





SECTION IV

Tennessee Public Utility Commission



Tennessee Public Utility Commission

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Robin L. Morrison, Chair
Dr. Kenneth C. Hill, Vice Chair
Herbert H. Hilliard, Commissioner
David F. Jones, Commissioner
John Hie, Commissioner
Earl R. Taylor, Executive Director

The Tennessee Public Utility Commission (TPUC), formerly the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA), regulates investor-owned public utilities in Tennessee. The Commission's mission is to ensure the safe and reliable provision of public utility services to the citizens of Tennessee.

The Commission has jurisdiction over investor-owned public utilities including: electric companies, telephone companies, water and wastewater companies, and natural gas companies. TPUC also has safety jurisdiction over all methane and natural gas utility providers, as well as providing consumer services relative to the following state and federal programs: the Telecommunications Devices Access Program (TDAP), Tennessee Relay Service (TRS), Captioned Relay Service, Do Not Call/Do Not Fax, Underground Utility Damage Prevention efforts (Underground Utility Damage Enforcement Board), and the provisioning of assistive devices through the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program.

TPUC is financially independent of Tennessee's general fund. The Commission's operational expenses are covered wholly by the industries it regulates, with a small portion coming from the federal government.

The agency has five Commissioners, each of whom serves on a part-time basis. Two Commissioners are joint appointees selected by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House (Commissioner David F. Jones and Commissioner John Hie). The other three commissioners are appointees of either the Governor (Commissioner Herbert H. Hilliard), Lieutenant Governor (Commissioner Kenneth C. Hill), and Speaker of the House (Commissioner Robin L. Morrison). Commissioner Morrison is serving her second year of a two-year term as chair of the agency. The chair is responsible for formulating the broad strategies, goals, objectives, long-range plans and policies for the Commission.

Earl R. Taylor was appointed Executive Director of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission in 2012 by Governor Bill Haslam, Lieutenant Governor Ron Ramsey, and House Speaker Beth Harwell and reappointed by the commissioners in 2018 to a three-year term. The Executive Director has the principal responsibility of implementing the broad strategies, goals, objectives, long-range plans and policies of the Commission as established by the Commission chair.

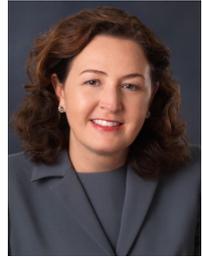
Commission staff includes accountants, administrators, attorneys, consumer specialists, economists, engineers, information technology specialists, and a consumer outreach manager. They provide administrative support for the five divisions: Utilities, Consumer Services, Gas Pipeline Safety, Information Technology, and Legal, as well as for the Underground Utility Damage Enforcement Board.

Robin L. Morrison, Chair*Ashlee Hatfield, Executive Administrative Assistant*

Robin L. Morrison was appointed to TPUC by House Speaker Beth Harwell in 2013 and reappointed in 2015. Ms. Morrison currently serves as a Vice President and financial center manager for one of the South's largest banks, First Tennessee, and brings to TPUC broad experience in customer relations, business management, and federal and regulatory compliance.

A graduate of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a bachelor's degree in business administration-finance, Ms. Morrison possesses a comprehensive background in banking and finance and has obtained her Series 6/63 financial licenses to sell securities, as well as being licensed to sell life and health insurance.

In addition, Ms. Morrison is a graduate of both the Southeastern School of Banking and Leadership Chattanooga. She is active in leadership roles in her community, having served on the boards of the South Board of Redevelopment Group, Junior League of Chattanooga, and the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce's Southside Council. She is also a member of the Chattanooga Women's Leadership Institute.

**Robin L. Morrison****Dr. Kenneth C. Hill, Vice Chair***Ashlee Hatfield, Executive Administrative Assistant*

Dr. Kenneth C. Hill, a native of Morrison City (North Kingsport), was appointed to TPUC by Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey in 2009 and reappointed in 2016.

Since his appointment, Dr. Hill has served as Chairman of TPUC and is currently active with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (SEARUC). He presently serves as SEARUC's second Vice President. He is a member of the NARUC Committee on Water, the NARUC Committee on International Relations, and the NARUC Subcommittee on Clean Coal Carbon Sequestration.

