

Agency Name:	Public Service Commission		
Agency Code:	R040	Section:	72



**Fiscal Year FY 2022-2023  
Agency Budget Plan**

**FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY**

<b>OPERATING REQUESTS</b> <i>(FORM B1)</i>	<b>For FY 2022-2023, my agency is (mark "X"):</b>	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

<b>NON-RECURRING REQUESTS</b> <i>(FORM B2)</i>	<b>For FY 2022-2023, my agency is (mark "X"):</b>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

<b>CAPITAL REQUESTS</b> <i>(FORM C)</i>	<b>For FY 2022-2023, my agency is (mark "X"):</b>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

<b>PROVISOS</b> <i>(FORM D)</i>	<b>For FY 2022-2023, my agency is (mark "X"):</b>	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>
<b>PRIMARY CONTACT:</b>	Virginia "Jenny" Butler	(803) 896-4120	virginia.butler@psc.sc.gov
<b>SECONDARY CONTACT:</b>	Jocelyn Boyd	(803) 896-5100	jocelyn.boyd@psc.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2022-2023 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

<b>SIGN/DATE:</b>	<i>Agency Director</i>	<i>Board or Commission Chair</i>
<b>TYPE/PRINT NAME:</b>	Jocelyn Boyd 11/10/2021	

*This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.*

Agency Name:	Public Service Commission
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BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	South Carolina Integration Study pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-37-60. Regarding Renewable Energy and Emerging Energy Technologies	500,000	0	0	0	500,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			500,000	0	0	0	500,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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## FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	<b>1</b>
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*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>South Carolina Integration Study pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-37-60, Regarding Renewable Energy and Emerging Energy Technologies</b>
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*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>General: \$500,000</b> <b>Federal: \$0</b> <b>Other: \$0</b> <b>Total: \$500,000</b>
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*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2022-2023? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	<b>0.00</b>
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*Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.*

<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark "X" for all that apply:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience <input type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program <input type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related <input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development <input type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #
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<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security <input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government and Citizens
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<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<p><u>Government &amp; Citizens</u></p> <p><i>The Commission will maintain an ongoing dialogue with various stakeholder groups regarding the Commission's regulatory mission and vision.</i></p> <p>The integration study impacts all citizens of South Carolina in preparation of future energy requirements for homes and businesses, as well as the oversight of the government in ensuring South Carolinians can rely on the ability of utilities to consistently provide sufficient energy resources. The results of the study can be evaluated based on an adequate distribution of a variety of energy resources to fulfill the utilization of South Carolina citizens for the future.</p> <p><u>Public Infrastructure &amp; Economic Development</u></p> <p>The Public Service Commission does not currently have a performance measurement related to this strategic initiative; however, current and future energy resources will impact South Carolina's infrastructure and economic development.</p>
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*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

<b>RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS</b>	<p>The funds would be used to pay for third-party consultants, experts and other expenditures incurred by the Commission to conduct the integration study.</p> <p>Consultants and experts will be hired through a competitive process and predetermined eligibility criteria.</p>
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*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

<b>JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST</b>	<p><b>Please note that this request is only an initial estimate and is subject to change. The Commission has yet to present this request to the State Regulation of Public Utilities Review Committee, as this meeting has been temporarily delayed. The Commission will update this request in the future as soon as additional information is available.</b></p> <p>The Public Service Commission is authorized to initiate an independent study to evaluate the integration of renewable energy and emerging energy technology into the electric grid for the public interest pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-37-60. The law states the results of the independent study shall be reported to the General Assembly. The Commission is primarily funded with public utility assessments (Other Earmarked funds). The integration study encompasses South Carolina's electric grid and will, hopefully, include the involvement of all South Carolina electricity providers; therefore, this request is for the study to be funded with General Funds.</p> <p>The Code of Law section follows:  <b>SECTION 58-37-60.</b> Independent study to evaluate integration of emerging energy technologies.</p> <p>(A) The commission and the Office of Regulatory Staff are authorized to initiate an independent study to evaluate the integration of renewable energy and emerging energy technologies into the electric grid for the public interest. An integration study conducted pursuant to this section shall evaluate what is required for electrical utilities to integrate increased levels of renewable energy and emerging energy technologies while maintaining economic, reliable, and safe operation of the electricity grid in a manner consistent with the public interest. Studies shall be based on the balancing areas of each electrical utility. The commission shall provide an opportunity for interested parties to provide input on the appropriate scope of the study and also to provide comments on a draft report before it is finalized. All data and information relied on by the independent consultant in preparation of the draft study shall be made available to interested parties, subject to appropriate confidentiality protections, during the public comment period. The results of the independent study shall be reported to the General Assembly.</p>
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(B) The commission may require regular updates from utilities regarding the implementation of the state's renewable energy policies.

