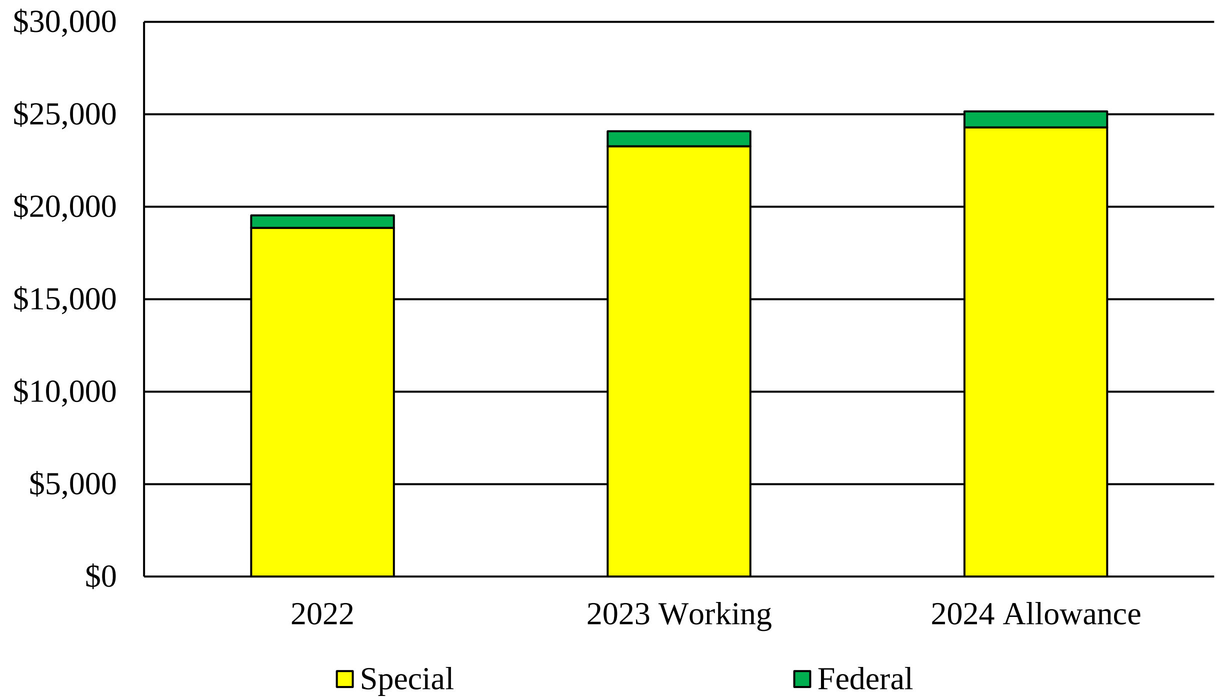
C90G00
Public Service Commission

Program Description

The Public Service Commission (PSC) regulates natural gas and electric utilities; third-party energy suppliers; and certain telephone, water, sewage disposal, and passenger transportation companies doing business in Maryland. PSC sets utility rates, collects and maintains records and reports on public service companies, audits financial records, inspects equipment, handles consumer complaints, enforces rules and regulations, defends its decisions on appeal to State courts, and intervenes in relevant cases before federal regulatory commissions and federal courts. PSC is primarily funded through special funds obtained through assessments on public service companies.

Operating Budget Summary

Fiscal 2024 Budget Increases $1.1 Million, or 4.4%, to $25.2 Million
($ in Thousands)



Note: The fiscal 2023 working appropriation includes deficiency appropriations including this agency's share of a deficiency appropriation budgeted in the Statewide Account within the Department of Budget and Management (DBM). Fiscal 2024 salary enhancements are budgeted in the Statewide Account within DBM.

