

## **2015 Minnesota Statutes**

### **216B.62 REGULATORY EXPENSES**

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#### **Subd. 8. Audit investigation costs; account, appropriation.**

The audit investigation account is created as a separate account in the special revenue fund in the state treasury. If the commission, in a proceeding upon its own motion, on complaint, or upon an application to it, determines that it is necessary, in order to carry out its duties imposed under this chapter or chapter 216, 216A, 216E, 216F, or 216G, to conduct an investigation or audit of any public utility operations, practices, or policies requiring specialized technical professional investigative services for the inquiry, the commission may request the commissioner of commerce to seek authority from the commissioner of management and budget to incur costs reasonably attributable to the specialized services. If the investigation or audit is approved by the commissioner of management and budget, the commissioner of commerce shall carry out the investigation in the manner directed by the commission and shall render separate bills to the public utility for the costs incurred for such technical professional investigative services. The bill constitutes notice of the assessment and demand for payment. The amount assessed must be paid by the public utility to the commissioner of commerce within 30 days after the date of assessment. Money received under this subdivision must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the audit investigation account, and is appropriated to the commissioner of commerce for the purposes of this subdivision.