(C) The commission may hire or retain a consultant to assist with the independent study authorized by this section. The commission is exempt from complying with the State Procurement Code in the selection and hiring of the consultant authorized by this subsection.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

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**FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

<b>NUMBER</b>	117.151 <i>Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").</i>
<b>TITLE</b>	Santee Cooper Funds Transferred to Public Service Commission <i>Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.</i>
<b>BUDGET PROGRAM</b>	Administration Section 72 <i>Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.</i>
<b>RELATED BUDGET REQUEST</b>	Yes, Priority 1 <i>Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2022-2023? If so, cite it here.</i>
<b>REQUESTED ACTION</b>	Amend <i>Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.</i>
<b>OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED</b>	Santee Cooper (Public Service Authority) & The Office of Regulatory Staff <i>Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?</i>

<b>SUMMARY &amp; EXPLANATION</b>	<p>Proviso 117.172 in the Appropriations Act for FY2021-2022 and Renumbered Proviso 117.151 for FY2022-2023 transfers \$1,000,000 to the Public Service Commission for purposes of reforming Santee Cooper. The FY2022 proviso also provides additional funding for the Office of Regulatory Staff. The Public Service Commission is requesting a separate proviso that allows the balance remaining at fiscal year end in the PSC Special Operating Santee Cooper fund (34170002) to be carried forward to the next year and used for the same purpose.</p>
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*Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

<b>FISCAL IMPACT</b>	<p>Funds transferred to the Public Service Commission and designated for Santee Cooper reformation are held in an Earmarked Fund 34170002 - Special Operating Santee Cooper. The fiscal impact amount would be \$1,000,000 or less, depending on the balance remaining in the fund at the end of fiscal year 2022 and succeeding years until depletion.</p>
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*Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.*

<b>FISCAL IMPACT</b>	<p><del>117.172, 117.151</del> (GP: Funds Transferred to Santee Cooper - PSC: Santee Cooper Funds Held by Public Service Commission) The balance of the funds held transferred to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina by the Department of Administration, <b>for the purpose of reforming Santee Cooper, shall remain available to the Public Service Commission for its continued reformation of Santee Cooper</b>, related to the implementation of Act 95 of 2019, shall be transferred as follows and for the purposes of reforming Santee Cooper: \$2,000,000 to the Office of Regulatory Staff; \$1,000,000 to the Public Service Commission; and the balance to Santee Cooper. The Public Service Commission and the Office of Regulatory Staff are <del>is</del> authorized to employ, through contract or otherwise, third-party consultants and experts in carrying out <del>their</del> <b>its</b> duties for purposes of reforming Santee Cooper. The Public Service Commission and Office of Regulatory Staff are <del>is</del> exempt from complying</p>
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with the State Procurement Code in the selection and hiring of third-party consultants or experts authorized by this provision.

**PROPOSED PROVISIO TEXT**

*Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.*

Agency Name:	Public Service Commission		
Agency Code:	R040	Section:	72

**FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

**NUMBER** 72.1

*Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*

**TITLE** PSC: Law Enforcement Officers

*Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*

**BUDGET PROGRAM** Administration Section 72

*Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*

**RELATED BUDGET REQUEST**

*Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2022-2023? If so, cite it here.*

**REQUESTED ACTION** Add

*Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*

**OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED** None.

*Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*

**SUMMARY & EXPLANATION**

Considering the business of utility regulation that the Commission conducts, as well as safety precautions for the protection of Commissioners and staff, the Commission has determined it necessary to have law enforcement officers present at all hearings, including customer public hearings which can be heard in counties throughout the state, as well as on the premises on a permanent basis. The requested proviso allows the Agency to hire law enforcement officers commissioned by the Governor.

*Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Other Funds - PSC Operating Fund, funded with Public Utility Assessments  
 The Public Service Commission will fund this proviso with existing funds.

*Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.*

**72.1.** (PSC: Law Enforcement Officers) The Public Service Commission shall be authorized to hire law enforcement officers commissioned by the Governor. The commission may remove a law enforcement officer if it finds that the law enforcement officer is unfit for the position. Each law enforcement officer shall execute a bond with a licensed surety company in the amount of not less than ten thousand dollars. The bond may be individual, schedule, or blanket, and shall be approved by the Attorney General. The premiums on the bonds shall be paid by the commission from authorized funds.

**PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT**

*Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.*

Agency Name:	Public Service Commission		
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**FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

<b>NUMBER</b>	NEW
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*Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*

<b>TITLE</b>	PSC: South Carolina Integration Study pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-37-60
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*Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*

<b>BUDGET PROGRAM</b>	Administration Section 72
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*Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*

<b>RELATED BUDGET REQUEST</b>	None
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*Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2022-2023? If so, cite it here.*

<b>REQUESTED ACTION</b>	Add
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*Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*

<b>OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED</b>	None
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*Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*

<b>SUMMARY &amp; EXPLANATION</b>	<p>The Public Service Commission is authorized to initiate an independent study to evaluate the integration of renewable energy and emerging energy technology into the electric grid for the public interest pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-37-60. This law states the results of the independent study shall be reported to the General Assembly.</p>
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*Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

<b>FISCAL IMPACT</b>	Unknown at this time.
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*Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.*

	NEW: (PSC: South Carolina Integration Study pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-37-60) – Further information to follow.
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**PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT**

*Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.*

Agency Name:	Public Service Commission		
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## FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

<b>TITLE</b>	<p>Live Streaming with Skype and WebEx Capabilities for Commission Hearings, Business Meetings, and Public Interviews for Qualified, Independent Third-Party Consultants or Experts</p> <p><i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i></p>								
<b>EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS</b>	<p>Live streaming with Skype and WebEx capabilities for Commission hearings, business meetings and public interviews for qualified, independent third-party consultants or experts saves businesses and citizens time as well as cost of traveling to and from the Commission office located in Columbia. The savings will vary depending on how far a business or citizen would have to travel to attend a hearing, business meeting or public interview.</p> <p><i>What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.</i></p>								
<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<p><b>Mark "X" for all that apply:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Repeal or revision of regulations.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Other</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeal or revision of regulations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeal or revision of regulations.								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other								
<b>METHOD OF CALCULATION</b>	<p>The method of determining the savings would be the rate of 56 cents per automobile mile plus the hourly rate of the business employee or citizen multiplied by the hours attending as well as traveling to and from the hearing/meeting.</p> <p><i>Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.</i></p>								
<b>REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES</b>	<p>N/A</p> <p><i>Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?</i></p>								
<b>REDUCTION OF REGULATION</b>	<p>N/A</p> <p><i>Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?</i></p>								

The travel cost burden to businesses and citizens is being eliminated so more businesses and citizens can listen to and participate in, as needed, hearings, business meetings and public interviews for qualified, independent third-party consultants or experts. The result is that more businesses and citizens can be informed and/or participate in Commission proceedings. With the Covid-19 pandemic onset in March 2020, the Commission had to immediately cancel a customer public hearing scheduled for 03/12. With another night hearing already scheduled for 03/19, the following week, the Commission was able to allow participation from the public by conference lines. For the 03/19 customer public hearing, there were 50 audio conference attendees who called in to testify (22 witnesses actually testified along with two political officials' statements). The customer public hearing held on 06/22/2020 had 47 audio conference attendees who called in to testify (32 witnesses actually testified along with two officials' statements).

During FY2021, the Commission held 8 Customer Public Hearings allowing participants to use the conferencing line to call in in Fall 2020, and then beginning in January 2021, the commission staff telephoned the witnesses during the hearing for them to provide their oral testimony.

Public Service Commission Customer Public Hearings Testifying Participants Fiscal Year 2020-21					
Date	Event Docket	Event Name	# of Participants Called	# of Participants Testified	Total Participants
11/9/2020	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges		23	23
11/10/2020	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges		28	28
11/12/2020	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges		31	31
1/5/2021	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges	51	43	43
1/7/2021	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges	61	44	44
3/23/2021	2020-229-E	Dominion Energy Solar Choice Metering Tarriff	252	151	151
3/25/2021	2020-229-E	Dominion Energy Solar Choice Metering Tarriff	10	8	8
4/21/2021	2020-264/265-E	Duke Energy Carolina/Duke Energy Progressive Solar Choice Metering Tarriff	9	6	6
<b>Total Customer Public Hearing Participants</b>			<b>383</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>334</b>

The Commission continued to improve the virtual experience in the Commission's proceedings during fiscal year 2020-2021 by adding WebEx capabilities allowing more participants. The Commission is continually seeking opportunities to enhance participation capabilities. The table below shows the number of virtual and audio participants in the Commission's proceedings for FY2021:

Public Service Commission Proceedings Virtual & Audio Participants Fiscal Year 2020-21				
Month	Proceedings Incl'g Forums & Workshops (Total virtual participants)	Hearings/Proceedings Before Commission(ers)		
		Witnesses/ Presenters	Counsel/ Rep's	Total
July 2020	2	15	17	34
August 2020	4		14	18
September 2020		13	24	37
October 2020	14	19	17	50
November 2020	3	101	25	129
December 2020		8	25	33
January 2021		89	26	115
February 2021	15	20	35	70
March 2021		188	54	242
April 2021	15	41	26	82

**SUMMARY**

April 2021	15	41	20	62
May 2021	40	8	9	57
June 2021	4	11	8	23
<b>Totals</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>890</b>

In addition to increasing the number of off-site participants through voice and video technology, live streaming the Commission's proceedings has doubled the visibility of the Commission's business by allowing citizens and businesses to view proceedings as they occur and even watch at a later time. Live stream viewer traffic data for FY21 compared to FY20 is shown in the table below:

<b>PSC Livestream Viewer Traffic</b>		
	<b>Total Events (FY 2019-2020)</b>	<b>Total Events (FY 2020-2021)</b>
<b>July</b>	767	877
<b>August</b>	740	517
<b>September</b>	399	518
<b>October</b>	1,913	1,228
<b>November</b>	570	1,550
<b>December</b>	771	777
<b>January</b>	375	3,433
<b>February</b>	832	1,541
<b>March</b>	777	2,742
<b>April</b>	346	2,467
<b>May</b>	559	1,046
<b>June</b>	567	655
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,616</b>	<b>17,351</b>

*Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?*