



STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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**Policy for Participation of Commissioners in Deliberations Remotely by Electronic or  
Other Similar Means  
Effective November 2, 2021**

The purpose of this policy is to establish the conditions under which Commissioners may participate in deliberations via remote means. The Commission strives to have all three Commissioners attend deliberations in person at the offices of the Commission (or at a different location as applicable). However, one or more Commissioners may participate in deliberations remotely if the following requirements have been met:

1. Notice of the event has been provided pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §§ 403-B and 406 and 35-A M.R.S. § 108-A.
2. In-person attendance of a commissioner is impracticable. Circumstances in which physical presence for one or more members of the Commission is not practicable may include (but is not necessarily limited to):
  - a. The existence of an emergency or urgent issue that requires the public body to meet by remote methods;
  - b. Illness, other physical condition, quarantine, temporary absence from the State, or other unforeseen circumstance that causes a member of the body to face significant difficulties appearing in person at the location of the event;
  - c. Weather conditions that may impede or slow travel; and
  - d. The existence of a viral pandemic.
3. The Commission's electronic audio/video system is operating in a manner that allows all Commissioners to see, hear and speak to each other (and other participants as applicable) during the proceeding. If bandwidth or other technical issues occur making video impracticable, Commissioners may use telephonic means to hear and speak to each other (and other participants as applicable).

4. The Commission's electronic audio/video system is operating in a manner that allows persons attending the event remotely or at the location provided in the notice of deliberations referenced in #1 above to hear all Commissioners participating in the proceeding.
5. Any Commissioner participating in deliberations remotely will have documents or materials necessary to make informed decisions on all items under consideration.