

## **A SUMMARY OF HOW THE ICC REGULATES INVESTOR-OWNED WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES:**

*The following is a brief summary of water and sewer services that are subject to Commission regulation under the Illinois Public Utilities Act (“PUA”). The information provided below is not a legal interpretation or other determination regarding any provision of the PUA or the Illinois Commerce Commission’s (“ICC’s” or “Commission’s”) administrative rules, orders, or other regulations, nor is it all-inclusive.*

*For more information regarding requirements that water and sewer providers are subject to in Illinois – please refer to the [PUA \(220 ILCS 5/\)](#), the Commission’s administrative rules ([Title 83: Public Utilities](#)), and the Commission’s Orders and other determinations.*

Under the Public Utilities Act, the Commission is charged with regulating investor-owned water and sewer utilities (those companies that are privately owned) in order to provide a substitute for competition. This includes setting water and sewer rates, as well as determining a utility’s terms and conditions for providing service to customers. The Commission regulates thirteen privately-owned water and/or sewer utilities, including Illinois-American Water Company. The Commission does not regulate municipally-owned utilities. The Commission’s role in regulating these utilities is to make certain that the service they provide is safe, reliable and adequate, and that the rates they charge are just and reasonable, both to ratepayers and to the utility’s investors, who are entitled to a reasonable return on their investment.