

## Commission Business Meeting Notes

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

*Post-Meeting Summary Notes, Drafted and Presented by Rob Bockman*

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Thank you for joining us for today's post-meeting summary. These Commission Business Meetings are held each Wednesday at 2 p.m. and all agendas and materials are posted to the Docket Management System prior to each meeting. If you have questions about Commission business, we encourage you to reach out to us at [robert.bockman@psc.sc.gov](mailto:robert.bockman@psc.sc.gov) or via social media by following the SC Utility Consumer program on Twitter at @UtilityConsumer and on Facebook at SC Utility Consumer.

Today's business meeting started at 2:02 p.m. with item one on the supplemental agenda, regarding Commission protocol. Commissioner Belser moved to set all hearings and meetings, until future notice, as virtual hearings. Randy Erskine was named as point of contact for any technological questions. This motion carried. Commissioner Belser also asked that the vote serve as the roll call for today's meeting.

Item two was a joint motion for a virtual evidentiary hearing. Commissioner Whitfield made the motion to grant this request at the date and time of the originally scheduled hearing. This motion carried.

Item three was a request for a sixty-day extension of time for utility providers to file the annual reports of affiliate transactions. This request carried following a motion made by Commissioner Whitfield.

On the utilities agenda, item one was a request for confidential treatment of rebuttal testimony and exhibits in Docket No. 2020-1-E. Commissioner Howard moved to grant this request, noting that it contains proprietary and confidential information. This motion carried.

Item two was a request made by Piedmont Natural Gas Company to suspend routine meter testing for the remainder of 2020, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. This routine testing requires employees to enter the homes or businesses of customers to perform various checks and diagnostics, potentially increasing transmission of the virus. Commissioner Ervin moved to grant this, noting that ORS has no objection to this request. This motion carried.

Item three was an application for adjustment in the levels of allowable costs and for identification of allowable costs in fiscal year 2019-2020. Commissioner Belser moved for the Commission to accept the proposed allowable costs and the variable cost rates for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as outlined in Appendix B. Her motion carried.

In addition to these items, Commissioners were also briefed on thirty other issues related to utilities in South Carolina. The complete list of these items, as well as links to dockets and all materials, is available on the Docket Management System at [dms.psc.sc.gov](http://dms.psc.sc.gov).

Item one on today's transportation agenda was a request for an extension of time until October of 2021, which was granted following a motion made by Commissioner Howard.

Item two was a request for an extension of time until March of 2021, which was granted following a motion brought by Commissioner Howard.

Item three was a request for an extension of time to comply with Commission rules and regulations; this carried, following a motion made by Commissioner Whitfield.

In addition to the items discussed in detail, Commissioners were advised on three other transportation-related issues. The complete list of these, as well as links to dockets and materials, can be found on the Docket Management System at [dms.psc.sc.gov](https://dms.psc.sc.gov).

Finally, the Commission deliberated on choosing a new chair and vice chair. Commissioner Whitfield nominated Justin T. Williams and moved to nominate Chairman Randall to serve as interim Chairman until Commissioner Williams' return from active duty. Commissioner Ervin seconded this nomination, and Commissioner Justin T. Williams was elected as Chairman, with Chairman Randall serving as interim chairman. Commissioner Ervin then nominated Commissioner Belser as Vice Chair; Chairman Randall seconded this nomination, and Commissioner Belser was elected as Vice Chair.

The next regular Commission Business Meeting is set for Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. You can access the livestream broadcast of that meeting by visiting our site at [www.psc.sc.gov](https://www.psc.sc.gov) and clicking on "livestream." If you have questions about today's proceedings, please follow us on social media—on Twitter at @PSCofSC and at @UtilityConsumer or on Facebook at Public Service Commission of South Carolina or SC Utility Consumer—or call the offices of the PSC at 803.896.5100. Thank you.