



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

## Hazardous LED Street Lights

1 message

**Mark Baker** <mbaker@softlights.org>

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To: tpeterson@le.utah.gov, mpetersen@le.utah.gov, dnjohnson@le.utah.gov, kbirkeland@le.utah.gov, csnyder@le.utah.gov, mgwynn@le.utah.gov, ryanwilcox@le.utah.gov, jkyle@le.utah.gov, cmusselman@le.utah.gov, rlesser@le.utah.gov, khall@le.utah.gov, mikeschultz@le.utah.gov, karilisonbee@le.utah.gov, bradwilson@le.utah.gov, tlee@le.utah.gov, sbarlow@le.utah.gov, pcutler@le.utah.gov, rayward@le.utah.gov, mballard@le.utah.gov, shollins@le.utah.gov, jdprovost@le.utah.gov, briansking@le.utah.gov, jbriscoe@le.utah.gov, angelaromero@le.utah.gov, mmacpherson@le.utah.gov, aloubet@le.utah.gov, bbolinder@le.utah.gov, jrohner@le.utah.gov, bgarner@le.utah.gov, shayes@le.utah.gov, dougowens@le.utah.gov, cs moss@le.utah.gov, markwheatley@le.utah.gov, jdunnigan@le.utah.gov, amatthews@le.utah.gov, kivory@le.utah.gov, astoddard@le.utah.gov, glbennion@le.utah.gov, rspendlove@le.utah.gov, seliason@le.utah.gov, jteuscher@le.utah.gov, susanpulsipher@le.utah.gov, jstenquist@le.utah.gov, mstrong@le.utah.gov, jcobb@le.utah.gov, cpierucci@le.utah.gov, sgricius@le.utah.gov, jeffersonmoss@le.utah.gov, corymaloy@le.utah.gov, kchristofferson@le.utah.gov, bbrammer@le.utah.gov, jhawkins@le.utah.gov, vpeterson@le.utah.gov, nabbott@le.utah.gov, kstratton@le.utah.gov, mkohler@le.utah.gov, tclancy@le.utah.gov, mjudkins@le.utah.gov, normthurston@le.utah.gov, swhyte@le.utah.gov, jburton@le.utah.gov, dwelton@le.utah.gov, slund@le.utah.gov, christinewatkins@le.utah.gov, scottchew@le.utah.gov, plyman@le.utah.gov, carlalbrecht@le.utah.gov, rshipp@le.utah.gov, jelison@le.utah.gov, cjack@le.utah.gov, nwalter@le.utah.gov, wbrooks@le.utah.gov

Cc: Thad LeVar <tleva@utah.gov>, drexclark@utah.gov, psc@utah.gov

Dear Utah State Legislature,

The Utah Public Service Commission needs oversight by the Utah State Legislature due to the UPSC's failure to protect the public from the serious hazards caused by the use of LED street lights.

To illustrate the problem, I created the graphic below which shows that there is a difference between sodium street lights and LED street lights and that LED street lights do not spread the light out uniformly and have an extreme hot spot in the middle of the beam.



The intensity of the hot spot is measured by the metric 'luminance'. The result of the non-uniform spread and extreme hot spot created by LED street lights is a hazardous, dangerous, and discriminatory light. LED street lights have been documented to cause seizures, migraines, anxiety, loss of balance, eye pain, and eye injury. Because certain individuals with disabilities cannot neurologically tolerate LED light, municipalities that operate LED street lights are required to publish an ADA Accommodation Plan to ensure that these individuals have equal access to city streets and sidewalks.

The US Food and Drug Administration is mandated by Congress via 21 U.S.C. 360ii to publish performance standards for LED street lights, but has failed to comply with this statute. Thus, there are no standards to ensure the comfort, health, safety, and equal access of the public when exposed to LED visible radiation, and thus no legal basis for installing or operating LED street lights.

The UPSC has set tariffs for LED street lights without notifying the municipalities that LED street lights are hazardous, dangerous, and discriminatory and lack any regulations by the FDA. The municipalities are under the false impression that the light from LED street lights is equivalent to the light from sodium street lights and thus safe. In fact, LED street lights emit a light that is drastically different from traditional light sources, and is unsafe. The UPSC has failed to notify the municipalities of these material facts which would ensure that the municipalities are making fully informed decisions regarding LED street lights. The UPSC has also not notified the municipalities that they are required to publish an ADA Accommodation Plan to ensure the protection of individuals with disabilities who are discriminated against by the use of LED street lights. When setting tariffs for LED street lights, the UPSC is obligated to show a Duty of Care, Due Diligence, Transparency, and Full Disclosure of the hazards of the visible radiation emitted by LED street lights, but has failed to do so.

Because of the UPSC's failure to do their job and protect the public and provide full disclosure, the UPSC needs oversight by the Idaho State Legislature.

Please contact me with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Mark Baker  
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