



# Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source of Population and Economic Statistics

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## **PUC Chairman To Speak At Annual Data User Conference**

MIDDLETOWN, Pa –Glen R. Thomas, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, is scheduled to be the plenary speaker at the Pennsylvania State Data Center's 2002 Annual Data User Conference. This year's conference will be held Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at the Holiday Inn Grantville. The one-day conference kicks off at 9:00 a.m. and includes 20 breakout sessions. Mr. Mark Mather, policy analyst for the Population Reference Bureau in Washington, D.C., will be the luncheon speaker.

Chairman Thomas's speech, **Building a 21<sup>st</sup> Century PUC, Competing and Regulating in the Post-Enron World**, will provide an update on the chairman's priorities for the state agency that impacts all 12 million Pennsylvanians. He will address utility security, reliability and challenges for regulators and the industry over the next several months. He will also preview an advertising and consumer education campaign for Philadelphia and Central Pennsylvania.

Named PUC Chairman on June 22, 2001, Chairman Thomas has focused on successfully guiding Pennsylvania's transition to fully competitive markets for electricity, natural gas and local telephone service. Thomas serves as a member of the U.S. Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Board; the National Regulatory Research Institute's Board of Directors; the National Governors Association Energy Task Force; the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners' committee on International Relations and Telecommunications; the Governor's Interagency Task Force on Energy; and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council. He also serves as Second Vice President of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. Further, he has served on the Governor's Task Force on Security.

Chairman Thomas earned his undergraduate degree from Colgate University and his law degree from The Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University. He has completed post-graduate studies at the Governors Center of the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



## **You Are Invited**

The Pennsylvania State Data Center invites you to attend this year's conference. The 2002 Annual Data User Conference is designed to educate a diverse audience on ways to meet the challenges of the future through information resources and technology.

The conference begins with a continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m. To register as an exhibitor or participant, please contact Mark Gehret at 717.948.6677 or click on the Data User Conference on our Web site: PaSDC.hbg.psu.edu.

*The Pennsylvania State Data Center welcomes media coverage of the conference upon approval. Media outlets wishing to cover the conference should contact Mark Gehret at 717.948.6677.*

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the commonwealth's official source of population and economic statistics. It is based at Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs. The Pennsylvania State Data Center is part of the U.S. Census Bureau's National State Data Center Program.

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Editors: For additional data, contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center's State Capital Office at 717.772.2710 or for faculty comment on this topic, contact Penn State Harrisburg's Public Information Office at 717.948.6029.

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