

COMMISSIONERS

W. KEVIN HUGHES
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD D. WILLIAMS
ANNE E. HOSKINS
JEANNETTE M. MILLS
MICHAEL T. RICHARD

STATE OF MARYLAND



PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

July 7, 2016

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| | * | |
| Revisions to COMAR 20.31.01 and .03 – | * | Administrative Docket |
| Restrictions for Serious Illness and Life- | * | RM52 |
| Support Equipment | * | |
| | * | |
| ***** | * | ***** |

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING SESSION

The Public Service Commission (“Commission”) hereby gives notice that it will conduct a rule making session on Wednesday, August 24, 2016, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Commission’s 16th Floor Hearing Room, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. The purpose of the rule making session is to consider revisions to the Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”) 20.31.01 and .03 regarding Restrictions for Serious Illness and Life-Support Equipment. On June 30, 2016, the Commission’s Technical Staff (“Staff”) filed proposed revisions to COMAR 20.31.01 and 20.31.03 that would add “physician assistant” to the list of medical professionals permitted to certify to an electric or gas utility that the utility’s customer has a serious illness, or is in need of life-support equipment, and is therefore exempt from termination of utility service for an initial period of 30 days and beyond

that time as prescribed in the regulation.¹

Comments on, or any suggested edits and revisions to, the Staff proposed regulations shall be filed by Thursday, August 18, 2016. All filings should be addressed to David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. Each filing should consist of an original and seventeen (17) two-sided paper copies, and include an electronic version of the filing. The applicable Administrative Docket number must appear in the subject line of the cover letter. Five paper copies of the filing shall be three-hole punched. The Commission encourages the parties to use its “eFile” system to submit the electronic version of the filing. Details of the “eFile” system can be found on the Commission’s website, www.psc.state.md.us.

At the rule making session the Commission will consider whether to publish these proposed revisions to COMAR 20.31.01 and .03 in the Maryland Register for notice and comment as provided for by the Maryland Administrative Procedures Act.

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ David J. Collins

David J. Collins
Executive Secretary

¹ A copy of the proposed regulations may be viewed or downloaded from the Commission’s web page www.psc.state.md.us, in the electronic case jacket for this docket (RM 52). In addition, on May 23, 2016, the Maryland Office of People’s Counsel filed a Petition for Further Rulemaking requesting that the Commission initiate a further rulemaking to consider adoption of amendments to COMAR 20.31.01 and .03 to include “physician assistant” as a category of medical professionals qualified to provide medical certifications of serious illness or reliance on life-support equipment to the utilities. This item may also be viewed in the electronic case jacket.