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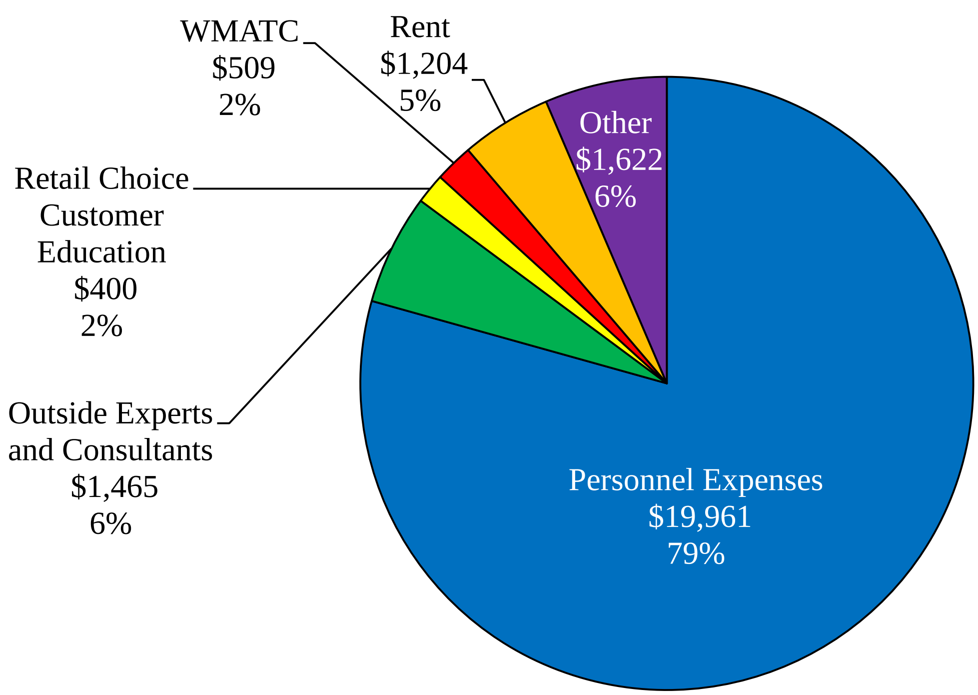
Fiscal 2024 Overview of Agency Spending

The fiscal 2024 allowance for PSC totals $25.2 million. As shown in **Exhibit 1**, 79% of PSC's fiscal 2024 allowance supports personnel expenses for the agency's 143 regular positions and 12 contractual full-time equivalents (FTE). Outside of personnel spending, the largest single item in the fiscal 2024 allowance is $1.5 million for outside experts and consultants (6% of the budget). This provides funding for consultants that assist the technical staff and/or commissioners in cases before PSC or other regulatory bodies. Spending in this area can vary from year to year depending on the types of cases that are before the commission. For the second consecutive year, the PSC budget also includes $400,000 from the Retail Choice Customer Education and Protection Fund to support educational materials and outreach activities for consumer education and outreach.

Exhibit 1
Overview of Agency Spending
Fiscal 2024 Allowance
($ in Thousands)



WMATC: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission

Note: The fiscal 2024 allowance does not reflect funding for statewide personnel actions budgeted in the Statewide Account within the Department of Budget and Management.

Source: Governor's Fiscal 2024 Budget Books

Proposed Budget Change

As shown in **Exhibit 2,** PSC's fiscal 2024 allowance increases by $1.07 million, or 4%, compared to the fiscal 2023 working appropriation. The largest increase is in the area of personnel expenditures, which increase by $1.06 million, including a $114,000 increase reflecting the cost of 2 new regular positions resulting from the conversion of contractual positions. The other notable personnel change is an increase of approximately $257,000 due to a decrease in the turnover expectancy from 5.61% to 4.04%. Outside of personnel expenses, operating expenses increased by a net total of $11,000.

Exhibit 2
Proposed Budget
Public Service Commission
($ in Thousands)

How Much It Grows:	**Special Fund**	**Federal Fund**	**Total**
Fiscal 2022 Actual	$18,851	$678	$19,529
Fiscal 2023 Working Appropriation	23,269	824	24,093
Fiscal 2024 Allowance	24,301	861	25,162
Fiscal 2023-2024 Amount Change	$1,032	$37	$1,068
Fiscal 2023-2024 Percent Change	4.4%	4.5%	4.4%

Where It Goes:	**Change**
Personnel Expenses	
Employee and retiree health insurance premiums	$347
Turnover adjustments reflecting decreased turnover expectancy from 5.61% to 4.04%	257
Annualization of November 2022 4.5% cost-of-living adjustment	230
2 new regular positions due to contractual conversions	114
Employee retirement contributions	52
Workers' compensation	29
Regular earnings	24
Other fringe benefit adjustments	4
Other Changes	
Software licensing and maintenance costs	66
Cost allocations	47
Rent	35
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission	27

Where It Goes:	**Change**
Other	18
Contracts for outside experts and consultants to provide witness testimony in proceedings	-89
Contractual personnel including a reduction of 3 full-time equivalent positions to reflect conversions to regular positions	-93
Total	**$1,068**

Note: Numbers may not sum to total due to rounding.

Personnel Data

	FY 22 Actual	FY 23 Working	FY 24 Allowance	FY 23-24 Change
Regular Positions	138.00	141.00	143.00	2.00
Contractual FTEs	6.55	15.00	12.00	-3.00
Total Personnel	**144.55**	**156.00**	**155.00**	**-1.00**

Vacancy Data: Regular Positions

Turnover and Necessary Vacancies, Excluding New Positions	5.70	4.04%
Positions and Percentage Vacant as of 12/31/22	14.00	9.93%
Vacancies Above Turnover	8.30	

- The fiscal 2024 allowance includes the conversion of 3 FTE contractual administrative specialist positions in PSC's Transportation Division to 2 regular positions.

