

**Account Name:** System Benefit Fund Account No. 5100  
**Primary Agency:** Public Utility Commission  
**Legal Citation:** Texas Utilities Code, Section 39.903

**Table 1:**

System Benefit Fund Account No. 5100  
 Estimated Revenue and Appropriations (in Millions)

	2008-09	2010-11	2012-13
Estimated Revenue	\$329.4	\$364.5	\$309.7
Appropriations	\$176.8	\$172.5	\$169.0

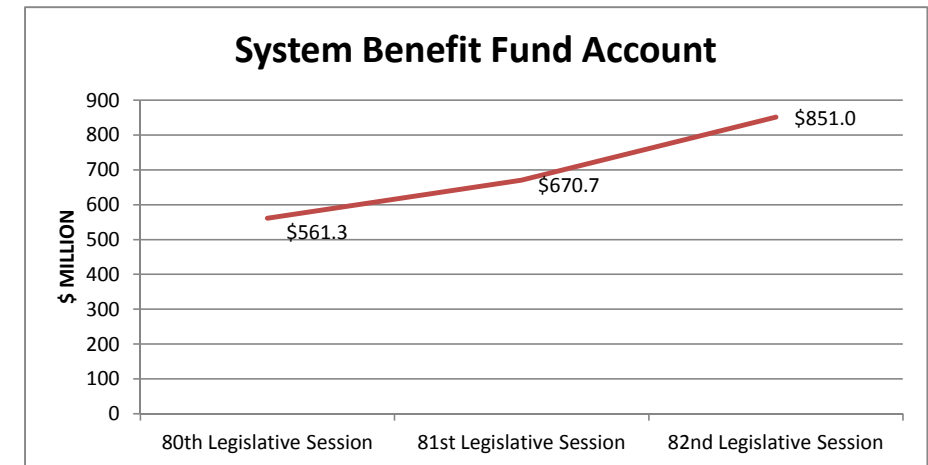
Source: Comptroller of Public Accounts

**Account Details:**

The System Benefit Fund (SBF) Account No. 5100 is a General Revenue-Dedicated account created by Senate Bill 7, Seventy-sixth Legislature, Regular Session, 1999. The fund was created as part of the deregulation of the electric market and consists of a mandatory surcharge on electric utility usage. The Public Utility Commission (PUC) has statutory authority to set the fee up to 65 cents per megawatt hour consumed in deregulated areas of the state.

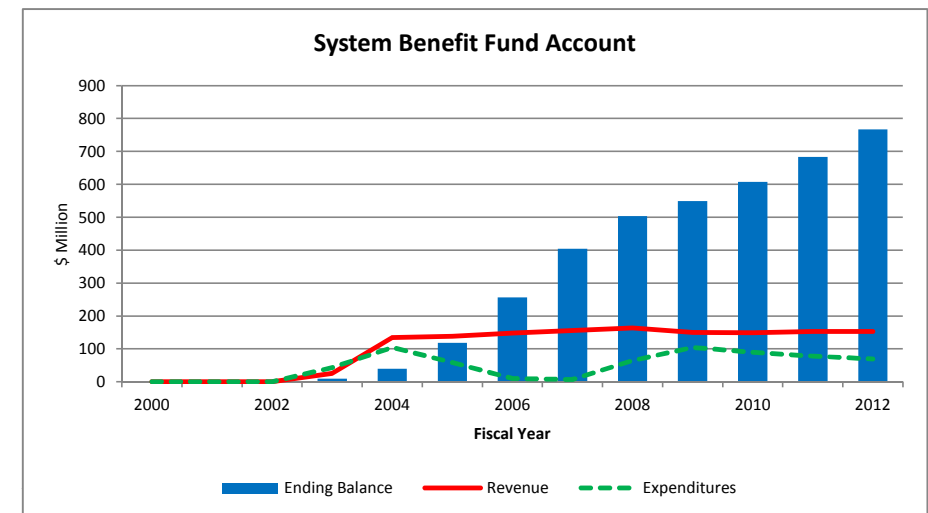
The purpose of the fund is to reduce the burden of electric utility costs on low income populations in the state. The PUC has accomplished this mainly through the Low Income Discount Program (also known as Lite-up Texas). This program provides a utility rate discount to eligible low-income customers ranging from 10 to 20 percent. In fiscal year 2012, the discount was 10 percent and was offered from May through September. Another regular use of the fund has been for customer education. Statute authorizes other uses of the fund, including energy efficiency and weatherization assistance to supplement current programs at the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA), and one-time bill pay assistance to seriously ill or disabled customers. This service is intended to avoid disconnection of utility services.

**Figure 1:** Estimated Balance Available to Certify General Appropriations Bill



Source: Comptroller of Public Accounts

**Figure 2:** History of Revenue, Expenditures, and Cash Balances



Source: Comptroller of Public Accounts