

7829.1800 INITIAL CONSIDERATION OF FORMAL COMPLAINT.

Subpart 1. **Initial commission review.** The commission shall review a formal complaint as soon as practicable to determine whether the commission has jurisdiction over the matter and to determine whether there are reasonable grounds to investigate the allegation. On concluding that it lacks jurisdiction or that there is no reasonable basis to investigate the matter, the commission shall dismiss the complaint.

Subp. 2. **Answer.** On concluding that it has jurisdiction over the matter and that investigation is warranted, the commission shall serve the complaint on the respondent, together with an order requiring the respondent to file an answer either stating that it has granted the relief the complainant requests, or responding to the allegations of the complaint. The answer must be filed with the commission and served on the complainant, the department, and the Residential Utilities Division of the Office of the Attorney General within 20 days of service of the complaint and order.

Subp. 3. **Reply.** Replies are not required unless the answer alleges that respondent has granted the relief sought by complainant. In that case, the complainant shall file a reply within 20 days admitting or denying that relief has been granted. If the complainant fails to file the reply, the commission shall dismiss the complaint. Copies of the reply must be served on respondents, the department, and the Residential Utilities Division of the Office of the Attorney General.

Subp. 4. **Failure to answer.** If the respondent fails to answer a complaint served by the commission under subpart 2, the commission shall consider the allegations of the complaint denied.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 216A.05*

History: *19 SR 116*

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