

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND**

C90G00

**RESPONSE TO
ANALYSIS OF THE FY 2020 MARYLAND
EXECUTIVE BUDGET, 2019**

Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Members;

The Public Service Commission (“PSC”) thanks Ms. Zimmerman for the analysis that she prepared and concurs with her Recommended Action. As the Subcommittee can see from the analysis, the PSC continues to be extremely busy processing the filings made by the public service companies and other interested parties. The matters before the PSC during 2018 ranged from routine matters to complex cases, such as the pending Potomac Edison Rate Case Proceeding (Case No. 9490), AltaGas Ltd. and WGL Holdings, Inc. Merger Application (Case No. 9449), and three Gas System Strategic Infrastructure Development and Enhancement (STRIDE) proceedings for Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, Columbia Gas of Maryland, Inc., and Washington Gas Light Company.

Like many other State agencies, the PSC continues to meet the challenges of an increasing work load and limited resources. The Commission is very proud of its track record of meeting those challenges as evidenced by its continued high performance in exceeding its Managing for Results targets. The PSC is recognized as a leader in adapting its regulatory oversight responsibilities to accommodate new technologies, in addition to ensuring that the utility rates paid by customers in Maryland remain just and reasonable.

In addition, the PSC continues to play a visible and active role in proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to ensure that the rules and operations of our regional multi-state electricity market (PJM Interconnection) favor competitive outcomes resulting in an affordable and reliable supply of electricity to Maryland.

Shifting from energy markets to transportation matters, I wish to offer one comment on the update that Ms. Zimmerman provided in her budget analysis regarding Implementation of the Professional License Suspension for Transportation Network Operators (“TNO”).

Following the enactment of Chapter 51 of 2018 (October 1, 2018), the Department of Human Services and the PSC developed procedures for implementing professional license suspension for transportation network operators for failure to pay child support. The PSC received its first set of suspension referrals (131 in total) from the Department of Human Services on January 14, 2019. Under our procedures, if the individual is currently licensed with the PSC, we will notify the individual that we have received a request from the Child Support Administration (“CSA”) to suspend their license for delinquent child support and that the individual has a right to appeal the suspension within 30 days. The Commission has issued the appropriate notices for these suspension referrals and will suspend these licenses after the 30 day notice period if the individual has not arranged to pay the arrears in full with the CSA or has not filed an appeal in writing with the PSC’s Transportation Division.

I will be happy to respond to any questions that you may have and thank you for your time and attention.