

# We serve the people of Kansas





The mission of the Kansas Corporation Commission is to serve the people of Kansas by regulating the State's energy infrastructure, oil and natural gas production, and commercial trucking to ensure public safety.

Our goal is for Kansas to be served by safe, reliable, environmentally responsible, diverse energy supplied at the lowest cost and for safe travel for the motoring public.

## **The Commissioners**



Andrew J. French Chairperson



Dwight D. Keen Commissioner



Annie Kuether Commissioner

#### **Structure and Organization**

- The Commission consists of three members appointed by the Governor to overlapping four-year terms.
- No more than two members may be of the same political party.
- To carry out its multi-faceted mission, the Commission is primarily fee funded and financed from assessments, registration fees and operating charges assessed to the regulated industries. In addition, the Commission receives some funding from federal grants and other non- State General Fund sources.
- The Commission has five main divisions: Administration, Conservation, Utilities, Transportation, and Energy.
- The authority of the Commission is derived from KSA 74-601 to 74-631.

### **Division Overview**

- <u>Administration Division</u>: The Administrative Division includes the Office of the Commission and various supporting functions including 1) Legal; 2) Public Affairs and Consumer Protection; 3) Human Resources; 4) Information Technology; 5) Docket Management; and 6) Fiscal.
- Conservation Division: The mission of the Conservation Division is to regulate the Kansas oil and gas industry in a manner that protects correlative rights, protects the fresh water resources of the state, and prevents waste in the production of oil and gas - all without inhibiting the responsible production of oil and gas in Kansas. The Conservation Central Office is located in Wichita and the four District Offices are located in Dodge City, Wichita, Chanute, and Hays.
- <u>Utilities Division</u>: The Utilities Division is responsible for regulating the rates and terms of service of the various public utilities, including electricity, natural gas, liquid pipeline, and telecommunications. These utilities are regulated in a manner that provides the utilities with a fair rate of return on their invested capital while simultaneously ensuring consumers have reliable service at just and reasonable rates. The Division also oversees the pipeline safety program, and administers the Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF) through a third party administrator pursuant to KSA 66-2008 to 66-2010.

#### Division Overview - Continued

- <u>Transportation Division</u>: The mission of the Transportation Division is to assure appropriate and effective regulatory oversight of motor carriers by protecting the public interest and promoting safety through comprehensive planning, licensing, education, and inspection. More specifically, this includes performing licensing, auditing, inspections, and other administrative procedures that, in the interest of public safety, promote efficient motor carrier operations, and simultaneously minimize the administrative burden to motor carriers.
- Energy Division: The Energy Division administers a variety of statewide K-12 energy education programs, provides energy efficiency audits and assistance to small business owners and agricultural producers in rural Kansas and helps facilitate the implementation of energy conservation and other improvements in public buildings. These outreach efforts are achieved through KCC staff and a partnership with the Engineering Extension staff at Kansas State University. The Energy Division is funded with federal State Energy Program (SEP) dollars.

# Regulatory Authority

The KCC regulates five industries important to the Kansas economy. The Commission has the responsibility of ensuring that natural gas, electricity, telephone, and transportation vendors provide safe, adequate, and reliable services at reasonable rates. The Commission also is responsible for ensuring that oil and natural gas producers protect correlative rights and the environmental resources of the state. The authority of the Kansas Corporation Commission is derived from KSA 74-601 to 74-631.

The KCC does not regulate most electric cooperatives, water cooperatives, municipalities, wireless telephone, long distance service, cable companies, or the internet.

# **Commission Activity**

January 1 – December 31, 2023	
Commission Business Meetings	94
Evidentiary Hearings	12

#### Fiscal Year 2023 Summary

**Public Hearings** 

	•	Total Orders Issued in FY2023	3,498	3
--	---	-------------------------------	-------	---

• Included in those total orders were the following Penalty Orders\*:

		\$1,142,400
•	0 Telecommunications assessed fines	\$ 0
•	19 Pipeline Safety assessed fines	\$ 30,750
•	573 Transportation assessed fines	\$455,600
•	256 Conservation assessed fines	\$656,050

\*Fines are payable to the State General Fund. The KCC does not receive money from the State General Fund. Fines shown are based on the original Commission orders and do not reflect subsequent amendments or modifications.

6

## Contact Information

Lynn Retz, Executive Director (785) 271-3170 I.retz@kcc.ks.gov or Peter Barstad Legislative Liaison (785) 633-6226 p.barstad@kcc.ks.gov

