

**From:** "Matthew J. Ball" <mjb@pwlaw.com>  
**To:** <mlivingston@utah.gov>  
**Date:** 5/31/2007 8:55 AM  
**Subject:** Proposed PSC rule change

I understand that the Public Service Commission is presently considering a rule change that would make it significantly more difficult for individual ratepayers and/or groups of individual ratepayers to participate in the process of utility regulation in Utah. I wish to voice my opposition to any such rule change.

It would be unconscionable in my view for the PSC to raise roadblocks to the participation of those ratepayers it is meant to serve. The PSC was so named for a reason. It is meant to serve, not hamstring, the public. If anything, the PSC should make it easier for individual ratepayers and groups of individual ratepayers to participate in the utility regulation process. This has become increasingly obvious as the Division of Public Utilities and Committee of Consumer Services have apparently lost the will to consider and advocate the interests of individual utility consumers.

As an attorney, I have grave doubts about the legality of a PSC rule that would require an individual or group of individuals appearing before the PSC to be represented by counsel. There is certainly no such rule with respect to individuals in the courts of this state. To the extent that the PSC does change its rules to require that individuals or groups appearing before it be represented by counsel, the PSC or the utility involved should be required to bear the cost of such representation.

I urge you and the PSC to seriously consider the foregoing and refrain from taking any action to the detriment of the public.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Ball

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