

FREDERICK H. HOOVER, JR.
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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chair Brian Feldman
Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 756 – Electric Companies, Gas Companies, Gas and Electric Companies, and Water Companies - Periodic Audits

Dear Chair Feldman and Committee Members:

The Public Service Commission (the Commission) appreciates the opportunity to provide this informational testimony for SB 756. SB 756 requires that each electric, gas, electric and gas, and water company produce an audit concerning utility operations, customer usage and customer billing. This audit is to be completed every three years, commencing in December 2026. The Commission will be responsible for determining the format of the audit and publishing the results on its website.

It should be noted that the Public Service Commission's authority is limited to private water systems and not municipal water systems. PUA §1-101(uu) defines "Water company" as a public service company that owns a water plant and sells or distributes water for gain. For further clarification, the Commission recommends the following language change for PUA §7-108:

(A) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2026, AND EACH DECEMBER 31 EVERY 3 YEARS THEREAFTER, EACH WATER COMPANY, **AS DEFINED IN PUA §1-101(uu)**, EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY, GAS COMPANY, AND GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, [AND WATER COMPANY]

The Public Service Commission appreciates the opportunity to provide this informational testimony for your consideration for bill SB 756. Please contact Christina Ochoa, Director of Legislative Affairs at christina.ochoa1@maryland.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Frederick H. Hoover, Chair
Maryland Public Service Commission