- Budgeted turnover expectancy decreases from 5.61% to 4.04% in the fiscal 2024 allowance, despite the number of vacant positions as of December 31, 2022, being more than double the number of positions that would be needed to meet the fiscal 2024 turnover expectancy. PSC had 14 positions vacant as of this date, or nearly 10% of total authorized positions. Four of these vacant positions have been vacant for over one year. **PSC should comment on the reasons for these vacancies, the issues that have prevented the filling of long-term vacant positions, and the planned strategies to address ongoing vacancies.**

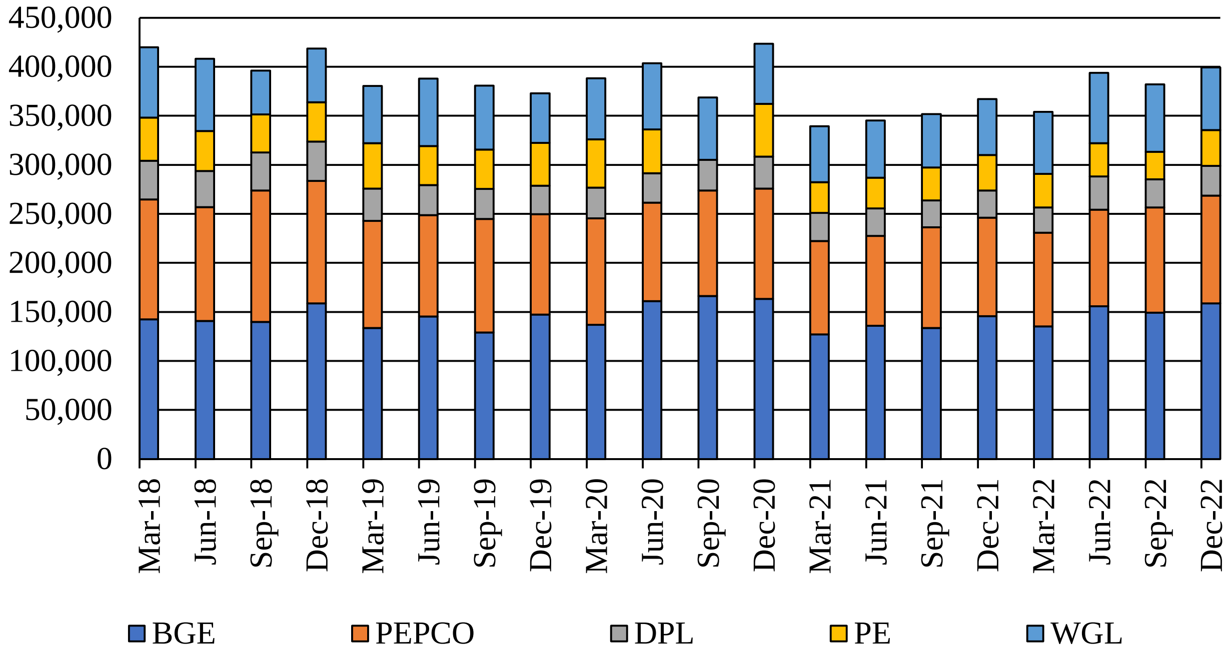
Key Observations

1. Residential Utility Arrearages Remain Elevated

PSC reports monthly data on residential utility terminations and arrearages on its website, including data on the number of utility customers with arrearages, and the total amount of outstanding arrearages. Both have been impacted in recent years by widespread economic hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and rising energy costs driven by inflation in the energy sector. According to residential electricity and natural gas pricing data reported by the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the U.S. monthly nominal residential electricity price increased by 19% between January and September 2022, and the U.S. monthly residential natural gas price in August 2022 was 23% higher than the price in August 2021. Although energy prices have generally declined throughout fall 2022, the number of customers with arrearages and the total amount of outstanding arrearages for the five largest utilities in Maryland have remained elevated through the end of the year, and dollar amounts for outstanding arrearages remain notably higher than compared to the prepandemic period.

As shown in **Exhibit 3**, the total number of residential customers with arrearages for select utilities has fluctuated over the past several years. Following its peak of 423,410 customers in December 2020, the number of customers with arrearages decreased by 19.8% between December 2020 and March 2021 and at the end of calendar 2021 was 13.3% lower than the end of calendar 2020. The number of customers with arrearages was generally lower during calendar 2021 reflective of arrearage assistance funds distributed during the year, including funds allocated under Chapter 39 of 2021 (RELIEF Act). Between December 2021 and December 2022, the number of customers with arrearages increased by 8.7% from 367,132 to 399,332. Although remaining lower than the December 2020 peak, the number of customers with arrearages in December 2022 was 7.1% higher than December 2019.