Dr. Hill was formally a member of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER), and the ICER Working Group for Small Energy Consumers, as well as a former mentor in the ICER Women In Energy Mentoring Program.

Dr. Hill has been a presenter at the NARUC and SEARUC annual meetings. He has also been a presenter and participant at the National Association of Water Companies (NAWC) Water Summit, the NAWC Commissioners' Forum, and the Emerging Issues Policy Forum (EIPF) (Energy) multiple times. Additionally, he has been a panelist at the NAWC Southeastern Chapter Conference, as well as the United States' Department of Energy Industrial Energy Efficiency Conference in Little Rock Ark.

During his tenure with TPUC, he has also served as a member of the Tennessee State Information Systems Council, member of the Board of the Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI), member of the Eastern Interconnection States Planning Council (EISPC), delegate to the 5th and 6th World Forum on Energy Regulation (WFER), and a Tennessee Team Member of the National Governors' Association Policy Academy on Enhancing Industry through Energy Efficiency and Combined Heat and Power.

Dr. Hill has been active in communications and broadcasting all of his adult life, having been involved for more than four decades in virtually every aspect of radio.

**Dr. Kenneth C. Hill**

For the past thirty-eight years, Dr. Hill has been President and CEO of the nonprofit Appalachian Educational Communication Corporation (AECC) in Bristol, Tennessee. AECC is the licensee of WHCB 91.5 FM. Dr. Hill has also provided consulting services for the past thirty-six years in the areas of technical writing and editing, public relations, proposal writing and editing, independent R&D documentation, government relations, corporate and business communication, media acquisition, media appraisal, and media utilization.

He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Speech (Broadcasting) and History from East Tennessee State University; a Master of Science degree in Speech (Broadcasting) from Indiana State University; a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies from Baptist Christian College; a Master of Religious Education from Manahath School of Theology; and a Doctor of Religious Education from Andersonville Baptist seminary. Dr. Hill and his wife, Janet, reside in Blountville. They have one daughter, Lydia, who serves as a nurse, and two sons: Matthew, who serves as the 7th District Tennessee State Representative, and Timothy, who serves as the 3rd District Tennessee State Representative.

John Hie, Commissioner

Ashlee Hatfield, Executive Administrative Assistant

John Hie was appointed to TPUC by Governor Bill Haslam, Lieutenant Governor Randy McNally, and House Speaker Beth Harwell in 2018.

Commissioner Hie was born in a small village outside of Dachau, Germany to parents that fled Hungary in January of 1945, as the Red Army was fighting in and around Budapest. Along with a small caravan of ox carts, his family moved across Hungary and Austria to settle in Bavaria, Germany. Eventually John and his four siblings, along with their mother and father, left the seaport town of Bremerhaven, Germany on board the USS *General A. W. Greenly* and arrived in the United States at the port of New Orleans in October of 1951. The Hie family came to the U.S. as part of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948—an act on the part of the federal government authorizing the admission into the U.S. a limited number of Europeans displaced following World War II. The Hie family's admission into the U.S. was sponsored by a farmer in Maury County, Tennessee; and following their transition to Middle Tennessee, the Hie family immediately began to learn the English language and the culture of the south.

Commissioner Hie attended grammar school in a two-room school house and graduated from Columbia Central High School in Columbia, Tennessee. At that time, there were several smokestack industries in Maury County that provided jobs for summer employment. These jobs, along with some scholarships, paid for Commissioner Hie's college education. Commissioner Hie graduated from the University of Tennessee's College of Pharmacy in 1969 and was drafted into the army the following year. His pharmacy training enabled him to work as a pharmacist at Walter Reed Army Medical Center—which he describes as an invaluable experience. After an honorable discharge from the army, Commissioner Hie and a business partner opened their own drugstore and ran it for ten years before selling it.



