

REPEAL SECTION 8.33 AND GIVE OUR BEST FORENSIC AUDIT TEAM NEW ORDERS!

Minn. Stat. § 8.33 (2024) grants the Attorney General the right to intervene in ratemaking cases before the Public Utilities Commission on behalf of residential and small business customers.

But the Attorney General can (and does) protect those very same customers when intervening on behalf of the Department of Commerce under Minn. Stat. § 216B.64 (2024). We have a more important mission for the Residential Utilities Division!

Minn. Stat. § 8.33 (2024)	Minnesota Public Utilities Act - Chapter 216B
<p>Subd. 2. Duties. <u>The attorney general</u> is responsible for representing and furthering the interests of <u>residential and small business utility consumers</u> through participation in matters before the Public Utilities Commission <u>involving utility rates and adequacy of utility services</u> to residential or small business utility consumers. The attorney general shall expend a reasonable portion of effort among all three kinds of utility services and shall identify and promote the needs of each class of residential and small business consumers with respect to each of the utility services. When participating in telecommunication matters that affect deployment of the infrastructure, the attorney general may apply the goals of:</p> <p>(1) achieving <u>economically efficient investment</u> in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) higher speed telecommunication services; and (ii) greater capacity for voice, video, and data transmission; and <p>(2) <u>just and reasonable rates</u>.</p>	<p>216B.01 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS</p> <p>It is hereby declared to be in the public interest that public utilities be regulated as hereinafter provided in order to <u>provide the retail consumers of natural gas and electric service in this state with adequate and reliable services at reasonable rates</u>, consistent with the financial and economic requirements of public utilities and their need to construct facilities to provide such services or to otherwise obtain energy supplies, to <u>avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities which increase the cost of service to the consumer</u> and to minimize disputes between public utilities which may result in inconvenience or diminish efficiency in service to the consumers.</p> <p>216B.64 ATTORNEY GENERAL'S RESPONSIBILITIES</p> <p><u>The attorney general</u> of the state shall, upon request of the commission or department, represent and <u>appear for the</u> commission or <u>department</u> in all actions and proceedings involving any question under [Minnesota Public Utilities Act] The attorney general shall perform all duties and services in connection with [Minnesota Public Utilities Act] and the enforcement thereof <u>as the commission or department may require</u>.</p>
<p>The Objectives of the Residential Utilities Division:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economically efficient utility investments • Just and reasonable rates for retail customers 	<p>The Objectives of the Department of Commerce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economically efficient utility investments (to “avoid duplication”) • Just and reasonable rates for retail customers

Excerpts From The:

Roadmap to Program Integrity and Fraud Prevention

Strengthening Minnesota's Stewardship of Public Resources

Feb. 23, 2026

PREPARED BY: TIM O'MALLEY
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM INTEGRITY

C. Set tone at the top

- Senior leadership — from the governor to agency heads — must consistently articulate the importance of stewardship of taxpayer dollars and program integrity and must dedicate resources to support it.

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3. Administrative, investigative and prosecutorial coordination

Minnesota must strengthen its ability to detect, investigate, and respond to fraud swiftly and effectively.

Key recommendations

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F. Increase prosecutorial capacity

Expand resources for the Attorney General or for the Ramsey County Attorney's Office to prosecute statewide fraud cases, leveraging its jurisdiction and expertise.⁶