Exhibit 3
Residential Customers with Arrearages for Select Utilities
Calendar 2018-2022 (at the End of Each Quarter)

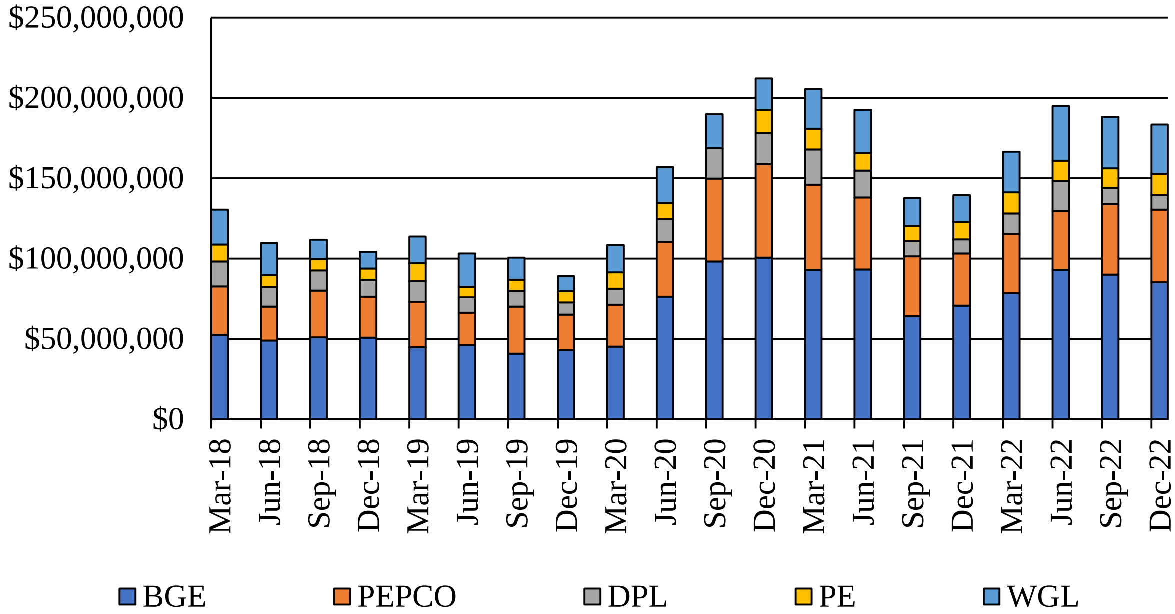


BGE: Baltimore Gas and Electric
PEPCO: Potomac Electric Power Company
DPL: Delmarva Power and Light
WGL: Washington Gas Light
PE: Potomac Edison Company

Source: Public Service Commission

In comparison, the total dollar amount of gross arrearages outstanding has seen much more variation during this time period. As shown in **Exhibit 4**, prior to the pandemic, total arrearages owed decreased to approximately $89 million in December 2019, before increasing rapidly throughout calendar 2020, to a peak of approximately $212.2 million in December 2020. This increase is reflective of the utility termination moratorium that was in effect between March and November 2020 during the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Arrearages then decreased during summer 2021, corresponding to the distribution of $83 million in arrearage assistance funds to utilities as directed by Chapter 39 and remained below $150 million for the remainder of calendar 2021. Between December 2020 and December 2021, arrearages decreased by $72.9 million, or 34%, before increasing once again. In December 2022, arrearages totaled $183.4 million, 31.6% higher than the level in December 2021. These increases reflect the rising residential electric and natural gas costs that occurred throughout much of calendar 2022. The total dollar amount of outstanding arrearages in December 2022 was more than double the total in December 2019.

Exhibit 4
Total Residential Arrearages Outstanding for Select Utilities
Calendar 2018-2022 (at the End of Each Quarter)

