



Press Release

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Emile C. Thompson Announces Resignation as Chairman of the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia

Washington, D.C. — The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (Commission) today announced that Chairman Emile C. Thompson has resigned from the agency, effective August 14, 2026. Chairman Thompson was first appointed as a Commissioner on April 7, 2021, by Mayor Muriel Bowser, then became Chairman on June 7, 2022.

“I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside dedicated colleagues, been able to protect the public interest, and help ensure the fair and efficient delivery of utility services. I sincerely appreciate the guidance, support, and professional growth I experienced during my tenure, as well as the support from Mayor Bowser,” stated Thompson. “One item must be emphasized. Rising energy prices are not attributable to any one agency, group or thing. This phenomenon is occurring across the nation. As the issue of affordability is debated, the other three legs of the table—reliability, safety and conservation of environmental resources—must be considered. Over reliance on any one of these legs creates an energy system table that is greatly unbalanced and surely set to fail. Finally, for the Commission to continue to do its job effectively, it must continue to operate as an independent entity. While Commissioners must be responsive to political leadership, the Commission was created to be independent.”

During his tenure, Chairman Thompson helped advance several key initiatives, including:

- Established new public utility planning frameworks that expanded public participation in shaping the District's energy future.
- Advanced a District-specific, equity-focused Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) framework to guide future utility investments.
- Executed the District's first power purchase agreement (PPA) for 5% of the Standard Offer Service (SOS) load.



- Awarded three innovative, merger-funded pilot projects to modernize the District's energy landscape at no additional cost to ratepayers.
- Ensured Pepco and Washington Gas fulfilled critical merger commitments, including:
 - Achieving top-decile electric service reliability.
 - Reducing natural gas leaks.
 - Developing 10 megawatts of clean energy.
- Exceeded the District's solar carve-out requirements.
- Achieved record-high compliance with solar interconnection regulations without relying on utility incentives that increase customer costs.

Until a permanent successor is appointed, the Commission will continue to operate without interruption and remain focused on delivering high-quality public service. Chairman Thompson's [full letter of resignation](#) can be found on dcpsc.org.

The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia is an independent agency established by Congress in 1913 to regulate electric, natural gas, and telecommunications companies in the District of Columbia.

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