

# House Research Act Summary

**CHAPTER:** 10

**SESSION:** 2007 Regular Session

**TOPIC:** Electronic filing in Public Utilities Commission proceedings

**Date:** June 5, 2007

**Analyst:** Bob Eleff

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: [www.house.mn/hrd](http://www.house.mn/hrd).

---

## Overview

Chapter 10 allows filings of documents with and payment of regulatory assessments to the Public Utilities Commission and the Department of Commerce and commission orders and notices to be made electronically.

### Section

**1** [216.15] **Answer and reply.** Expands options for filing complaints to include electronic filing and personal delivery.

**2** [216.17] **Notices and orders; filings; service.**

**Subd. 1. Commission notices and orders; signature.** Allows the commission secretary to sign notices and orders electronically.

**Subd. 2. Service of notice, order, or other document from commission.** Expands options for serving commission documents to include electronic filing and personal delivery.

**Subd. 3. Filings with commission; manner of filings.** Requires, as of January 1, 2008, state agencies and any entity regulated by the commission to file documents electronically.

**Subd. 4. Service by a party, participant, or other interested person.** Provides that service may be made by personal delivery, mail or electronically. Electronic service is restricted to persons on the official service list who have agreed to it in writing and have provided the commission with an electronic address.

Section

- 3        **[216.18] Power to subpoena witnesses and documents.** Strikes "papers" and inserts "documents."
- 4        **[216B.18] Service of notice.** Expands options for serving notice of commission proceedings to include electronic service.
- 5        **[216B.241] Energy conservation improvement.**
- Subd. 1e. Manner of filing and service.** Requires, after January 1, 2008, utilities to submit findings to the Department of Commerce electronically, unless the commissioner approves an exemption. Other parties must submit filings electronically whenever practicable, but may also file by mail or personal delivery.
- Electronic filing to the department constitutes service to the department. Service may be made by personal delivery, mail or electronically. Electronic service is restricted to persons on the official service list who have agreed to it in writing and have provided the department with an electronic address.
- 6        **Order; effective date.** Specifies that commission orders may be served electronically.
- 7        **Commission ruling written, filed, and certified.** Technical change.
- 8        **Regulatory expenses.**
- Subd. 3. Assessing all public utilities.** Expands the mechanisms utilities may use to pay their quarterly assessment to the commission and department to include personal delivery and electronic service.
- 9 - 11    Technical changes to conform with section 8.
- 12       **[216E.07] Annual hearing.** Expands the commission's options for giving notice of an annual hearing on matters relating to siting large electric generating plants and routing of transmission lines to include electronic service.
- 13       **[237.295] Assessment of regulatory expenses.** Expands the mechanisms utilities may use to pay their quarterly assessment to the commission and department for regulatory telecommunications expenses to include personal delivery and electronic service. Additional technical changes necessary to conform with this provision.