

STATE REGULATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE

**CANDIDATES FOR THE
SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

NOTICE: The information requested herein is needed to assist the Committee in its investigation of candidates for the Public Service Commission. This questionnaire is the initial step in the investigation of your candidacy. A **completed** questionnaire should be returned to the Committee as soon as possible, but in any event **no later than noon, 12:00 p.m., on Friday, October 24, 2025.** *(Use and attach separate sheets, if necessary.)*

PLEASE SPECIFY THE SEAT FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING (THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN WHICH YOU RESIDE; YOU MAY ONLY APPLY FOR ONE SEAT): Congressional District 5

1. Full Name: Mr. Headen Bynum Thomas
Ms.

Home Address: [Redacted]

Business Address: 101 Executive Center Drive
Saluda Building, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Email Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number(s): (Office) 803-896-5100
(Home) N/A
(Cell) [Redacted]
2. Date of Birth: [Redacted] 1951

Place of Birth: Rock Hill, SC
3. Social Security Number: [Redacted]
4. SCDL No. or SCHD No.: [Redacted]

Voter Registration No.: [Redacted]

5. Family Status: Are you single, married, widowed, or divorced?
Married

If married, state date of marriage and spouse's full name.
Sandra Bedenbaugh Leitner on February 1, 2014

If divorced, state the date, name of moving party, grounds, and the court.
[Redacted]

Names and ages of children. If children are old enough to work, state occupation of each.
Three children. [Redacted]

6. List each institution of higher learning you attended, including dates of attendance and degrees awarded. Please provide an official transcript prior to your screening hearing. If you left any institution without receiving a degree, state the reason for leaving.
- (a) Wofford College – September 1969 through January 1973, BA Economics
 - (b) Winthrop College – January 1977 through May 1979, MBA degree
7. List any continuing education courses or other professional education or training programs that you have attended in the past five years.
- (a) Public Service Commission's Annual Ethics Training (2 sessions) October, 2025
 - (b) NARUC – Annual Meeting and Education Conference “Focused on the Future - State Regulators Leading the Way” July 17 – 30, 2025 in Boston, MA (3 days)
 - (c) NARUC Committee on Gas Meeting – January 13, 2025 (1.0 hr.) – “Long Term Reliability Assessment 2024 NERC Key Findings” January 2025
 - (d) New Mexico State University - Center for Public Utilities, Current Issues 2025 Conference April 6 – 9, 2025
 - (e) Public Service Commission's Annual Joint Ethics Training with the Office of Regulatory Staff (2 sessions) State Ethics Act, Substance Abuse and Cyber Ethics. September and October, 2024
 - (f) CPA Annual License Renewal—40 hours of online courses covering ethics training and various tax, accounting, business and auditing courses December 2024
 - (g) Michigan State University – Institute of Public Utilities (IPU) – Accounting and Ratemaking Course (Live Online) - March 12-14, 2024
 - (h) NARUC – Regulatory Training Initiative (RTI) – Gas 101 (Live Online) - March 19-20, 2024
 - (i) SEARUC 2024 Annual Education Conference, June 2-5, 2024, in Asheville, NC
 - (j) Cyber security Awareness Videos and PSC Policies – Public Service Commission via SCEIS – various dates in 2024
 - (k) Public Service Commission's Annual Joint Ethics Training with the Office of Regulatory Staff (2 sessions) October 2023
 - (l) NARUC Committee on Gas – 4 Virtual Meetings (1 hour each) 2023
 - (m) CPA Annual License Renewal—40 hours of online courses covering ethics training and various tax, accounting, business and auditing courses December 2023
 - (n) NARUC Summer Policy Summit July 17 – 20, 2022 in San Diego, CA

- (o) Cyber security Awareness Videos and PSC Policies – Public Service Commission via SCEIS – various dates 2022
- (p) Public Service Commission’s Annual Joint Ethics Training with the Office of Regulatory Staff (2 sessions) October 2022
- (q) Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) Training – September 8, 2022
- (r) NARUC Committee on Gas – 8 Virtual Meetings (1 hour each) 2022
- (s) CPA Annual License Renewal—40 hours of online courses covering ethics training and various tax, accounting, business and auditing courses December 2022
- (t) 2021 SEARUC Annual Educational Conference - 3 days – Kingsport, TN October 2021
- (u) Public Service Commission’s Annual Joint Ethics Training with the Office of Regulatory Staff (2 sessions) October 2021
- (v) NARUC Committee on Gas – 12 Virtual Meetings (1 hour each) 2021
- (w) NARUC Winter Policy Summit – 4 days Virtual, February 2021
- (x) CPA Annual License Renewal—40 hours of online courses covering ethics training and various tax, accounting, business and auditing courses December 2021
- (y) Cyber security Awareness Video – Public Service Commission – 2020
- (z) Public Service Commission’s Annual Joint Ethics Training with the Office of Regulatory Staff (2 sessions) October 2020
- (aa) New Commissioner Orientation – Public Service Commission – October 2020
- (bb) NARUC’s Annual Meeting and Education Conference – virtual November 2020
- (cc) Webinar – Public Utility Regulatory Finance Concepts – National Regulatory Research Institute (NRRI) – virtual December 2020
- (dd) Committee Meeting on Ex Parte Policy – Public Service Commission – 2020
- (ee) New Commissioner Educational Training – Public Service Commission Staff – in-house January 2021
- (ff) NARUC’s Winter Policy Summit – virtual February 2021
- (gg) Fleet Safety Driver Training – State of South Carolina - Department of Administration – virtual 2021
- (hh) NARUC Committee on Gas – 4 Virtual Meetings (1 hour each) 2020
- (ii) Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Training – Virtual Seminar Presented by the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab – April 2021
- (jj) Webinar – Communications Skills with Serphia Curry – State of South Carolina Department of Administration – June 2021

