

Chief for the Public Interest Advocacy Section (GOVEX)

Nature of Work:

The Section Chief for Public Interest Advocacy serves the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission and its Commissioners and reports directly to the Chief of Staff. This position is part of the Governor Exempt service and is an at-will position.

The Section Chief will provide oversight and support to the Public Interest Advocacy Staff, including the Legal and Utility Divisions in advocacy of the public interest in adjudicated proceedings before the Commission. The Section Chief will oversee the operation of the section and the development of section standards related to presentation of the public interest in adjudications. The position also provides direction for sensitive operational and budgetary issues.

In coordination with the Legal Division and the Utility Division Directors, the Section Chief also is responsible for ensuring appropriate development of public interest advocacy staff.

Key Responsibilities

1. Report directly to and operate with limited oversight of the Chief of Staff, while advising and keeping the Commission informed on public interest matters.
2. Support the Division Directors in managing the day-to-day operations of the Public Interest Advocacy Divisions.
3. Promote effective collaboration among intervenors, agency staff, and, where appropriate, the Commission.
4. Provide training and mentorship to staff on reviewing and analyzing case filings, developing case strategy, preparing written and oral testimony, negotiating stipulations, conducting post-case evaluations, and responding to state and federal Notices of Inquiry and Notices of Proposed Rulemaking.
5. Support the Section in presenting recommendations to the Commission regarding the balance of public, consumer, and utility investor interests in regulatory proceedings.
6. Maintain knowledge of the state legislative process and support agency programs, goals, and long-term plans.
7. Advise and assist the Commission in the development of rules and regulations.
8. Participate in outreach and consumer education efforts.

9. Perform other duties as assigned by the Chief of Staff.

Required Knowledge and Skills

- Knowledge of government operations and the legislative process
- Strong community engagement and public service orientation
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Leadership, collaboration, and staff development abilities
- Familiarity with state statutes and regulations governing utilities
- Experience with regulatory proceedings and presenting testimony

Recommended Education and Experience Standards

- Juris Doctor (J.D.) from an accredited law school or advanced degree in a field relevant to the work of the Commission (Engineering, Accounting, Economics, Policy)
- Seven (7) years of experience in the the degree field, including at least four (4) years administrative or regulatory experience and two (2) years of supervisory experience
- Experience with litigation and technical, economic, and policy issues is preferred

Salary: \$158,000 – \$165,000 plus benefits

Apply:

Submit letter of interest, resume and three professional references to: Human Resources, PRC.HR@prc.nm.gov or NMPRC P.O. Box 1269, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1269. This posting will close on **Monday, July 6, 2026**.