

## **Public Service Commission**

## WHO WE ARE

## WHAT WE'RE ABOUT

**Mission:** Protecting consumers, the public interest and the environment

#### **Our Values:**

- **Balance:** Balancing public and private interest affecting each decision.
- **Collaboration:** Tackling work challenges as a team to harness expertise and achieve better outcomes with greater impact.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Building a workplace that fosters growth, excellence and diversity.
- Creativity: Generating solutions by turning new and imaginative ideas into sound policies and regulations that protect citizens and promote orderly development.
- Responsiveness: Taking action to address the needs of industry and the public.

## 43

Full-time Team Members

2-3

Seasonal Team Members

## WHAT WE DO



#### **Economic Regulation**

Evaluate rate increase requests and other rate recovery mechanisms from three multi-million-dollar utility monopolies to protect consumers and ensure safe and reliable service at reasonable rates.



#### **Telecommunications**

Protect consumers by regulating essential telecommunication services.



## **RTO Energy Markets**

Participate as a member of MISO and SPP on issues related to the reliable and efficient operation of regional electric transmission grids.



## **Damage Prevention**

Protect public safety by enforcing the state's One-Call laws.



#### Siting

Evaluate site permits for energy conversion and transmission facilities including electric generation, gas processing, oil refining, pipelines, electric transmission lines, and wind.



#### Railroads

Regulate the safety of railroads through track, mechanical equipment, and HAZMAT inspection programs.



#### **Weights and Measures**

Ensure the equitable operation of all weighing and measuring devices used in commerce through inspections, audits, and quality assurance testing.



## **Gas Pipeline Safety**

Regulate the safety of intrastate natural gas, propane, and liquified natural gas gathering, transmission and distribution pipeline systems.



#### **Auctioneers & Auction Clerks**

Protect the interests of auction customers through licensing, bonding, and investigating auctioneer and auction clerk complaints.



## **Coal Mining Reclamation**

Ensure mining operations minimize impacts to the environment, protect rights of property owners and the public, return mined lands to beneficial uses, and restore productivity of mined lands.



#### **Abandoned Mine Lands (AML)**

Enhance public safety by reclaiming abandoned coal mine sites that pose health, safety, and general welfare hazards.

## **Public Service Commission**

## HOW WE DO IT

# Total Agency Budget: \$19,892,782

General: \$6,431,087Special: \$2,244,724Federal: \$11,216,971



#### WHAT WE'RE PROUD OF

#### Recognized as 'Gold Standard'

The Reclamation and AML programs consistently receive exceptional marks from our federal oversite agencies. The North Dakota way of effectively administering federal programs is looked to as the "gold standard."

#### **Impact on Regional Reliability**

The Commissioners and staff have obtained leadership roles within the RTO Energy Markets to ensure North Dakota's concerns and solutions regarding reliability and cost are considered in regional and national dialogue.

#### **Preserved 7-digit dialing**

Coordinated with ND telecom companies to manage available numbers and avoid premature conversion to statewide 10-digit dialing. Had the PSC not acted, we would have joined 82 area codes in 35 states that had to adopt 10-digit dialing after implementation of "988" Suicide Prevention service.

134,282
Acres under permit for coal mining, among the top in the nation.

Provide safety oversite on **4,100** miles of regulated gas pipeline.

55%
reduction in
railroad
accidents
during five
years of Rail
Safety Program.

9,200
inspections and audits to ensure every gallon of gas, bushel of grain, and pound of beef is equitable.

## HOW WE MEASURE SUCCESS

#### **Low Energy Rates**

North Dakota's average rate was 33% lower than the national average for residential natural gas customers and 20% lower than the national average for residential electric customers.

## **High Energy Reliability**

North Dakota had 25% fewer electricity outages than the national average in 2020.

# Preserving ND's Unique Landscape

Deployed innovative tools to protect North Dakota's landscape during energy development including a wind farm reclamation program and requirements for light mitigation technology on wind farms.

#### **Keep ND Growing**

Timely permitting of \$14 billion in infrastructure development in North Dakota during the past decade, growing the state's industry and economy.