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ARIZONA CORPORATION
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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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Mark Brnovich
Arizona Attorney General
1275 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear General Brnovich:

I am writing to request a formal opinion on the following questions:

1. Does A.R.S. § 40-241 give an individual Commissioner the power to gather information related to a public service corporation and its affiliates' political contributions, lobbying and charitable contributions in order to ensure that all funds expended are consistent with the Commission's authority to set just and reasonable rates? In other words, does the statute give an individual Commissioner the power to look at this information because it is or may be reasonably necessary information for effective ratemaking and to protect the public interest?
2. Does A.R.S. § 40-241 permit an individual Commissioner to investigate the degree to which a public service corporation and its affiliates are intertwined in terms of organization, operation and structure in order to ensure the security and financial health of the affiliates in order to protect consumers from overreaching and abuse by public service corporations and their affiliates such that an affiliate's operations do not hinder the operations of the public service corporation? Specifically, does the statute permit an individual Commissioner to inspect a public service corporation's and/or its affiliates' accounts, books, papers and documents in order to conduct such a review?
3. Does Article XV of the Arizona Constitution give the Commission and/or an individual Commissioner the power to require a public service corporation to report information about itself or about its parent, subsidiary, and other affiliated corporations relevant to the Commission's authority under Article XV, particularly in light of *Arizona Corporation Commission v. State of Arizona ex rel. Grant Woods*, 171 Ariz. 286, 830 P.2d 807 (1992); *Arizona Public Service Company v. Arizona Corporation Commission*, 157 Ariz. 532, 760 P.2d 532 (1988), and Article 8 of the Arizona Administrative Code (Affiliated Interest Rules)?

Sincerely,

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Robert L. Burns
Commissioner

RE: Arizona Corporation Commission Docket No. AU-00000A-15-0309