

## **Public Utility Commission State Documents**

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Finding aid written in English

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of the State Library

Forum Building  
607 South Drive  
Harrisburg, PA, 17120

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## Summary Information

**Repository:** Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of the State Library

**Creator:** Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

**Title:** Public Utility Commission State Documents

**Identifier:** PUC

**Date:** 1937 - Present

**Date:** Majority of material found within 1979 - Present

**Physical Description:** 946 Megabytes (236 PDF files)

**Language of** English

**Materials:**

## Scope and Contents

The Public Utility Commission (PUC) is an independent administrative commission established to supervise and regulate all public utilities doing business in the Commonwealth. The Commission balances the needs of consumers and utilities; ensures safe and reliable utility service at reasonable rates; protects the public interest; educates consumers to make independent and informed utility choices; furthers economic development; and fosters new technologies and competitive markets in an environmentally sound manner. Under the Public Utility Code, the Commission regulates public utility entities furnishing in-state services for compensation of electricity, natural gas, telephone, water, wastewater collection and disposal, steam heat, transportation of passengers and property by train, bus, truck, taxicab, limousine, transportation network company and transportation of gas and oil by pipeline.

The publications of the Public Utility Commission contain annual reports, biennial reports, statistical reports, and other reports. Selected topics from these publications include alternative energy, utility company surveys and statistics, outages from disasters, etc. The bulk of the current material is dated from 1979 to present.

## Biographical / Historical

The Public Utility Commission was created in 1937 to regulate the intrastate rates and services of public utilities. In creating the PUC, the Pennsylvania Legislative Act of March 31, 1937 (and the Public Utility Law of May 28, 1937) abolished the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which had been established by the Public Service Law of July 26, 1913 (effective Jan. 1, 1914). Created in 1907 and given powers only in regard to common carriers, the Pennsylvania State Railroad Commission had been the Commonwealth's first public utility regulatory agency. The State Railroad Commission was abolished when the Public Service Commission was given the authority to regulate all public-service companies except those engaged in interstate commerce. With the enactment of Act No. 33 (P.L. 90) House Bill No. 1180 on March 3, 1972, the Commission became fully funded by assessment of companies providing utility service in Pennsylvania.

## Legacy Agency Names and Related Agencies

Public Service Commission (incorporated agency), State Railroad Commission (incorporated agency)

## **Other Finding Aids**

For more information concerning the records of the Public Utility Commission at the Pennsylvania State Archives, please visit:

<https://gencat.eloquent-systems.com/pennsylvania-state-archives/permalink.html?key=class129>.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Publication Statement**

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### **Controlled Access Headings**

- Pennsylvania Politics and government
- Politics and government
- Public utilities
- State government publications