

Have full and plenary power to value the plant, property, appurtenances, assets and franchises of such corporations.

Have power, in its discretion, to prescribe uniform methods of keeping accounts, records and books, to be observed by the persons, gas corporations and electrical corporations engaged in the manufacture, sale and distribution of gas and electricity for light, heat or power.

Examine all persons and corporations under its supervision, keep informed as to the methods employed by them in the transaction of their business and see that their property is maintained and operated for the security and accommodation of the public and in compliance with the provisions of the law and of their franchises and charters.

Require every person and corporation under its supervision to submit to it an annual report, verified by the oath of the president, treasurer or general manager thereof, showing in detail: (1) The amount of its authorized capital stock and the amount thereof issued and outstanding; (2) the amount of its authorized bonded indebtedness and the amount of its bonds and other forms of evidence of indebtedness issued and outstanding; (3) its receipts and expenditures during the preceding year; (4) the amount paid as dividends upon its stock and as interest upon its bonds; (5) the names and amounts paid as salary to each officer, and amounts paid as wages to its employees; (6) the location of its plant or plants and system, with a full description of its property and franchises, stating in detail how each franchise stated to be owned was acquired; and (7) such other facts pertaining to the operating and maintenance of the plant and system and the affairs of such persons or corporation as may be required by the commission. Such reports shall be in the form, cover the period and be submitted at the time prescribed by the commission. The commission may, from time to time, make changes and additions in such forms, giving to the persons, corporations and municipalities six months' notice before the time fixed by the commission as the expiration of the fiscal year of any changes or additions which would require any alteration in the method or form of keeping their accounts for the ensuing year. When such report is defective or believed to be erroneous the commission shall notify the person, corporation making such report to amend the same within thirty days. Any such person or corporation which shall neglect to make any such report within the time specified by the commission, or which shall fail to correct any such report within thirty days after notice, shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars, and an additional penalty of one hundred dollars for each day after the prescribed time for which it shall neglect to file or correct the same, to be sued for in the name of the State of Maryland. The amount recovered in any such action shall be paid to the State treasury, one-fourth thereof, however, to be paid to the mayor and city council of Baltimore. The commission may extend the time therein limited for cause shown.

Have power, either through its members or inspectors or employees, duly authorized by it, to enter in or upon and to inspect the property,