

STATE REGULATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE

**CANDIDATES FOR THE
SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
EDITED PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

NOTICE: The information requested herein is needed to assist the Committee in its investigation of candidates for the Public Service Commission. This questionnaire is the initial step in the investigation of your candidacy. A completed questionnaire should be returned to the Committee as soon as possible, but in any event no later than noon, 12:00 p.m., on Friday, October 11, 2019. *(Use and attach separate sheets, if necessary.)*

PLEASE SPECIFY THE SEAT FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING (THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN WHICH YOU RESIDE; YOU MAY ONLY APPLY FOR ONE SEAT): 7th

1. Full Name: **Mr. James Anthony Ward**

Home Address: **1659 West Smith Street, Timmonsville, SC 29161**

Business Address: **1659 West Smith St, Timmonsville, SC 29161**

Farming Operation located at 501 Welch Road, Timmonsville, SC 29161

6. List each institution of higher learning you attended, including dates of attendance and degrees awarded. Please provide an official transcript prior to your screening hearing. If you left any institution without receiving a degree, state the reason for leaving.

The Citadel, 1997-2001, Electrical & Computer Engineering

Francis Marion University, 2004-2008, Masters in Business Administration

7. List any continuing education courses or other professional education or training programs that you have attended in the past five years.

8. Have you been employed or held any position in any of the following areas?

(a) energy issues

(b) telecommunications issues

(c) consumer protection and advocacy issues

(d) water and wastewater issues

(e) finance, economics, and statistics

(f) accounting

(g) engineering

(h) law

Please provide the duration of your employment or service and details about the nature of the work or the position.

-11 years of emoloyement with Duke Progress/Progress Energy. Designed Distribution and Transmission assets while keeping up with growing demands of our economy. Customer Relations Engineer/Service Coordinator which provided Engineering support for new and existing customers in Residential, Commercial and Industrial services. Held several roles as lead program manager handling NASCAR events, replacing Substation Transformers, ect... Senior Distribution Engineer responsible for power Quality Related issues and handled Power Quality Complaints that escalated to the Public Service Commission. Heavily involved with the new Smart Grid Project that was installed on the Distribution system to defer cost of building a generation plant. Also worked on the accounting side determining classification of assets (capital vs O&M) and how they are classified and depreciated.

- 2010-2011 Rotor Blade, LLC – Helicopter with aerial Saw used to trim distribution and transmission Right of Ways

-2002-2007 & 2012-2014 First Award Properties, LLC, CEO – Real Estate holding company used to flip Residential Properties and purchase farm land

- 8 Years Ownership with Mickey Ward Farms now known as Ward Family Farms, LLC. Owner/Acting Manager in charge of 2300 acres of ROW Crops including 1000 acres of cotton, 1000 acres of soybeans, and 300 acres of corn.

-Florence County Farm Bureau President 2019-Present

9. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates of service, branch of service, highest rank, serial number, present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD-214 prior to your screening hearing.

No

10. Have you ever held public office? If so, provide details, including the office, whether elected or appointed, the length and dates of your service. Also, state whether or not you timely filed reports with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty. If so, provide details, including dates.

No, I have never held public office

11. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, provide details, including dates.

No

12. Please list in chronological order any employment of you by any governmental agency (whether full time or part time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise). Provide dates of employment, name of employer, name of supervisor, and major job responsibilities.

**Farmer Elected Farm Service Agency County Committee=> Jan 2006-Dec 2014
Jan 2018-Present**

13. Please list in chronological order any occupation, business, or profession in which you have been engaged or employed (other than serving in a public office or being employed by a governmental agency). Please briefly note the nature of your work during each period.
- 2001 Supervisor at Nanya Plastics in Lake City, SC
 - 2002-2013 Employed by Duke Progress/Progress Energy. Experience in designing of distribution assets, Power Grid Design, handled Power Quality complaints, managed Power Quality Complaints that escalated to the Public Service Commission, project manager on several large project within the Distribution and Transmission Departments. Please see bullet # 8
 - 2010-2011 Rotor Blade, LLC – Helicopter with aerial Saw used to trim distribution and transmission Right of Ways
 - 2012-present; 8 Years Ownership with Mickey Ward Farms now known as Ward Family Farms, LLC. Owner/Acting Manager in charge of 2300 acres of ROW Crops including 1000 acres of cotton, 1000 acres of soybeans, and 300 acres of corn
14. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain.

Owner and Active Operator of Ward Family Farms, LLC

15. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships that you currently have or have had in the past that could pose a conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.
- I do not have any financial arrangements or business relationships that could pose a conflict of interest. If any conflict would occur I would resolve the matter very professionally according to the code of laws that the general assembly sets for the South Carolina Public Service Commissioners.**

20. Have you ever been a named party in a lawsuit, either personally or professionally? If so, provide details.

No

22. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a “lobbyist,” as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a “lobbyist’s principal,” as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(14)? If so, please provide the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.

No

23. Since your decision to seek a position on the Public Service Commission, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value, as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(1), from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? If so, please specify the item(s) received, date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal providing the item(s).

No

26. Other than expenditures for travel or room and board, please itemize all expenditures (by amount, type, and date) by you, or on your behalf, in seeking the office of Public Service Commissioner.

No Expenditures

27. Please list the amount and recipient of all contributions made to members of the General Assembly within six months of filing this questionnaire.

-Representative Lucas Atkinson \$250

28. Have you directly or indirectly requested a pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened?

No

29. Have you or has anyone on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy for the position of Public Service Commissioner? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor (if applicable), donor, and date of solicitation and/or receipt.

No

30. List all professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices that you have held in such groups.

Florence County Farm Bureau Member 2015-Present
Florence County Farm Bureau President 2019-Present

31. List all civic, charitable, religious, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five (5) years.

Florence County Farm Bureau-Educating Children in Florence County on where they get their food. Placing gardens, chicken coops, & bee hives at school educateing children on Agriculture.

32. State any other information which may reflect positively or negatively on you, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for a position on the Public Service Commission.
33. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons, including your banker, from whom references could be required. Also, provide this Committee with original letters of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature. A photocopy, facsimile, or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation will not be accepted.

- 1) **Banker Letter**
- 2) **Harry Ott**
- 3) **Raleigh Ward**
- 4) **Gary Finklea**
- 5) **Willard Dorriety**

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY RECORD INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature:

Date:

PLEASE NOTE: S.C. CODE SECTIONS REFERRED TO IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE CONTAINED IN THE PDQ CODE REFERENCES DOCUMENT.

I ACKNOWLEDGE, AS A CANDIDATE, THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEWING THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS. THESE DOCUMENTS ARE PROVIDED ON THE USB FLASH DRIVE WITH THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION APPLICATION MATERIALS AND ARE ACCESSIBLE ON THE PUBLIC UTILITY REVIEW COMMITTEE'S WEBSITE:

- (1) An Introduction to the Public Service Commission;**
- (2) The press release issued by the Committee announcing the start of its application process;**
- (3) An Advisory Opinion relating to attendance by candidates for the Public Service Commission at legislative receptions;**
- (4) An Advisory Opinion relating to attendance by candidates for the Public Service Commission at legislative caucus meetings;**
- (5) The Judicial Code of Conduct;**
- (6) Statutory definitions and statute concerning pledges; and**
- (7) Information regarding accessing your credit report.**

Signature:

Date: