

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

Section 516 Annual Audits Report
for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

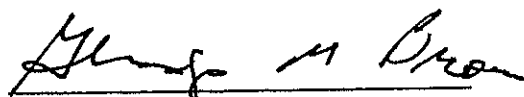
Public Meeting September 17, 2015
2500634-AUD
Docket No. D-2015-2500634

**JOINT STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN GLADYS M. BROWN AND
COMMISSIONER ROBERT F. POWELSON**

Before the Public Utility Commission (PUC or Commission) today for consideration is the Annual Report of the Bureau of Audits' (Audits) activities required by Section 516(b) of the Public Utility Code.¹

We would like to draw attention to this report because it highlights some of the important, and often unnoticed, work performed by Commission Staff. While the public generally equates the PUC with the agency that raises their utility rates, it is important to recognize that Staff also does a great deal to ensure that utility rates are reasonable. In particular, the Audits' Staff devotes considerable effort to finding efficiencies and savings for utilities that help control rates. For instance, this year's Annual Report demonstrates that three Management Audits completed by the bureau contain recommendations that, if fully implemented, will lead to between \$6.6 and \$9.4 million in annual savings, and between \$21.4 and \$22.3 million in one-time savings for utilities and their customers. These savings are in addition to other unquantifiable, but still valuable, recommendations made by Audits that will help utilities improve operations.

The work performed by Audits – from management efficiency investigations to important special projects, such as evaluating Philadelphia Gas Works' Pipeline Replacement Program - is both important and impactful. This Annual Report released today clearly demonstrates that Audits had a banner year. We want to publicly thank all of the Bureau's staff for their hard work and congratulate them on their many successes.


GLADYS M. BROWN
CHAIRMAN


ROBERT F. POWELSON
COMMISSIONER

DATE: September 17, 2015

¹ 66 Pa. C.S. § 516(b).