John Hie

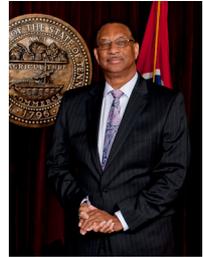
Commissioner Hie transitioned from the world of pharmacy to the world of finance, beginning work for the venerable J.C. Bradford investment firm in 1984 where he advised clients about their investments. After the sale of J.C. Bradford in the year 2000, John went to work for the investment firm Stephens, Inc. of Little Rock, Arkansas. John eventually retired from Stephens in 2015 to spend more time with family and friends, although he still works a few hours a week at Carezone Pharmacy in Nashville. John and his wife, Trish have one son, one daughter-in-law, one grandson, AJ, and one granddog named Luna.

Herbert H. Hilliard, Commissioner

Ashlee Hatfield, Executive Administrative Assistant

Commissioner Hilliard was appointed to TPUC in 2012 by Governor Bill Haslam and reappointed in 2017.

Commissioner Hilliard served as Executive Vice President and Chief Government Relations Officer for First Horizon National Corporation. In this role, he was responsible for the corporation's lobbying activities at the federal and state levels. He is a forty-three-year veteran of the company, having joined First Horizon in 1969 after earning a BBA in Personnel Administration and Industrial Relations from the University of Memphis. Prior to his current role, he was Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer. Commissioner Hilliard retired from First Horizon National Corporation on September 26, 2012.



Herbert H. Hilliard

Commissioner Hilliard is active in the community, currently serving as Chairman of the Board of Directors of The National Civil Rights Museum, and he is a Board Member of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee.

He was Chairman of the Memphis Housing Authority Board from 1992-1993, Chairman of the United Way General Fund Drive in 1987, and Chairman of the Annual NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner in 1988. He is a past member of the Memphis Park Commission, the University of Memphis National Alumni Board, the University of Memphis Foundation Board, and the Boards of Directors for the Chickasaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau. From 2000 to 2005, he was Chairman of the Board of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, and he is currently Chairman of the Finance Committee of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee.

Commissioner Hilliard has completed additional studies at the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at Southern Methodist University, the Tennessee Executive Development Program at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Cornell University's Executive Development Program, and Crosby Quality College.

David F. Jones, Commissioner

Ashlee Hatfield, Executive Administrative Assistant

Commissioner Jones was reappointed to the Commission by Governor Bill Haslam, Lt. Governor Randy McNally, and House Speaker Beth Harwell in 2018. He is the Commission's past Chairman and serves on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Gas Committee.

Commissioner Jones is CEO and President of Complete Holdings Group, a complex medical claims (workers' compensation, motor vehicle accidents, and Veterans Administration) revenue cycle solutions company to more than 700 hospitals across

39 states. Commissioner Jones spent 29 years in the energy industry with the nation's largest natural gas interstate transmission company where he worked as an executive in a variety of areas, including Field Operations and Human Resources. He has been at Complete Holdings Group since 2009, and he serves on a number of boards including the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence. He is a certified facilitator/executive coach to CEOs and owners of private businesses where he helps these entrepreneurs to scale their businesses.

Commissioner Jones obtained a B.S. in Business from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and an MBA from the University of Houston. He is the author of the book *Surviving and Thriving After Losing Your Job*. He and his wife have been married over 40 years and have two children and six grandchildren.



David F. Jones

Earl R. Taylor, Executive Director

Ashlee Hatfield, Executive Administrative Assistant

Earl R. Taylor was appointed to TPUC as Executive Director in 2012 by Governor Bill Haslam, Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey, and House Speaker Beth Harwell and reappointed by the Commission in 2018 to another three-year term.

Taylor received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and a Juris Doctor from the University of Memphis School of Law. He began his career as an attorney in his hometown of Johnson City.

Later professional endeavors included the development of WKXT-TV, the CBS Television affiliate in Knoxville, and the subsequent launch of the Warner Brothers affiliate in the same market. Most recently, Taylor has been a franchisee of Panera Bread, developing bakery cafes in Florida, Texas, and Louisiana.

Actively engaged in his community, he has served as a mentor in the Knoxville Fellows program, as a commissioner for the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority, and on the Knoxville Young Life Committee. As Executive Director of TPUC, he functions as the Commission's Chief Operating Officer, responsible for the agency's administrative duties and responsibilities. Mr. Taylor is married to Sheryl Dawson Taylor. They have four children and ten grandchildren.



Earl R. Taylor