

# PSC News

April 2014

Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
100 Years of Service

Issue 2  
Volume 9

## In This Issue >>>

Twitter Launch

Annual Ethics Training

10 Year Observance of Act 175

DMS Update



## PSC Launches Twitter Account

On April 1, 2014, the PSC launched a Twitter account, under the handle @PSCofSC. The Commission will be using the site to keep followers up to date on current PSC news, meetings, filings, and other items affecting utility consumers and companies regulated by the Commission. The Commission is currently following 51 organizations and has 27 followers. Please follow us to receive information regarding recent PSC news and happenings.



## Annual Ethics Training

As mandated by Act 175 of 2004, PSC Commissioners and staff recently completed the required six hours of annual ethics training. The PSC hosted two presenters this year, Cathy Hazelwood and Adam Fisher, Jr. The PSC also obtained two training hours through online seminars available through the SC Bar Association.



Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Director and General Counsel of the State Ethics Commission, discussed important aspects of the Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act of 1991.



Adam Fisher, Jr., Esquire, presented an overview of the Administrative Procedures Act and the Code of Judicial Conduct. He emphasized the eight elements of due process and the five judicial canons.



The PSC watched “Ethics: We are not in Kansas Anymore”, presented by Karen Luchka; and “A Tricycle, Marathon, Ethics, Stress Management, Your Mom’s Car”, presented by Adam Fisher, Jr.

# Reflections of Chairman O'Neal Hamilton



As I reflect on the past ten years since the enactment of Act 175, I see how far this Commission has come since that date and time. Dramatic changes were brought to the PSC, and some tough decisions had to be made during the reorganization. Four new Commissioners took their commissionership in 2004, and the old and new joined together to embrace the Act and made every effort to comply with the intent of the law, not only in the letter, but to ensure

our perception was in line with the intention of Act 175.

Since that date ten years ago, we have been able to follow the law without incident, and the Commissioners have individually tried to improve their knowledge and skills to the point this Commission is recognized as one of the leaders in the nation. Notably, the Commission constantly receives requests for copies of Act 175, and a number of other states have modeled their utilities

commissions after South Carolina. A great deal of Act 175's success is attributed to PURC and the Commission staff who have worked hard to make its implementation an extraordinary accomplishment. As this Commission continues to move ahead, we will see that it continues to be a model for the nation, and I look forward to what the future holds for us all.

PURC



Act 175 created the Public Utilities Review Committee, who oversees the PSC and ORS.

## A Look Back>>>

# Ten Year Observance of Act 175

February marked a decade since the enactment and beginning implementation of Act 175, where major changes were brought to the activities of the Commission.

The enactment of Act 175 of 2004 brought major changes to the functionality of the Public Service Commission. Prior to Act 175, the PSC handled all aspects of utility regulation in South Carolina.

The Act created the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff, tasked with the responsibility of overseeing the non-adjudicative functions associated with utility regulation, specifically: inspecting, auditing, and examining public utilities. On January 1, 2005, the Public Service Commission began operating as a restructured quasi judicial body, with the principle duty of adjudicating cases involv-

ing the State's regulated utilities. The Act also created the Public Utilities Review Committee, who oversees the activities of the PSC and ORS.

Act 175 impresses a strict ethics policy on the Commissioners and staff of the PSC, which are all bound by the Code of Judicial Conduct. The requirements of Chapter 13 of Title 8 of the SC Code of Laws ensure the PSC upholds its integrity and delivers fair and reasonable outcomes in its utility regulation. The implementation of Act 175 over the past ten years can be accredited to the combined efforts of PURC, ORS, and the PSC.



This picture, taken during a PSC staff gathering in December 2000, includes employees whose functions left the PSC with the passage of Act 175 of 2004.

# Allowable Ex Parte Briefings

Since the beginning of 2014, the Commission has held seven allowable ex parte briefings. The transcripts from these briefings are available on the PSC's website.