8. Have you been employed or held any position in any of the following areas?

- X_____ (a) energy issues
- X_____ (b) telecommunications issues
- X_____ (c) consumer protection and advocacy issues
- X_____ (d) water and wastewater issues
- X_____ (e) finance, economics, and statistics
- X_____ (f) accounting
- X_____ (g) engineering
- X_____ (h) law

Please provide the duration of your employment or service and details about the nature of the work or the position.

I was elected to the Public Service Commission in September 2020. I have served as a commissioner continuously since being elected. During that period I have dealt with issues in the areas of energy, telecommunications, consumer protection and advocacy, water and wastewater, finance, economics, statistics, accounting, engineering and law.

I was employed by Piedmont Natural Gas Company in Charlotte, NC, from January 1983 until October 2006. I served in a variety of roles including Tax Staff Accountant, Corporate Tax Manager, Director of Investor Relations and Director of Investor Relations & Corporate Communications.

In the Tax Department I was responsible for accounting for income taxes and general taxes, financial reporting of taxes and the preparation of work papers and schedules supporting the income tax expense, general tax expense and deferred tax accounts for rate case filings.

As Director of Investor Relations, I was responsible for communicating financial information to securities analysts, the investment community, preparation of materials for the rating agencies, scripting earnings conference calls, drafting earnings releases, managed an equity financing and prepared and delivered analyst presentations.

In Corporate Communications, I was corporate spokesperson for radio and TV interviews, the press and the news media communicating about the company and natural gas energy issues to a variety of audiences including shareholders, customers, employees and the general public.

9. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates of service, branch of service, highest rank, serial number, present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD-214 prior to your screening hearing.
No.
10. Have you ever held public office? If so, provide details, including the office, whether elected or appointed, the length and dates of your service. Also, state whether or not you timely filed reports with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty. If so, provide details, including dates.
 - (a) Commissioner, District 5 – Public Service Commission. Elected by the General Assembly, September 2020 to the present. I have timely filed the annual Statement of Economic Interests with the State Ethics Commission and have not been subject to any penalty during my tenure as a commissioner.
11. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, provide details, including dates.
 - (a) Yes – I was a candidate for the Public Service Commission, District 5 in 2012 and 2013 and was found qualified, however I withdrew from the election before the vote by the General Assembly.

12. Please list in chronological order any employment of you by any governmental agency (whether full time or part time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise). Provide dates of employment, name of employer, name of supervisor, and major job responsibilities.
- (a) I have been serving as a commissioner on the Public Service Commission, District 5, since September 2020. As a commissioner, my primary responsibility is to decide or rule on matters that come before the Commission. Preparation for the cases that come before us takes a considerable amount of time. I read and study the applications, prefiled testimony and applicable law and regulations. During a hearing, I listen to the testimony and ask relevant questions. Staff conducts briefings that are very helpful to the process.
13. Please list in chronological order any occupation, business, or profession in which you have been engaged or employed (other than serving in a public office or being employed by a governmental agency). Please briefly note the nature of your work during each period.
- (a) Manufacturer's Supply Company – Rock Hill, SC – February 1973 – January 1977 Responsible for purchasing, inventory control, directing warehouse activities.
- (b) Moore, Glover, Pierce and Harrell, CPA's – Rock Hill, SC – January 1978 – May 1979 Part time while working on MBA degree. Auditing, tax and general accounting services.
- (c) Deloitte Haskins & Sells – Charlotte, NC – June 1979 – December 1982 Provided tax planning, tax compliance and tax audit resolution services.
- (d) Piedmont Natural Gas Company – Charlotte, NC – January 1983 – October 2006 Started as Tax Staff Accountant and progressed to Corporate Tax Manager, Director of Investor Relations and then to Director of Investor Relations & Corporate Communications. Managed all aspects of the Tax Department including planning, compliance, accounting and preparation of tax-related aspects of rate case filings. Investor Relations – managed equity financing, developed rating agency packages, scripted earnings conference calls, prepared and delivered analyst presentations. Corporate Communications – corporate spokesperson, radio and TV interviews, annual report to shareholders, press releases, and strategic communication plan.
- (e) Heritage Bluff Preserve, LLC – Rock Hill, SC – January 2007 – November 2021 (part time) Closely held business involved in real estate investment, zoning and permitting.
- (f) Moore & Moore CPA's, P.A. – Rock Hill, SC – January 2009 – December 2022 (part time) Primarily involved in tax compliance and planning for a wide range of clients.

