

November 25, 2020



**FROM THE DESK OF
COMMISSIONER
BRENT BAILEY
CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE**



The Central District is pleased to bring you the latest information concerning utility rates, project developments, Public Service Commission actions and other news you can use. I hope you will find this information to be a useful resource to learn about the Public Service Commission, consumer issues and the continuous work we are doing for the citizens in the Central District and across the state of Mississippi. Thank you again for allowing me to serve you in this capacity.

Brent Bailey



A Special

Thanksgiving

Message



Tomorrow is Thanksgiving, a long-standing holiday filled with various traditions. While the meal is many times the centerpiece of the day, families may have many other traditions that create memories. This could include an athletic activity, volunteering, or playing games. Thanksgiving also marks one of the few times each year when entire families may get together. But the COVID-19 has put a significant damper on travel and indoor gatherings. Despite this challenge, Americans will find ways to connect with loved ones.

I am grateful to the people of the Central District of Mississippi for their confidence in me as I continue to learn, grow and perform as your Public Service Commissioner. I am so thankful to live in Mississippi yet I understand there is still much work to do to provide affordable, reliable and accessible utility services for all.



As I near the completion of my first year of service at the MPSC and head into the final weeks of 2020, I am humbled by the journey that has provided me this opportunity. I am thankful for my family, my friends, my District staff, the Commission staff and more for their continued support and thankful to be able to serve the people of the Central District.

As you pursue your own Thanksgiving traditions, remember those working to keep us safe, secure, and healthy. I wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving Day whether you are traveling or staying close to home. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if we can ever be of assistance to you. Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving!!



Notice of Meeting: The Joint Working Group established by the MS Net Metering and Interconnection Rule will conduct a telephonic open meeting "work session" on Friday, December 4, 2020, at 10:30 am. The Joint Working Group will review consumer protection, safety and education of distributed generation systems. All interested renewable energy stakeholders are welcome to participate. See the [MEETING NOTICE](#) for more information.



Last week at the MPSC

On November 18, several small telephone companies currently serving certain towns and rural areas filed materials with the MPSC documenting their intention to deregulate and cease MPSC oversight of rates and services. Per the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. §77-3-35(4)(a), a telecommunications utility must provide a 30-day notice to the MPSC and provide a notice to customers along with the new terms of

service and rate schedule. The following telecommunication utilities that filed for deregulation and serve customers in the Central District include:

- [Noxapater Telephone Company, Inc.](#) is a telephone utility serving certificated areas of **Neshoba** and **Winston** Counties.
- [Sledge Telephone Company, Inc.](#) is a telephone utility serving certificated areas of **Issaquena**, **Sunflower** and **Washington** Counties.
- [Decatur Telephone Company](#) is a telephone utility serving certificated areas of **Newton** County.
- [Mound Bayou Telephone & Communications, Inc.](#) is a telephone utility serving certificated areas of **Bolivar** County.
- * Other telecommunication utilities that filed include Smithville Telephone Company, Bruce Telephone Company, and Fulton Telephone Company.

The Commission suspended **CenterPoint Energy's** [Notice of Changes to its Rate Regulation Adjustment Rider](#) and [Notice of Intent to Establish a Municipal Acquisition Rider](#).

Great River Utility Operating Co. provided proof of its [Verification of Notice to Customers](#) of its intent to acquire certain wastewater disposal service assets, provide disposal services, and charge previously approved rates where applicable in various counties including **Hinds**, **Lauderdale** and **Warren** Counties. **Great River** also filed Verification of Notice to Customers in **Warren County** to Establish Initial and Temporary Rates for Wastewater Disposal Service at \$27 per month for: [Leland Pointe Subdivision](#); [Pine Woods Mobile Home Park Subdivision](#); [Pecan Village Subdivision](#); [Camden Place Subdivision](#); and [The Trace Subdivision](#).

The **Town of Sallis** filed its [Notice of Change in Rates](#) in response to MPUS Data Request 1-16. Sallis Municipal Water System serves parts of **Attala** and **Leake** Counties.

Tunica Windpower LLC filed a [Petition for a Certificate](#) to construct and operate a [200MW wind turbine electricity generation facility](#) in **Tunica County, MS**. The project will be located on 13,000 acres and consist of up to 100 wind turbines. The facility will produce enough electricity to power 70,000 homes. The project developer is Steelhead Americas LLC (Vestas Wind Systems). A generation interconnection agreement has been entered into between Entergy Mississippi, MISO and the project developer to provide appropriate arrangements to transmit the power output to regional customers.

The Commission [approved](#) **Entergy MS LLC's** Economic Development Rider Schedule ED-4 that expands eligibility for certain new or expanding businesses to receive a temporary rate incentive.



Last week, our Consumer Complaint Specialists handled a total of **26** complaints in the Central District.

Electric Companies	14
Telecommunications	7
Water/Sewer	1
Natural Gas	4

Last week, the Central District received a total of **258** complaints from consumers against potential telemarketers through our no call app, website and mail-ins. The top three general issues reported by consumers are related to auto warranties, financial/loans/consolidate debts, and insurance.

We encourage consumers to file telemarketing complaints with the Federal Trade Commission at <http://www.donotcall.gov/> in addition to filing complaints with the Mississippi Public Service Commission.