

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

MISSION

The Department of Public Service is the staff arm of the Public Service Commission, which regulates the rates and services of the State's public utilities, including electric, gas, steam, telephone and water. The Commission also oversees the siting of major electric and gas transmission lines and facilities. In addition, it ensures the safety of natural gas and liquid petroleum pipelines and is responsible for oversight and regulation of the cable television industry in New York State.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

The Public Service Commission consists of five members who are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Chairman serves as the chief executive officer of the Department which operates offices in Albany, New York City, Buffalo and Syracuse.

The Department's budget has two programs: the Administration Program, which supports the Public Service Commission and Department activities; and the Regulation Program, which undertakes activities to ensure fair and reasonable rates, monitor service standards, address consumer complaints, promote efficient operation and ensure that industry construction programs meet safety and environmental requirements.

The Department will have a workforce of 540 for 2007-08. The Department is funded almost entirely from utility and cable assessments.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Department's 2007-08 operating budget includes funding of \$76.3 million from utility and cable assessments. Public utility assessments are based on a utility's gross intrastate operating revenues above \$25,000. Cable television assessments are based on revenues from those companies with 1,000 or more subscribers.

In addition, the local assistance budget provides a total of \$400,000 from fees paid by entities proposing the siting of electric generation facilities. These funds can be accessed by local governments and community groups to fund intervention activities related to the siting review process.

The Department also receives Federal grants to perform pipeline safety activities.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Department's highest priorities for the coming year will be:

- Increasing clean generation capacity by passing a new Article X power plant siting law;
- Encouraging long-term power contracts that are necessary to sustain investment in new power plants and the re-powering of older plants;
- Continuing implementation of the Renewable Portfolio Standard, designed to increase to at least 25 percent by 2013 the proportion of electricity sold to consumers in New York State that is generated from renewable resources; and
- Continuing efforts to increase the security and safety of critical utility infrastructures and cyber facilities and systems.

PUBLIC SERVICE

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2006-07	Appropriations Recommended 2007-08	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2007-08
State Operations	74,035,000	77,994,000	3,959,000	0
Aid To Localities	400,000	400,000	0	3,589,000
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	74,435,000	78,394,000	3,959,000	3,589,000

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2006-07 Estimated FTEs 03/31/07	2007-08 Estimated FTEs 03/31/08	FTE Change
Administration			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	98	98	0
Regulation of Utilities			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	11	11	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	431	431	0
Total	540	540	0

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available 2006-07	Recommended 2007-08	Change
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	1,691,000	1,691,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	72,344,000	76,303,000	3,959,000
Total	74,035,000	77,994,000	3,959,000

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available 2006-07	Recommended 2007-08	Change
Administration			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	12,388,000	12,852,000	464,000
Regulation of Utilities			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	1,691,000	1,691,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	59,956,000	63,451,000	3,495,000
Total	74,035,000	77,994,000	3,959,000

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2007-08 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	12,852,000	464,000	6,596,000	177,000
Regulation of Utilities	65,142,000	3,495,000	35,990,000	2,145,000
Total	77,994,000	3,959,000	42,586,000	2,322,000

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Administration	6,256,000	287,000
Regulation of Utilities	29,152,000	1,350,000
Total	35,408,000	1,637,000

**AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Fund Type	Available 2006-07	Recommended 2007-08	Change
Special Revenue Funds - Other	400,000	400,000	0
Total	400,000	400,000	0

**AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Program	Available 2006-07	Recommended 2007-08	Change
Regulation of Utilities			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	400,000	400,000	0
Total	400,000	400,000	0