(g) Edisto Heritage Development, Inc. – Rock Hill, SC – May 2010 – November 2021 (part time) Closely held business involved in real estate development activities including managing engineers, contractors, surveyors and attorneys.

14. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain.
No, all business activities are inactive at this time.
15. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships that you currently have or have had in the past that could pose a conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.
I was formerly employed by Piedmont Natural Gas Company. That relationship ended October 31, 2006, when I took early retirement. Piedmont Natural Gas Company is now owned by Duke Energy. The relationship ended in 2006 and does not involve a conflict of interest.
16. If you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities, list each stock or other security you currently own. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here.
Please see attached documents – Confidential Financial Statements.
17. Have you ever been convicted of a violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance? Are there any charges pending against you for a violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance? If so, provide details. (DO NOT include traffic violations for which a fine of \$200 or less was imposed.)
No to all of the above.
18. To your knowledge, have you ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.
No.
19. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, provide details.
No to all of the above.
20. Have you ever been a named party in a lawsuit, either personally or professionally? If so, provide details.
Yes – In connection with a divorce granted November 13, 1996.
Yes – In connection with issuance of a dock permit. Batson L. Hewitt, Jr. and Bailey Island Club Association, Inc. (Petitioners) v SCDHEC and Headen B. Thomas (Respondents) Docket No.09-ALJ-07-0054-CC. Permit upheld for Respondent Thomas on March 17, 2010.

21. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If so, provide details.
[Redacted].
22. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a “lobbyist,” as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a “lobbyist’s principal,” as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(14)? If so, please provide the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.
No.
23. Since your decision to seek a position on the Public Service Commission, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value, as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(1), from a lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal? If so, please specify the item(s) received, date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal providing the item(s).
No.
24. S.C. Code Section 8-13-700 provides, in part, “No public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated.” Please detail any knowledge you may have of any formal charges or informal allegations that you or any other candidate violated these provisions. (Include the disposition, if any, of such charges.)
None.
25. S.C. Code Section 8-13-765 provides, in part, “No person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign.” Please detail any knowledge you may have of any formal charges or informal allegations that you or any other candidate violated these provisions. (Include the disposition, if any, of such charges.)
None.
26. Other than expenditures for travel or room and board, please itemize all expenditures (by amount, type, and date) by you, or on your behalf, in seeking the office of Public Service Commissioner.
None at this time.
27. Please list the amount and recipient of all contributions made to members of the General Assembly within six months of filing this questionnaire.
None.
28. Have you directly or indirectly requested a pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek

the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened?

No.

29. Have you or has anyone on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy for the position of Public Service Commissioner? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor (if applicable), donor, and date of solicitation and/or receipt.

No.

30. List all professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices that you have held in such groups.

(a) National Association of Public Utility Commissioners (NARUC)

(b) Southeastern Association of Public Utility Commissioners (SERUC)

31. List all civic, charitable, religious, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five (5) years.

(a) Saint Johns United Methodist Church – Rock Hill, SC

(b) Cotillion Club – Rock Hill, SC

32. State any other information which may reflect positively or negatively on you, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for a position on the Public Service Commission.

I am a licensed CPA in the state of North Carolina.

I gained a good understanding of the public utility ratemaking environment during my 22 years of working for Piedmont Natural Gas Company.

The knowledge and experience gained during the past five years of working as a commissioner on the Public Service Commission provides a strong background and base of knowledge to continue to serve the state of South Carolina in this position.

33. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons, including your banker, from whom references could be required. Also, provide this Committee with original letters of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature. A photocopy, facsimile, or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation will not be accepted.

1)(Banker) Shannon Goodnight [Redacted]

2)Wade B. Fairey, Sr. [Redacted]

3)Ted C. Coble [Redacted]

4)C. Clarke Moore, [Redacted]

5)William E. Jenkinson, III [Redacted]

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY RECORD INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature:

Date:

PLEASE NOTE: S.C. CODE SECTIONS REFERRED TO IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE CONTAINED IN THE PDQ CODE REFERENCES DOCUMENT.

I ACKNOWLEDGE, AS A CANDIDATE, THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEWING THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS. THESE DOCUMENTS ARE ACCESSIBLE ON THE PUBLIC UTILITY REVIEW COMMITTEE'S WEBSITE:

- (1) An Introduction to the Public Service Commission;**
- (2) The press release issued by the Committee announcing the start of its application process;**
- (3) An Advisory Opinion relating to attendance by candidates for the Public Service Commission at legislative receptions;**
- (4) An Advisory Opinion relating to attendance by candidates for the Public Service Commission at legislative caucus meetings;**
- (5) An Advisory Opinion relating to attendance by candidates for the Public Service Commission at political gatherings;**
- (6) The Judicial Code of Conduct;**
- (7) Statutory definitions and statute concerning pledges; and**
- (8) Information regarding accessing your credit report.**

Signature:

Date: