

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 22, 2017 MEDIA CONTACT: Angie Holdsworth (602) 542-0844

Commission to Hold Transparency and Disclosure Workshop

(Phoenix) The Arizona Corporation Commission will hold a workshop Thursday, March 23rd, at 10:00 a.m. to consider developing new transparency and disclosure rules. The workshop will address financial expenditures by regulated monopolies, interveners, and stakeholders who may appear before the Commission who could directly or indirectly benefit an ACC candidate, sitting Commissioner, or key Commission Staff.

The purpose of the workshop is to receive comments and evaluate how to improve transparency, and may include discussions regarding the campaign and charitable contributions of regulated monopolies, interveners, and stakeholders. It will also consider other areas of potential conflicts of interest such as the employment of family or friends linked to a company or stakeholder and to the Commissioners or Staff.

"We need to make sure that we have the highest ethical standards here at the Commission and that existing and potential future loopholes are not exploited," said Commissioner Bob Burns, who is hosting the workshop. "This is an opportunity for all of us to explore any transparency or disclosure weaknesses that would undermine, in reality or perception, the integrity of this Commission, future Commissions and Staff.

The workshop will include a presentation from the Deputy Executive Director of the Campaign Legal Center which is a Washington D.C. based non-profit which focuses government ethics and promoting reforms which protect citizens' rights to participate in the democratic system. The public will be allowed and encouraged to make comment and participate in the discussion.

The workshop will be held in Hearing Room One of the Arizona Corporation Commission at 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix. It will be live-streamed at www.azcc.gov. The entire docket can be viewed at the Commission's website www.azcc.gov by going to eDocket and entering docket number RU-00000A-17-0035.

Established by Article 15 of the state's constitution, the Arizona Corporation Commission is responsible for the regulation of public utilities, overseeing the incorporation or registration of companies wishing to do business in Arizona. Additionally, the Corporation Commission registers and oversees securities offerings and dealers, and enforces railroad and pipeline safety. The five commissioners that make up the Commission are elected by the people of Arizona for a four-year term, with the option of serving for two consecutive terms. To learn more about the Arizona Corporation Commission and the Commissioners, please check out http://www.azcc.gov/Divisions/Administration/about.asp