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## For Immediate Release

### **In Record Year, Maryland Utilities Spend Close to \$1 Billion with Diverse Contractors** *PSC to Convene Annual Supplier Diversity Hearing*

(BALTIMORE, MD-July 3, 2019) – The Maryland Public Service Commission will hold its annual hearing for utility companies to report on their contracts with diverse suppliers. The proceeding will review the 2018 diverse supplier procurements, totaling \$945 million—a milestone achievement—by participating companies, which include electric, natural gas, transportation and telecommunication providers. The hearing will be held on **Tuesday, July 9, 2019, beginning at 10:00 a.m.** at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Theatre), 830 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Utilities, elected officials, advocates and contractors will share best practices, lessons learned and innovative ways to reach diversity goals. The utility companies reported spending nearly \$3.6 billion on all goods and services in 2018. The more than 26% total diverse spend ratio—a key metric of the program—represents the first time in the program's history that the 25% goal has been met by the utilities collectively.

The Commission's *Public Conference 16 on Supplier Diversity (PC16)* supports Maryland's 'open for business' commitment by providing women-, minority- and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses, as well as nonprofit organizations, with greater opportunities to compete for contracts and subcontracts with public utilities. Sixteen companies filed annual reports with the Commission, detailing their diverse spend for the 2018 calendar year. Of the 16, seven met or exceeded the 25% goal in 2018:

- Association of Maryland Pilots (38.9% -- \$402,000 diverse spend)
- Baltimore Gas & Electric Company (34.8% -- \$326.3 million diverse spend)
- Potomac Electric Power Company (28.7% -- \$163.5 million diverse spend)
- AT&T/TCAL (28.3% -- \$19.7 million diverse spend)
- Potomac Edison (26% -- \$15.9 million diverse spend)
- Comcast (25.9% -- \$95.5 million diverse spend)
- Washington Gas Light Company (25.1% -- \$138.4 million diverse spend)

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The Commission's Technical Staff analyzed the utilities' data and summarized the findings in a [report](#) filed in the docket for [PC 16](#). More information on PC 16 and supplier diversity is available on the Commission's website, [www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us), under the [Supplier Diversity link](#) on the homepage.

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**About the Public Service Commission:**

*The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities, telephone companies (land lines), certain water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines, buses, Uber, Lyft), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.*

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