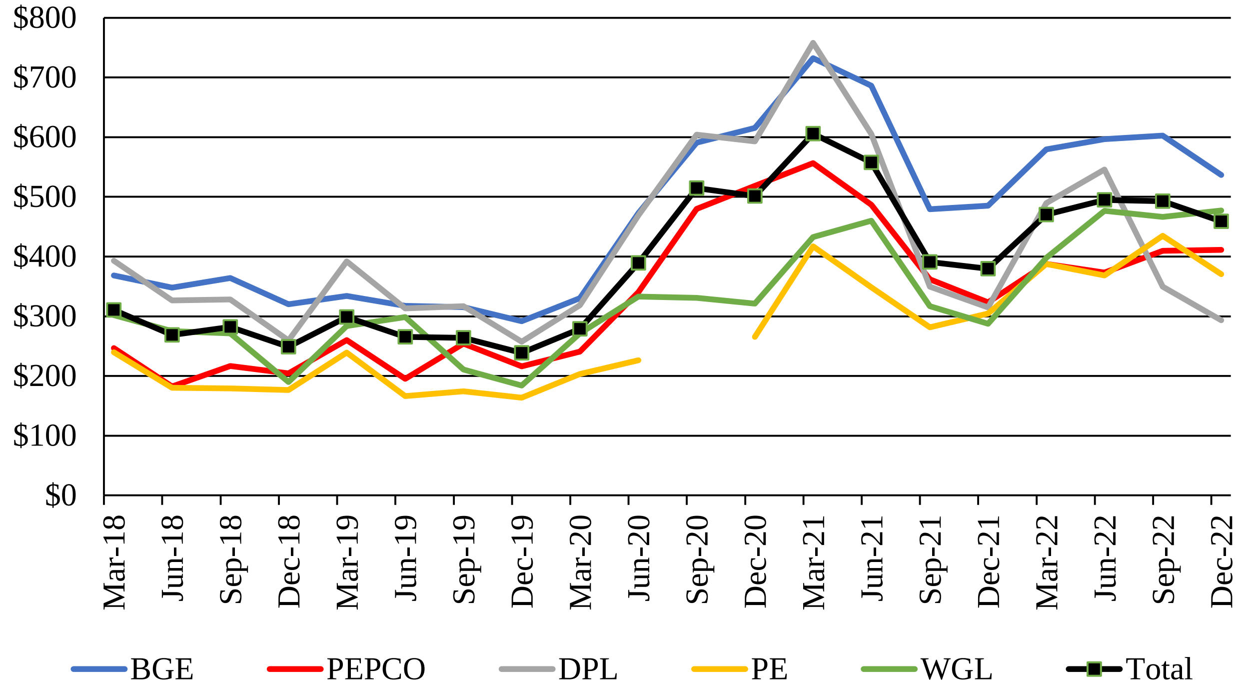


BGE: Baltimore Gas and Electric
PEPCO: Potomac Electric Power Company
DPL: Delmarva Power and Light
WGL: Washington Gas Light
PE: Potomac Edison Company

Source: Public Service Commission

The average dollar amount of gross arrearages owed per customer with arrears generally reflects a similar trend as for the total dollar amount of arrearages owed but varies somewhat depending on utility. As shown in **Exhibit 5**, in December 2022, the average across all utilities was $459 per customer with arrears but ranged from an average of $293 for Delmarva Power and Light (DPL) customers to $537 for Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE) customers. Although BGE had a higher average of arrearages owed compared to the other four utilities included in this comparison, it is the only one of these utilities that serves both electric and gas customers, which contributes to the higher average. The December 2022 average across all five utilities increased by $80, or 21.1%, compared to the average in December 2021 ($379). The largest average increase among these utilities during this time period was Washington Gas Light (WGL), which grew by $189, or 65.6%. DPL was the only utility that had a decrease in the average during this time period of $22, or 6.9%. Although the average dollar amount of arrearages owed per customer with arrears at the end of calendar 2022 was generally lower compared to late 2020 and early 2021, the average across all five utilities remained notably higher compared to averages from the prepandemic period.

Exhibit 5
Average Dollar Amount of Arrearages Owed Per Customer with Arrears
Fiscal 2018-2022



BGE: Baltimore Gas and Electric
PEPCO: Potomac Electric Power Company
DPL: Delmarva Power and Light
WGL: Washington Gas Light
PE: Potomac Edison Company

Source: Public Service Commission

2. Reporting of Utility and Energy Supplier Complaint Data

The PSC Consumer Affairs Division (CAD) is responsible for investigating and resolving complaints made by Maryland ratepayers against utilities and tracks data regarding complaints filed to identify potential patterns of regulatory noncompliance. Maryland utility customers currently may file a complaint against PSC-regulated utilities through the PSC website or by mail. The 2022 *Joint Chairmen's Report* (JCR) included committee narrative asking PSC to provide an update on the implementation of its new complaint data management system and the availability of reporting of complaints filed against utilities. In comparison, PSC has reported on complaints against third-party retail energy suppliers since December 2019, including quarterly reporting on its website of suppliers that are subject to three or more customer complaints over the course of a month.

During fiscal 2022, CAD worked with a contractor to develop and launch a new online customer complaint portal, which launched publicly in February 2022, in addition to the new cloud-based complaint data management system. Beginning in fiscal 2023, PSC now posts quarterly reporting and a monthly snapshot of utility complaints received by CAD against Maryland's six largest electric and/or gas utility companies, which include BGE, Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO), DPL, The Potomac Edison Company (PE), Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SMECO), and WGL. Quarterly reporting on utility complaints filed with PSC is in addition to existing reporting on complaints against third party suppliers.

