

# Executive Document

## Governor's Executive Order Directing the Division of Public Utilities and the Committee of Consumer Services to Participate in a Study Concerning Regulatory Structure and Policy.

Issued: March 18, 2000

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### EXECUTIVE ORDER

Directing the Division of Public Utilities and  
the Committee of Consumer Services  
to Participate in a Study  
Concerning Regulatory Structure and Policy

WHEREAS, the Legislature passed House Bill 320, Public Utility  
Amendments, in the 2000 General Session;

WHEREAS, I will allow the bill to become law without my signature on the  
condition and with the understanding that the Legislature is committed to  
engage in a thorough review of the law, which is not scheduled to take effect  
until July 1, 2001;

WHEREAS, by passing H.B. 320, the Legislature has made clear that it favors  
a change in regulatory structure and policy, and the Legislature has inserted a  
delayed effective date in the bill to permit additional time to reevaluate and  
review the law;

WHEREAS, the Public Utilities and Technology Interim Committee will make  
study of the bill a principal focus of its interim meetings, will make a report by  
December 1, 2000, and will work toward developing a new bill for  
consideration in the 2001 General Session of the Legislature;

WHEREAS, the committee has agreed to my request that it address at least  
four key issues: (1) Will the voice of the public be fairly and independently  
represented in regulatory decision-making and in a manner that is adequately  
financed? (2) What are the appropriate factors to balance in determining "just  
and reasonable" compensation for a utility? (3) Does the new law adequately  
accommodate differences among the various industries subject to regulation?  
(4) Does the law create and preserve incentives for *all* interested parties to  
reach balanced agreement and compromise?; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this administration to support the Legislature in  
this study and to seek fair and efficient improvement to regulatory structure  
and policy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael O. Leavitt, Governor of the State of Utah, by  
virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of  
Utah, hereby order as follows:

1. The Division of Public Utilities and the Committee of Consumer Services shall participate in the study and assist and cooperate with the Legislature and legislative staff to enhance the quality of the study.
2. The division and the committee shall keep my office informed of the progress of the study.
3. This order shall remain in effect until December 31, 2000.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah. Done at the State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, this 18th day of March, 2000.

(State Seal)

MICHAEL O. LEAVITT  
Governor

Attest:

OLENE S. WALKER  
Lieutenant Governor

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