HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN A VIRTUAL PUBLIC

WITNESS HEARING



QUICK GUIDE



1) KNOW

Know that this will be quite formal. The PUC is a quasi-judicial agency of state government that operates similar to a court. The process of a public witness hearing is set up like a trial. A



lawyer from the PUC staff will be designated as the "Hearing Examiner" and will take testimony from members of the public.

2) REGISTER

If you want to testify at the hearing you must register in advance by contacting the Commission at 207-287-3831 or PUCPublicHearing@Maine.gov and providing your name and email address. The Commission will email you a Microsoft Teams link to the hearing. Prepare specific and concise points for your testimony.



3) LOG IN

Please log into the hearing 10 minutes before the start time. When it is your turn to testify, the Hearing Examiner will ask you to turn on your camera and unmute your microphone.

4) GET SWORN IN

Customarily, people that wish to testify will need to be sworn in. The Hearing Examiner may administer the oath to all witnesses at once at the start or may administer oaths to individuals when it is their turn to testify.





5) TESTIFY

Testimony is typically on the subject of utility impacts on the consumers and/or quality of service. Share your testimony with the PUC. Speak loudly and clearly. Generally, there will not be any questions asked of you, however, there could be a few clarifying questions.

6) AFTER

Know that although the PUC cannot answer questions regarding your testimony at the hearing, it will be considered in the case. Testimony will be transcribed and entered into the case file.



7) MORE INFORMATION

If you want to follow along with the case to get updates on what is happening, you can look up the case in the PUC, Case Management System: https://www.maine.gov/mpuc/online-services

8) REMEMBER: YOUR PARTICIPATION IS IMPORTANT

Your testimony is an important part of the process and the PUC wants to hear from consumers. This is the way the PUC can hear what consumers are concerned about. Testimony may impact PUC decisions by providing previously unknown information or new perspectives.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET INVOLVED, CHECK OUT THE PUC WEBSITE



HTTPS://WWW.MAINE.GOV/MPUC/