The first quarterly reporting of utility complaints filed against Maryland gas and electric utility companies, which covers the first quarter of fiscal 2023 (July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022) is now available on the PSC website. Although to date only this initial three months of complaint data relating to these six utilities is available, the first quarterly report contains a variety of information relating to trends in complaints received by CAD during this time period. In addition to the number of complaints filed against each utility, the quarterly reporting also includes a map of complaints filed by zip code and the primary reasons for filing a complaint. **PSC should comment on the length of time after the end of each quarter that these reports will be published on its website in the future.**

As reported by PSC, a total of 305 complaints against gas and electric utilities were filed during the first quarter of fiscal 2023, of which the majority, 210, were against BGE. However, BGE also is the largest utility by total number of accounts of all Maryland utilities, at over 2 million accounts as of August 31, 2022. In comparison, PEPCO and WGL, the second and third largest Maryland utilities by number of accounts, had roughly 596,000 and 505,000 accounts as of August 31, 2022. There were 33 complaints filed against PEPCO and 18 complaints filed against WGL during the first quarter of fiscal 2023. By zip code, the top five zip codes with the most complaints filed against utilities were located in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, or were in both jurisdictions.

As shown in **Exhibit 6**, the primary reason for a dispute leading to a complaint filed against a utility during this reporting period was due to a billing issue (108 complaints, or 35% of complaints), followed by a termination of service issue (58 complaints, or 19% of complaints).

Exhibit 6
Utility Complaint Primary Issues
July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022

Primary Dispute Issue	Complaints
Billing Dispute	108
Termination of Service Issue	58
Unable to Start/Stop Service	26
Electric Utility – Other Issue	22
Outages	19
Meter Concerns	14
Payment Dispute	14
Security Deposit Issue	13
Reporting Safety Concerns	12
Poor Customer Service	11
Gas Utility – Other Issue	6
Meter Tampering	2
Total	**305**

Source: Public Service Commission

In comparison, a total of 143 complaints were filed against third-party retail gas and electric suppliers during the first quarter of fiscal 2023. Through December 2022, a total of 273 complaints were filed against suppliers during the first six months of fiscal 2023. PSC has also begun reporting on complaints received against suppliers that is similar to the data now reported relating to utilities, including a list of the zip codes with the most complaints against suppliers and a list of the top three suppliers with the most complaints during the reporting period. PSC has reported complaint data related to suppliers for the first two quarters of fiscal 2023 in addition to its ongoing monthly reporting of suppliers with 3 or more complaints per month.

Door-to-door Marketing by Third-party Energy Suppliers

Maryland law allows gas and electric utility account holders to purchase gas and electricity supply from a licensed third-party retail energy supplier instead of through a regulated utility. PSC has authority over regulating the marketing practices of third-party suppliers but not the rates that suppliers charge to customers. According to PSC, Maryland is one of two states that require suppliers to report on where they plan to engage in door-to-door solicitation. Pursuant to the Code of Maryland Regulations, a supplier shall notify CAD in advance of intentions to engage in door-to-door activity, and the notification shall include “general, nonproprietary information about the activity, the period involved, and a general description of the geographical area.” As part of this reporting, PSC began to ask suppliers to report door-to-door marketing practices by zip code in November 2019. In addition to requesting committee narrative relating to the reporting of utility complaint data, the 2022 JCR also contained committee narrative requesting PSC to provide a summary of data on third-party supplier door-to-door marketing practices by zip code in addition to consumer education and outreach activities conducted by PSC in relation to third party suppliers.

During the reporting period of November 2020 through October 2022, PSC reports that a total of 29 licensed retail energy suppliers reported door-to-door activities across the service territories of the six largest Maryland utility companies. By month, the number of suppliers engaging in door-to-door marketing ranged from 14 in November 2020 to 21 in both May and September 2021. An average of 18.2 suppliers per month engaged in door-to-door marketing activity throughout the reporting period.

By zip code, areas of Baltimore City and Baltimore County, including zip codes that overlap portions of both jurisdictions, generally saw the highest concentration of suppliers reporting door-to-door marketing activities during the reporting period. Out of the 25 Maryland zip codes with the highest numbers of suppliers reporting door-to-door marketing, 22 covered portions of either Baltimore City or Baltimore County, or both, including 9 out of the top 10 zip codes, as shown in **Exhibit 7**. These 10 zip codes had an average of 11 complaints against suppliers for each during the reporting period.

