

FACT SHEET

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

Board: Regulatory Commission of Alaska

Board identification number: 200

Department: COMMERCE, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Authority: AS 42.04 – AS 42.06

Status: Active

Sunset date: June 30, 2022

Requirements: Legislative Confirmation and Financial Disclosure

Prohibitions: A member or an employee of the commission may not have an official connection with, hold stock or securities in, or have a pecuniary interest in a public utility or pipeline carrier within the state. A member of the commission is disqualified from voting upon any matter before the commission in which the member has a conflict of interest.

Term: 6 years

Chair: Commission selects.

Description: The board consists of 5 members appointed by the Governor. To qualify for appointment as a commissioner, a person must be a member in good standing of the Alaska Bar Association or have a degree from an accredited college or university with a major in engineering, finance, economics, accounting, business administration, or public administration. Actual experience for a period of five years in the practice of law or in the field of engineering, finance, economics, accounting, business administration, or public administration is equivalent to a degree.

Function: The board regulates public utilities by certifying qualified providers of public utility and pipeline services and ensuring that they provide safe and adequate services and facilities at just and reasonable rates, terms, and conditions. This keeps rates as low as possible while allowing the utility to earn a fair return. The Commission also determines the eligibility and the per kilowatt-hour support for electric utilities under the Power Cost Equalization program (AS 42.45).

Special facts: When a vacancy occurs in the office of chair, the commission may nominate one of its members to serve the remaining term as chair. The chair may be elected to not more than three successive terms as chair. After a year of not serving as chair, the commissioner is eligible for election as chair again.

Compensation: Members' salaries at Range 27; exempt service

Meetings: Continuous hearings throughout the year.