Agency Summary & Statutory Authority

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission was organized in 1913 and is vested with power and jurisdiction to supervise and regulate investor-owned electric, gas, water, and telecommunications utilities, as well as pipelines and railroads, within the state. The commission protects the citizens and utilities of Idaho by determining fair, just, and reasonable rates for utility commodities and services to be delivered safely, reliably, and efficiently. Statutory authority is found in Titles 61 and 62, Idaho Code and the budget request is found on page 5-45 of the Legislative Budget Book.

Five-Year Total Appropriations and Expenditures

- 3 Commissioners: 6-year staggered terms
- 3 budgeted programs: Administration, Utilities Regulation, and Public Safety
- Latest audit report contained one finding which was corrected as of the 90-day follow up in February 2021.

Please see publications from the Legislative Services, Budget & Policy Analysis Division for additional details: https://legislature.Idaho.gov/lso/bpa/pubs/
Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Report to Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee
February 7, 2022
The Commission

- The Commission was established by the 12th Session of the Idaho Legislature in 1913. Statutory authorities in Idaho Code titles 61 and 62.

- Governor appoints and Senate confirms commissioners for six-year terms.

  Eric Anderson (President)
  John Chatburn
  John Hammond

- 49 authorized FTP plus five deputy attorneys general.
Commission’s Role

**Regulatory Compact** – In return for the utility’s obligation to serve customers and be subject to regulatory oversight, the company is entitled to recover its prudently incurred expenses and an opportunity to earn a rate of return on its prudently incurred investment.

The PUC’s role:

- Assurance of adequate earnings
- Assurance of safe and reliable service
- Establishment of reasonable rates
Who We Regulate

Investor-owned electric, gas and water utilities.

- Natural gas pipeline and rail safety.
- Small rural telephone companies.
- Large telephone companies, but only customer service issues, not pricing.
2021 Commission Activities

- Cases opened during CY 2021: 176
- Cases closed during CY 2021: 186
- Orders issued during CY 2021: 399
- Open cases as of Jan. 1, 2022: 39
Commission Budget

- Dedicated fund agency with some federal grants.

- Operations funded by annual assessment not more than:
  - 0.3% percent on utility intrastate revenues;
  - 1% on railroad intrastate revenues (Idaho Code 61-1004).

- FY 2021 assessments:
  - Utility 0.1953%
  - Railroad 0.6413%.
Commission Budget

- FY 2022 Total Appropriation: $6,709,600
- Estimated FY 2022 expenditures: $5,990,900
- FY 2023 Governor’s Recommendation: $6,880,700
FY 2023 Governor’s Recommendation includes:


(LBB page 5-47)
Questions ?