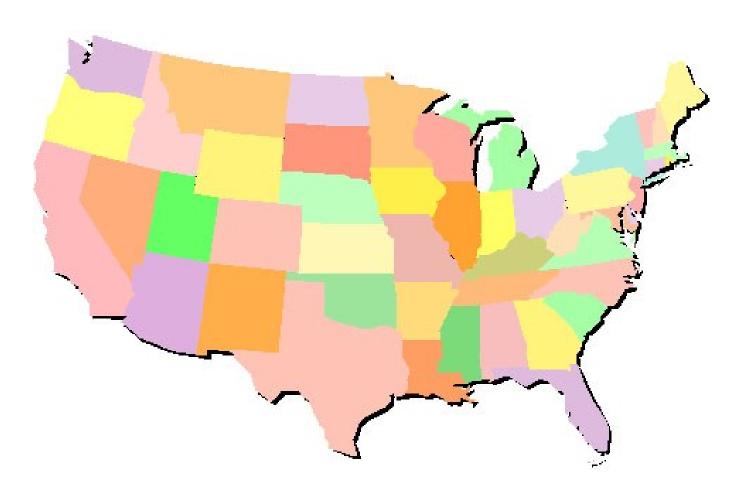




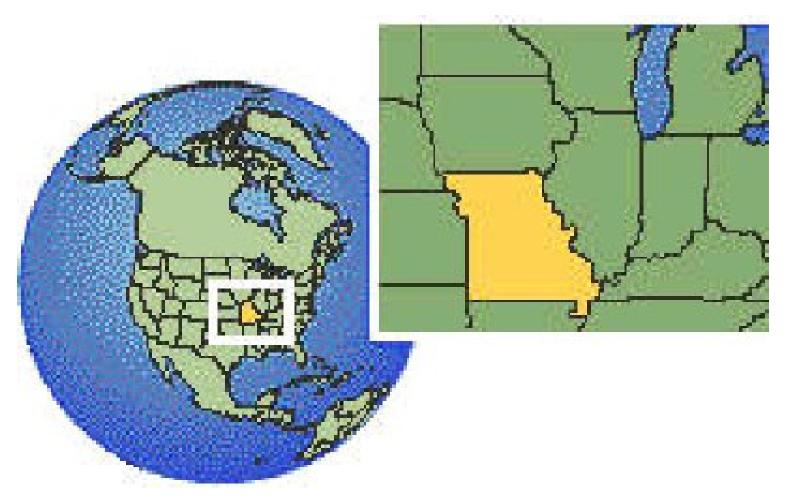
# The Missouri Public Service Commission

Presentation to the RURA Commissioner Robert M. Clayton III







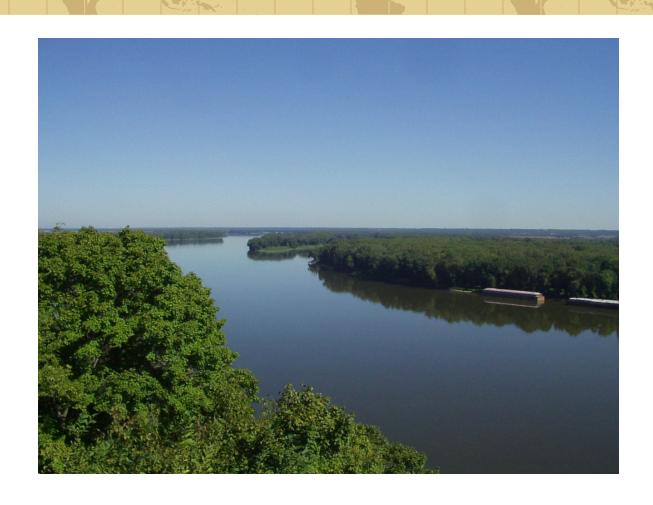






Jefferson City, Missouri





The Mississippi River

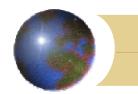


Located in the Midwest

More than 5.7 million people

2 Metropolitan areas (St. Louis and Kansas City)





# Interaction Between the Regulator and State Government



#### Three Branches of Government

**Executive** 



Legislative



**>**Judicial





# Interaction With Governor & Executive Agencies

Five commissioners appointed by the Governor. Commissioners serve six-year, staggered terms.

➤ Appointed according to political affiliation (Democrat/Republican) – no more than 3 from one party



# PSC Commissioners



**Steve Gaw, Chair** 



**Connie Murray** 



Robert M. Clayton, III



**Linward "Lin" Appling** 



**Jeff Davis** 



# Interaction With Governor & Executive Agencies

- Commissioners can be removed only for good cause by Governor after appointed
- Chairman is named by the Governor and serves at the pleasure of the Governor

Commission sets policy according to state law



Our mission is to ensure Missouri consumers receive safe, adequate, efficient and affordable services while allowing those utility companies under our jurisdiction an opportunity to earn a reasonable return on their investment. The Commission and staff are dedicated to fulfilling these public interest goals.



# PSC Responsibility

Must assure safe, adequate, reliable utility service at just and reasonable rates...

#### **AND**

Provide utility shareholders an opportunity to earn a reasonable return on their investments.



### Legislative Direction

➤ PSC was created by the General Assembly in 1913 to regulate street cars and railroads. Over the years, its jurisdiction includes, regulating the rates of all investor-owned utilities

General Assembly regularly amends our governing statutes



#### PSC Authority has evolved to Regulate



#### **Electric companies**



Natural gas companies



**Telecommunication providers** 



Water and sewer companies



Manufactured Housing Dealers and Manufacturers



# Legislative Direction

All appointments subject to Senate confirmation

➤ General Assembly can remove a Commissioner for cause by a 2/3 vote of both House and Senate chambers

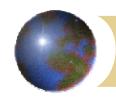


#### Judicial Review

Once appointed and confirmed,
 the PSC acts within statutory limits
 subject only to judicial review

Orders can be appealed to circuit court,
 Court of Appeals and Missouri
 Supreme Court



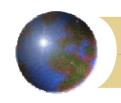


#### Political Interaction

Although independent, the PSC works closely with the Governor in setting public policy

Work with General Assembly in drafting and commenting on legislative changes

Respond to legislative constituient inquiries



#### Public Interaction

Must stay alert of political climate and mood of the public

Must be aware of economic needs and circumstances of

communities

Seek public input



#### Public Interaction

Example: Held 16 Town Hall meetings to educate consumers about the potential for higher natural gas prices

Local Public Hearings to allow consumers to voice opinions on pending rate cases

Work with customers who have complaints with utility issues



# PSC Independence

➤ In the event of an unpopular decision, the PSC is protected from the public (appointed) and the rest of government (cannot be removed without good cause)



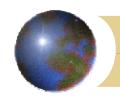


# Political Benefits

Focus on "just and reasonable rates" without repercussions from customers

Hold companies accountable for providing safe and reliable service

> Focus on insuring the stability of utility infrastructure



# Economic Benefits

- Stable and fair process
- Equitable decision making
- >The process is transparent
- Supported by legal system
- Thorough appeal process
- ➤ Encourage investment through a legal process that will reach a conclusion



### Questions