Exhibit 7

Zip Codes with the Most Reported Door-to-door Marketing by Suppliers

November 2020 through October 2022

ZIP Code	Suppliers Reporting Activity	Jurisdiction	Complaints Received
21207	26	Baltimore City/County	11
21117	25	Baltimore County	14
21206	25	Baltimore City/County	11
21208	25	Baltimore City/County	13
21209	25	Baltimore City/County	9
21212	25	Baltimore City/County	13
21216	25	Baltimore City	13
21229	25	Baltimore City/County	13
21239	25	Baltimore City/County	10
21060	24	Anne Arundel County	4

Source: Public Service Commission

During the reporting period, PSC continued a number of consumer education activities relating to third-party retail energy suppliers, including community events such as town halls and webinars and the creation of new educational materials and marketing for its MDEnergyChoice.com website. This website was launched by PSC in August 2021 to provide a resource for consumers to easily shop and compare rates offered by suppliers to the standard offer of service rates of utilities. In addition, PSC continues to engage in enforcement activity through the initiation of formal complaints against suppliers who engage in prohibited marketing practices.

3. Public Conference 56 Initiated to Oversee Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funding for Utilities

In June 2022, PSC ordered the initiation of Public Conference (PC) 56 to receive filings from stakeholders of written comments in regard to the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and to require electric and gas utilities to file monthly reports containing descriptions of all projects for which IIJA funding has been sought to promote and provide transparency. PSC notes that due to the historic size of federal investment in the nation’s utility infrastructure through the IIJA, it is in the public interest for utilities to fully and carefully consider applying for IIJA funding due to its potential impacts on utility service to Maryland ratepayers and State policy goals.

Among other wide-ranging purposes, the IIJA provides substantial federal fund investments in utility infrastructure, including funding for projects supporting grid resiliency and reliability, electric generation and transmission, access to clean water, and improved cybersecurity. While some programs authorized by the IIJA provide formula grant funding directly to states, several programs supporting investments in electric grid infrastructure and resiliency may be available directly to Maryland utilities through competitive grants, including programs specifically in the following areas:

- grants to assist entities in efforts to harden the grid and reduce or diminish the consequences of disruptive events;

- programs that encourage innovative approaches to transmission, storage, and distribution infrastructure to improve resiliency and reliability and to enhance regional grid resilience;

- initiatives that expand the Smart Grid Investment Matching Grant Program, an existing program initially funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which focused on investments that improve the flexibility of the electric grid by accommodating clean energy through microgrids and other distributed energy sources;

- grants to improve cybersecurity technologies and provide technical assistance to small and rural utilities; and

- programs to develop carbon capture technology to improve environmental performance of coal and natural gas use.

Monthly reporting by utilities on application activity for IIJA funds began in July 2022. Reports have been submitted by PEPCO, DPL, and BGE collectively as the “Exelon Joint Utilities” and by PE and SMECO individually. As of February 1, 2023, no utilities have reported submitting new IIJA grant applications; however, each utility reports having submitted concept papers to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) program, which is administered by DOE’s Grid Deployment Office. GRIP will provide $10.5 billion to enhance grid flexibility and improve resilience against severe weather and climate change. While not a formal application for funding, concept papers submitted to DOE contain high-level descriptions of project ideas for its consideration and feedback as to whether DOE recommends that the submitting entity move forward with preparing a grant application for a particular program. Each utility reports that it anticipates receiving feedback from DOE on its concept papers submitted for the GRIP program shortly, and once received, will move forward with formal funding applications, while continuing to explore additional opportunities to apply for other IIJA grants in the future. The next round of monthly reporting by the utilities is due in March 2023.

As part of PC 56, PSC advisory staff and the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) held a virtual education session for stakeholders to better understand federal funding opportunities available to Maryland utilities and the commission under the IIJA as well as the Inflation Reduction Act. The session was held on December 12, 2022, and included presentations by representatives of DOE and Venn Strategies on the background of the federal legislation, funding sources and opportunities, implementation guidelines, application deadlines, and other information.

Operating Budget Recommended Actions

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Updates

- ***Introduction of New '227' Telephone Area Code:*** PSC approved a petition filed by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator in August 2022 to assign a new telephone area code of 227 to serve the same geographic area in Maryland currently served by the 240 and 301 area codes. The establishment of a new area code is necessary to support future demands in the region, as it is estimated that the remaining supply of available telephone numbers in the 240 and 301 area codes will be exhausted in 2023. Current telephone customers with a 240 or 301 area code will not be impacted, as existing area codes and phone numbers will not be required to change, and no new 227 numbers will be assigned until all remaining available 240 and 301 numbers are completely exhausted. Additionally, the use of 10-digit dialing has been in use in the area for over 20 years due to the overlay of the existing 240 and 301 area codes.