Requestor/Topic	Date
ND-2014-6-WS: Tega Cay Water Service, Inc. to Discuss Consent Order with DHEC	February 18, 2014
ND-2014-7-E: Office of Regulatory Staff to Discuss ORS's Monitoring of SCE&G's Nuclear Facility Near Jenkinsville, SC	February 26, 2014
ND-2014-3-E: South Carolina Electric & Gas Company to Discuss the Events of January 7, 2014, Impacting SCE&G's Electric System	February 27, 2014
ND-2014-9-E: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC & Duke Energy Progress, Inc. to Discuss Update on the Joint Dispatch Agreement	March 20, 2014
ND-2014-8-E: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC & Duke Energy Progress, Inc. to Discuss Coal Ash and North Carolina Spill	March 24, 2014
ND-2014-11-E: Southern Environmental Law Center to Discuss Coal Ash Disposal Practices in the Carolinas	March 24, 2014
ND-2014-12-E: Office of Regulatory Staff to Discuss Solar Potential in South Carolina	April 16, 2014

## Community Service



The PSC participated in two Christmas projects this year that focused on outreach to the senior population in SC. The PSC collected 35 gift bags for lonely and needy seniors for the "Santa to a Senior" program by Home Instead Senior Care. Commissioners and Staff also contributed enough to provide 70 meals to the "Share the Love" campaign provided by Meals on Wheels.



In honor of the American Heart Association's National Wear Red Day in February, the PSC sported their RED to bring awareness to the disease affecting millions of Americans each year.



Presenters during the ND-2014-7-E Allowable Ex Parte briefing.



A presenter discusses stormwater pipes during the DN-2014-8-E Allowable Ex Parte briefing.

### Commission Corner >>>



Congratulations to Commissioner Randy Randall on his appointments to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Committee on Gas and Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal. The Gas Committee fosters awareness and understanding of issues affecting the transportation, distribution, and sale of natural gas safely, efficient-

ly, and economically. The Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal subcommittee focuses on issues affecting the nuclear industry.



In November, the Commission welcomed Commissioner Brent L. McGee, District 2. Commissioner McGee was appointed by Governor Nikki Haley to fill the previously vacated seat. His current term ends June 30, 2014.




Commissioner John "Butch" Howard was recently awarded a Tier I Certificate of Continuing Regulatory Education (CCRE) by the Michigan State University Institute of Public Utilities for obtaining 240 qualified education credits in continuing regulatory education. The CCRE is endorsed by NARUC, and offers three tiers of certificates based on credit hours obtained.

# DMS Update

The picture below illustrates the updated DMS Order Detail page under a docket. The notification information includes when the order was served via the system, and the date and time the order has been confirmed by a party. Should an order recipient not confirm the receipt within three business days of the initial notification, the Order Detail information also includes whether a "green card" has been sent via U.S. Mail to a party, and the date and time. The added feature to DMS contributes to the transparency of the Commission's work, and allows parties of record to stay informed of the order notification process in a docket.

Did you know? >>>

Utility regulation began in South Carolina with the passage of an Act in 1878 by the General Assembly.



## Public Service Commission

Docket Management System South Carolina



[DMS Home](#)  
[Docket Search](#)  
[NDI Search](#)  
[Agendas](#)  
[EFile](#)  
[Matters](#)  
[Orders](#)  
[Order Index](#)  
[Meetings and Hearings](#)  
[Email Subscriptions](#)

### :: ORDER DETAIL

**Order Number 2014-175**

Dockets: [2014-51-T](#)  
Date Filed: 3/4/14  
Summary: **Order Granting Class C (Charter) Certificate** - Application of Black Cab Transportation L.L.P. for a Class C (Charter) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Downloadable Documents		
File Type/Size	Title	Inserted On
PDF/53k	Order	3/4/14 @ 4:17 PM

#### eService Notifications

eService Name	Date/Time	Status
fshehane@regstaff.sc.gov	3/4/14 4:17PM	Confirmed 3/5/14 11:00 AM
Nanette Edwards	3/6/14 8:00AM	Confirmed 3/6/14 8:02 AM
Monir Elgendy	3/8/14 8:00AM	Green Card Mailed on 3/18/14 10:27 AM

Site powered By Docket Master | Created & Maintained By ICAP  
Email WebMaster

## Public Service Commission of South Carolina



101 Executive Center Drive, Saluda Building  
Columbia, SC 29210

PO Drawer 11649  
Columbia, SC 29211

### Contact Information:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman  
7th District  
(803) 896-5259  
Chairman.Hamilton@psc.sc.gov

Nikiya "Nikki" Hall, Vice Chairman  
6th District  
(803) 896-5180  
ViceChairman.Hall@psc.sc.gov

Jocelyn Boyd, Chief Clerk & Administrator  
(803) 896-5133  
Jocelyn.Boyd@psc.sc.gov

Phone: (803) 896-5100  
Fax: (803) 896-5246  
www.psc.sc.gov  
contact@psc.sc.gov

Editor: Afton Ellison