



Dora Public Utilities Commission

Department of Regulatory Agencies



Electricity, Natural Gas,
Steam, & Water

Rail/Transit Safety

Pipeline Safety

Telecom

Transportation

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has constitutional and statutory authority to oversee rates, service quality, and safety of public utilities in Colorado.

The PUC balances consumers' need for reliable service and reasonable rates with regulated entities' need to maintain their financial integrity while attracting sufficient capital to remain in business. The Commission also assures that consumers are protected through utility safety regulations.

The PUC is empowered with two types of authority

Quasi-judicial

Presiding over utility filings

Assuring due process for all parties

Quasi-legislative

Setting Rates

Promulgating rules

The PUC's mandate includes

- Establishing just and reasonable rates and overseeing territories and service quality of investor owned electric, gas, steam, water and telecommunications
- Maintaining fairness of rates and territories of common carriers such as:
 - taxis
 - shuttles
 - charters
 - sightseeing carriers
- Ensuring the safety of residents and the traveling public through enforcement of:
 - Safety and insurance requirements:
 - passenger carriers (including luxury limousines, charter buses, fire crew transport, and off-road scenic charters), common carriers and contract carriers
 - household goods movers
 - towing operators
 - Safety regulations:
 - natural gas pipelines
 - light rail systems and highway-rail crossings

PUC Contact Information

Director: Doug Dean

Commissioners: Joshua Epel (Chairman), James Tarpey, Matt Baker

All correspondence should be sent to the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202. For additional information about the PUC, call (303) 894-2007 or visit our website at: www.dora.state.co.us/puc

Funding

The PUC is funded with fees paid by regulated companies, not general fund revenue. Eighty percent of the funding comes from fees paid by gas, electric, steam, water, railroad and telephone utilities. The other twenty percent comes from registration and permit fees charged to motor carriers, allowing them to operate in Colorado.



Consumer Savings

The PUC approves utility rates and resolves consumer complaints, resulting in financial benefits to Colorado's consumers.

Consumer savings for each \$1 of PUC budget



PUC Staff Activities Include:

Telecom Reform

Commission, legislature, industry and other stakeholders actively accessing necessary changes to modernize telecom laws & regulations

- Universal Service
- Competitive markets and deregulation
- Intrastate access charges
- Impact of federal reform

Evaluating applications

Performing safety inspections and audits

Enforcing compliance with PUC statutes and rules

Intervening in contested proceedings in support of the public interest

Resolving complaints between consumers and regulated utilities

Electric Transmission Siting

- SB11-045 directed the PUC to lead an evaluation of current siting process and recommend improvements
- Taskforce Report submitted to Governor and General Assembly on December 1, 2011

Clean Air – Clean Jobs Act

HB10-1365 was signed into law in April 2010, codified as § 40-3.2-204, C.R.S. and required the PUC to review and approve emission reduction plans to be implemented by 2017.

Public Service Company of Colorado
2010 Total system capacity: 7,066 MW

- Retire: 551 MW
- Retrofits: 742 MW
- Switch, coal to natural gas: 463 MW

Black Hills Energy (by 2013)
2010 Total system capacity: 422 MW

- Retire: 42 MW