



**The Public Utilities Regulatory Utility
Commission of Ghana
and
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Partnership Program**

April 11 – 15, 2005

Accra, Ghana

**Conducted by the
National Association of Regulatory Commissioners
Regulatory Partnership Program**

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Introduction of The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Commissioner Clarence D. Rogers, Jr.

Renee' Jenkins, Director of Administration

Tonja Goins, Low-income Programs Specialist

**OHIO
PUBLIC
UTILITY
REGULATORY
COMMISSION**



PUCO Mission

To assure all residential and business consumers access to adequate, safe, and reliable utility services at fair prices, while facilitating an environment that provides competitive choices.



The PUCO is a five-member commission

Commissioners are appointed by the
Governor and serve five-year terms

Current Commissioners:

- Alan R. Schriber, Chairman
- Ronda Hartman Fergus
- Judy A. Jones
- Donald L. Mason, Esq.
- Clarence D. Rogers, Jr.



The PUCO also has a professional staff that carries out our mission

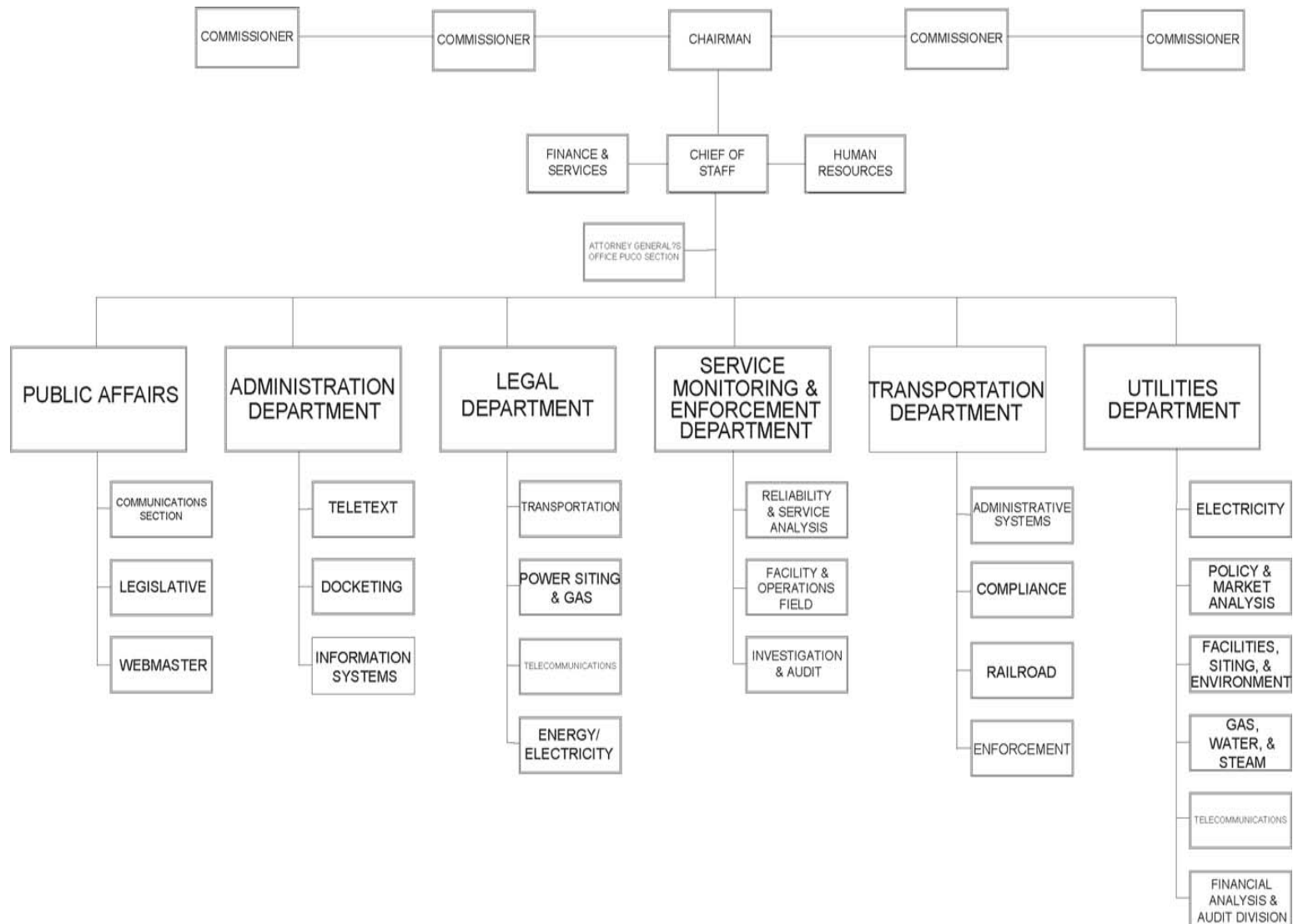
This staff includes:

- Engineers, economists, accountants, attorneys, auditors and safety inspectors
- Full staff of complaint investigators





PUCO Organization





PUCO Organization

● Commission Offices

The Commission Offices consist of the commissioners and their aides.

● Chief of Staff Offices

The Chief of Staff Offices provide the overall coordination and administration of the PUCO staff. In addition to the Chief of Staff, Christine M.T. Pirik, and her support staff, the Office includes the Human Resources division and the Finance and Services division.



The Value of an Independent and Impartial Regulator

- The basis of due process is notice and opportunity to be heard
- The person doing the hearing must be impartial: fair and unbiased
- The person must abandon his/her own personal views and be bound by the law or the contract



PUCO: The Independent Regulator

Must:

- a) Not have prejudged the issues of fact or the parties
- b) Not have a personal bias or prejudice toward parties which might impede his/her ability to judge the issues of fact fairly
- c) Not have a personal interest whereby he/she stands to gain or lose from the outcome



PUCO: The Independent Regulator

There may be outside influences which tend to interfere with the process and hinder one's ability to be fair. If this happens, He/she would disqualify him/herself from the Proceeding.



PUCO: The Independent Regulator

A fact that exists in tribunals such as a Commission is the reality that the hearing officer or commissioner may have one eye on his potential for re-appointment or future employment.



PUCO: The Independent Regulator

The PUCO seeks to:

- Ensure access to safe and reliable utility services at fair prices
- Balance the interest of both consumers and utilities
- Be a resource for consumers to receive impartial assistance and information



Summary

- The PUCO works cooperatively with numerous groups, including legislators, stakeholders, and consumers
- The goal is to assure Ohioans adequate, safe, and reliable public utility services at a fair price and to facilitate competitive utility choices for Ohio's consumers