



PUBLIC UTILITIES ECONOMIST

General Summary

The primary purpose of this position is to conduct applied economic research on a wide range of matters related to the short-term and long-term forecasting of loads and other billing determinants, expenses, and revenues of New Mexico's investor-owned electric, natural gas, water and sewer utilities.

Public Utilities Economist

Jobcode: F30111

Pay Band: 80

FLSA Status: Exempt

Distinguishing Characteristics

Under general supervision, incumbents conduct complex economic research and analysis on matters related to the design of rates charged to customers as well as allocating utility costs to residential, commercial, and industrial customer classes.

Minimum Qualifications

Bachelor's Degree in Economics, Statistics, Business Administration or related field and four (4) years of experience in economic analysis, finance, accounting or auditing. Any combination of education from an accredited college or university in a related field and/or direct experience in this occupation totaling eight (8) years may substitute for the required education and experience.

*Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

- The Public Utility Economist is distinguished from the Economist in its specific focus on economic factors related to investor owned and other utilities.
- Evaluates and assesses short-term and long-term load forecasts of electric, natural gas, water and sewer utilities. Critically researches and analyzes load data to explain the impact of economic factors, weather, and energy efficiency programs on customer usage and overall utility loads.
- Conducts complex economic research and mathematical analysis for purposes of estimating the short and long run costs of supplying distribution, transmission and generation services by electric, natural gas, water and sewer utilities for different classes of retail customers.
- As part of utility filings, reviews utility applications, studies and estimates of cost of service and cost of debt and equity capital, and develops findings and recommendations. Conducts financial and economic research on other utility and regulatory issues and matters.
- Reviews electric, natural gas, water and sewer utility tariff filings, in Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) Filings, plant acquisitions or sales, among other general filings, and requests for new or revised rates for specific tariff schedules, special contracts and other types of tariff filings.
- Independently analyzes issues and evaluates utility applications and other parties' written testimony for accuracy, logic, and consistency with existing policy; writes testimony based on independent analysis and evaluation, and stands for cross examination in formal hearings. Assists in the development of litigation strategies, mediation positions and other policy recommendations.

Bargaining Unit: Not represented

Statutory Requirements: N/A

Conditions of Employment: Work is performed in an office setting. Late hours, weekend, and callback work may be required. Will be exposed to regular periods of video display terminal and keyboard usage and stressful situations. Some travel may be required.

UTILITY ECONOMIST

Working Conditions: Working Conditions for individual positions in this classification will vary based on each agency's utilization, essential functions, and the recruitment needs at the time a vacancy is posted. All requirements are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities.

Established: 04/28/2014 **Revised:**

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities are intended to be cumulative for each progressively higher level of work. The omission of specific statements does not preclude management from assigning other duties which are reasonably within the scope of duties. Classification description subject to change. Please refer to SPO website (www.spo.state.nm.us) to ensure this represents the most current copy of the position.*

*** Means two (2) or any combination of full-time equivalent (FTE) status that equals at least two (2) regular or term status employees in non-temporary positions.*