepared (English & Spanish)
- ◆ If You Have Problems with Utility Service or Rates (English & Spanish)
- ◆ Inside the Florida PSC
- ◆ Lifeline Assistance Programs (English, Spanish, & English & Spanish large print)
- ◆ Love Saving Energy
- ◆ Low-Cost Home Internet Service Plans for Qualifying Households
- ◆ Natural Gas Utility Regulation in Florida
- ◆ Price Index and Pass Through Rate Adjustments for Water and Wastewater Utilities
- ◆ Rate Case Procedures for Water and Wastewater Utilities
- ◆ Reducing Electric Costs
- ◆ Save Money On Your Water Bill Drop by Drop
- ◆ Utility Ratemaking in Florida
- ◆ Water & Wastewater Jurisdictional Counties Map
- ◆ Water Management in Florida
- ◆ What You Need to Know About Electric & Natural Gas Service
- ◆ When To Call the Florida Public Service Commission (English & Spanish)
- ◆ Where To Find Help in Florida (English & Spanish)
- ◆ Your Water and Wastewater Service (English & Spanish)

Press Releases

Press releases are prepared on important PSC decisions and activities, as well as on relevant issues affecting Florida's consumers. Press releases can be accessed on the PSC's website home page, www.FloridaPSC.com. The Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach can be reached at (850) 413-6482.

Annual Report

The PSC publishes an annual report that provides an overview of its organizational structure and includes brief summaries of its divisions and their major areas of responsibility. The report describes the PSC's participation in developments resulting from the rapid changes in the state's utility industries and reflects the Commission's historical progression, as well as future issues to be addressed.

Weekly Summary of Orders and New Dockets Opened Reports

Reports of the PSC's orders and a listing of new dockets opened are published weekly and are available online at www.FloridaPSC.com. (Click on **Clerk's Office** and then **Weekly Report of New Dockets and Summary of Orders**.) To subscribe to these reports by mail, contact the Office of Commission Clerk at (850) 413-6770.

PSC Website

The Commission's website address is www.FloridaPSC.com. PSC press releases, brochures, reports, and other items of interest can be found on the website. In addition, the weekly summary of orders, report of new dockets opened, and current and previous agendas and recommendations are accessed on the home page. The PSC also provides audio and video access to its Commission Conference meetings and hearings.

Does the PSC Have Public Meetings?

Yes. Public meetings called “Commission Conferences” are held each month in the Betty Easley Conference Center’s Joseph P. Cresse Hearing Room, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Commission Conferences are noticed in the Florida Administrative Weekly approximately ten (10) days in advance of each conference. At these meetings, the Commission makes its decisions on docketed cases.

The public may address the Commission on these cases if the case has not yet been to hearing. If the case has been to hearing, the public may observe, but may not address the Commission, because the evidentiary record has closed.

Other public meetings and workshops are held in Tallahassee and other locations as needed. Public notice is given for all public meetings. Staff members from major industry areas attend the public meetings and are available to answer questions or explain issues. The Commission calendar may be viewed on the PSC website.

Copies of Agendas and Staff Recommendations

- (1) The agenda for meetings is prepared by the Commission in time to ensure that a copy may be received at least seven days before the meeting by any person in the state who has requested a copy and pays for it.
- (2) The agenda and staff recommendations are available online at www.FloridaPSC.com. (Click on **Conferences and Meeting Agendas** and then **Commission Conferences of the FPSC**.)
- (3) Copies of staff recommendations for items on the agenda may also be obtained from the Office of Commission Clerk upon request and payment of the applicable copying fee. Parties to a proceeding are entitled to one copy of the staff recommendation filed in the proceeding at no cost.

How Do I Participate in Public Service Commission Cases?

There are two ways to participate in the proceedings before the Commission, as an “interested person” or as a formal “intervenor.”

Interested Persons

Interested persons may submit written or present oral comments at the public testimony portion of hearings in formal proceedings. They may also submit written comments to the Florida Public Service Commission, Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850.

Intervenors

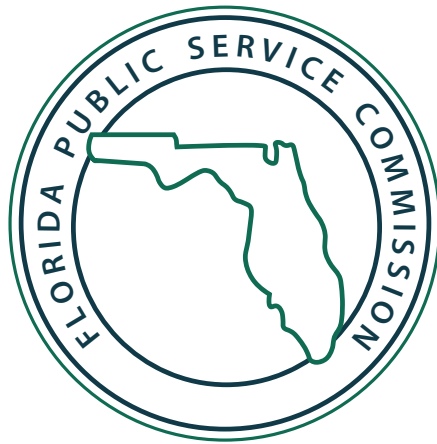
Intervenors in rate case proceedings may file testimony, cross-examine witnesses, and be cross-examined themselves. Because formal participation is more demanding and technical in nature, that level of involvement is normally used by organizations with resources to hire attorneys, or by individuals who are very familiar with utility matters. Intervenor status must be approved by the Commission. Instructions on how to petition to become an intervenor are available from the PSC’s Office of General Counsel, (850) 413-6248. In addition, the Office of Public Counsel (OPC) is authorized by law to represent consumers in proceedings before the PSC. The OPC can be reached at (850) 488-9330, or visit its website at www.floridaopc.gov. Procedural requirements for participation in formal Commission hearings are codified in Chapter 25-22, Florida Administrative Code.

Mailing List

The Office of Commission Clerk maintains mailing lists to keep interested persons informed of meetings, hearings, or other major steps in pending cases. Anyone wanting to be placed on the official docket mailing list of a particular utility case or on a general mailing list to receive notices of all hearings, workshops, or meetings in a specific industry may contact the Commission Clerk at (850) 413-6770.

Contact Information

The PSC has a toll-free consumer number, **1-800-342-3552**, a toll-free fax number, **1-800-511-0809**, and an E-mail address, contact@psc.state.fl.us, that consumers can use to reach the PSC. Hours of operation are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except state holidays.



2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

The Public Service Commission provides a staff of specialists who are available to answer questions from Florida consumers.

To reach a PSC consumer representative,
please call during business hours at
(850) 413-6100, toll free at **1-800-342-3552**,
or send a fax to 1-800-511-0809.

E-mail Address:
contact@psc.state.fl.us
Website:
www.FloridaPSC.com

