

TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION



Andrew Jackson State Office Bldg.
502 Deaderick Street, 4th Floor,
Nashville, TN, 37243-0001

NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION IN COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS & MEETINGS

The Tennessee General Assembly created the Tennessee Public Utility Commission to regulate investor-owned utilities in the state, ensuring that services are safe, reliable, and provided at just and reasonable rates. Under the Tennessee Open Meetings Act (TOMA), the Commission must provide notice and access to all public meetings, allowing citizens to observe its decision-making process.

The Commission's primary responsibility is to conduct formal adjudications in accordance with the Tennessee Uniform Administrative Procedures Act (UAPA). These formal, docketed cases are heard at public meetings, often during Commission Conferences. During these hearings, the panel renders its decision by vote. The public is invited to attend and observe these matters. Public comment is permitted only on matters set for hearing in contested case proceedings, which may occur either before or after the hearing, in the discretion of the Chairman or the presiding Commissioner.

In addition, the Commission hosts public hearings and meetings that focus on rulemaking, public policy, or operations, rather than adjudication. These sessions provide opportunities for public comments on the subjects presented. Several methods are available for submitting comments:

In Writing

1. Mail your comment to 502 Deaderick Street, 4th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243.
2. Email to TPUC.DocketRoom@tn.gov.
3. Online via the [Public Comment Form](#) (link here) or go to the agency website.

** If commenting on a docketed matter, the submission must include the docket number assigned to the proceeding.*

By Phone

The Commission's Consumer Services Division will be happy to assist you in submitting comments by calling (800) 342-8359 or (615) 741-2904.

In Person or Remotely

Members of the public may attend and observe Commission meetings in person or, when available, remotely. For matters subject to the UAPA, public comment is permitted only on the specific contested case(s) set for hearing. Public comment is also permitted on matters that do not involve adjudicatory rulings.

Notice Required

Please notify the Commission's Docket Manager at least three (3) business days before a scheduled meeting if you wish to participate during public comment, by email to TPUC.DocketRoom@tn.gov with the meeting date and the specific topic from the public notice or published agenda you intend to address. Public comments are limited to topics listed on the public notice or agenda and will be permitted during the last ten (10) minutes of the meeting. To provide public comments remotely, include the phone number you will use to join the meeting so you can be unmuted at the appropriate time. A confirmation of receipt will be returned. If one is not received, you may contact the Docket Room Office at (615) 651-0754. Members appearing in person may also be asked to sign the public comment sheet to confirm attendance.

Decorum

Public meetings must be conducted efficiently, safely, and fairly, and all persons must be given a reasonable opportunity to observe and, when permitted, participate in the meeting. The guidance below applies regardless of any speaker's viewpoint, including criticism of the governing body, its members, staff, or policies.

1. Members of the public may attend all open meetings subject to reasonable seating, safety, and capacity limitations.
2. Members of the public may not seek recognition to speak once panel deliberations or voting have begun.
3. All persons wishing to address the Commission during a designated public-comment period must be recognized by the Chair and comply with announced time limits and sign-up procedures.
4. Speakers may be asked to limit their comments to three minutes or to another reasonable time limit as determined by the Chairman. Speakers may not transfer or combine allotted speaking time.
5. Speakers shall address the body from the designated podium or speaking area unless the Chair authorizes another accommodation.
6. Members of the public may not interrupt the meeting, speak out of turn, interrupt recognized speakers, or engage in conduct that prevents others from hearing or being heard.

For information on scheduled meetings and hearings, visit the [Commission Calendar](#). To access active dockets, orders, notices, and the online public comment form, return to the [Public Involvement](#) section of the Commission's website. To learn more about the Tennessee Public Utility Commission, see the [History and Leadership](#) section. The Commission appreciates your interest.