- ***Funds Deposited to the Maryland Offshore Wind Business Development Fund (MOWBDF) by Qualified Offshore Wind Projects Pursuant to PSC Order:*** In March 2022, MEA provided notification to PSC that, pursuant to the PSC order granting approval of their applications for Qualified Offshore Wind Projects, Skipjack Offshore Energy, LLC and Marwin II, LLC made the required deposits of $2 million each ($4 million total) into the MOWBDF, a special fund managed by MEA. Commission Order 90011 on December 17, 2021, included conditions requiring the deposit of a total of $12 million over three years ($2 million annually per project) to the fund by the two companies. The next deposits into the fund will be due in February 2023 and 2024. Pending offshore wind projects planned for construction by both companies off the coast of Maryland are currently in review pending before the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), a unit of the U.S. Department of the Interior. In November 2022, BOEM formally announced eight draft wind energy areas in the central Atlantic region, including areas off the coast of Maryland and Delaware, for public review and comment.

Appendix 1
2022 *Joint Chairmen's Report* Responses from Agency

The 2022 JCR requested that PSC prepare three reports. Electronic copies of the full JCR responses can be found on the Department of Legislative Services Library website.

- ***Availability of Reporting of Complaints Filed Against Utilities:*** PSC submitted a report updating the committees on the development and launch of a new online customer complaint portal and complaint data management system. Corresponding with the launch of this new system, PSC developed a new quarterly report presenting data on gas and electric utility complaints in addition to complaint data for electric suppliers already available on its website. PSC included a copy of the new utility complaint report for the first quarter of fiscal 2023 with its submission. Additional discussion of this data can be found in Key Observation 2 of this analysis.

- ***Consumer Education and Protections Relating to Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST):*** PSC submitted a report on consumer education relating to the dangers of improperly bonded yellow CSST, a type of flexible, stainless steel piping used to supply natural gas and propane in residential, commercial, and industrial structures. Particularly in the case of a lightning strike, improperly installed CSST creates the risk of a gas leak and in some cases, fire. PSC staff conducted an analysis of current consumer education materials available on the websites of State agencies, local governments, and utilities, including materials available from the American Gas Association Yellow CSST Safety Campaign. The PSC website now contains a landing page providing additional safety information for consumers regarding yellow CSST, which includes a link to this report.

- ***Energy Supplier Marketing Practices:*** PSC submitted a report updating the committees on door-to-door sales and marketing practices by third-party retail electric and gas suppliers. The report includes information on zip codes with the highest reported amounts of door-to-door marketing activity and the number of suppliers reporting marketing activity per month. Additional discussion of this data can be found in Key Observation 2 of this analysis.

Appendix 2
Object/Fund Difference Report
Public Service Commission

Object/Fund	FY 22 Actual	FY 23 Working Appropriation	FY 24 Allowance	FY 23 - FY 24 Amount Change	Percent Change
Positions					
01 Regular	138.00	141.00	143.00	2.00	1.4%
02 Contractual	6.55	15.00	12.00	-3.00	-20.0%
Total Positions	**144.55**	**156.00**	**155.00**	**-1.00**	**-0.6%**
Objects					
01 Salaries and Wages	$ 16,378,174	$ 17,889,639	$ 19,407,068	$ 1,517,429	8.5%
02 Technical and Special Fees	326,202	630,561	554,322	-76,239	-12.1%
03 Communication	86,221	79,952	79,952	0	0%
04 Travel	81,205	150,811	146,759	-4,052	-2.7%
07 Motor Vehicles	169,639	213,419	211,844	-1,575	-0.7%
08 Contractual Services	803,026	2,681,853	2,746,155	64,302	2.4%
09 Supplies and Materials	54,108	78,508	72,604	-5,904	-7.5%
10 Equipment – Replacement	84,847	89,280	89,280	0	0%
11 Equipment – Additional	88,049	22,691	22,428	-263	-1.2%
12 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions	246,692	482,571	509,357	26,786	5.6%
13 Fixed Charges	1,210,973	1,296,639	1,321,863	25,224	1.9%
Total Objects	**$ 19,529,136**	**$ 23,615,924**	**$ 25,161,632**	**$ 1,545,708**	**6.5%**
Funds					
03 Special Fund	$ 18,851,198	$ 22,808,612	$ 24,300,537	$ 1,491,925	6.5%
05 Federal Fund	677,938	807,312	861,095	53,783	6.7%
Total Funds	**$ 19,529,136**	**$ 23,615,924**	**$ 25,161,632**	**$ 1,545,708**	**6.5%**

Note: The fiscal 2023 appropriation does not include deficiencies. The fiscal 2024 allowance does not include salary adjustments that are budgeted in the Department of Budget and Management.