

Public Service, Department of

Mission

The primary mission of the New York State Department of Public Service is to ensure affordable, safe, secure, and reliable access to electric, gas, steam, telecommunications, and water services for New York State’s residential and business consumers, while protecting the natural environment. The Department seeks to stimulate effective competitive markets that benefit New York consumers through strategic investments, as well as product and service innovations. The Department also oversees the siting of major electric and gas transmission lines and facilities, and ensures the safety of natural gas and liquid petroleum pipelines.

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, Buffalo, New York City, Long Island and Syracuse.

Budget Highlights

The Executive Budget recommends funding of approximately \$105 million, an increase of approximately \$9 million from FY 2019 Enacted Budget levels, for the Department’s role in utility regulation and ratemaking, as well as storm response and public safety oversight. The year-to-year increase is due to additional appropriations to support eight new FTEs in the area of Article 10 siting and ITS related contractual obligations. The Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 528 employees, an increase of eight from FY 2019 levels.

For more information on this agency’s budget recommendations located in the Executive Budget Briefing Book, click on the following link:

Program Highlights

The Department’s budget has two programs. The *Administration* program supports the Public Service Commission and Department activities. The *Regulation* program 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 continue the following priorities in the coming year:

- Ensure just and reasonable utility rates, along with safe and adequate electric, gas, steam, and telecommunications service.
- Implement the Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) which is fundamentally transforming the way electricity is distributed and used in the State. Under REV, New York is spurring innovation to create a power system that uses more distributed, resilient, and cleaner sources of supply to ensure New York customers benefit from cleaner and more affordable electricity.
- Provide regulatory oversight of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority’s administration of the Clean Energy Fund. Similarly, the Department will continue to monitor progress towards achieving the goals of the Clean Energy Standard, which, in part, mandates that 50 percent of all electricity consumed in New York by 2030 comes from clean and renewable energy sources.
- Conduct electric transmission siting reviews, oversee the responsible development of a smart electric grid, and ensure the safety of the State’s natural gas pipelines.
- Educate consumers and resolve consumer-utility disputes to ensure fair and responsible utility service.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available FY 2019	Appropriations Recommended FY 2020	Change From FY 2019	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2020
State Operations	89,672,000	98,932,000	9,260,000	5,500,000
Aid To Localities	5,750,000	5,750,000	0	5,698,000
Total	95,422,000	104,682,000	9,260,000	11,198,000

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

Program	FY 2019 Estimated FTEs 03/31/19	FY 2020 Estimated FTEs 03/31/20	FTE Change
Administration			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	65	65	0
Regulation of Utilities			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	25	25	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	430	438	8
Total	520	528	8

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

Fund Type	Available FY 2019	Recommended FY 2020	Change
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	5,500,000	5,500,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	84,172,000	93,432,000	9,260,000
Total	89,672,000	98,932,000	9,260,000

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

Program	Available FY 2019	Recommended FY 2020	Change
Administration			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	12,761,000	13,386,000	625,000
Regulation of Utilities			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	5,500,000	5,500,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	71,411,000	80,046,000	8,635,000
Total	89,672,000	98,932,000	9,260,000

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2020 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	13,386,000	625,000	7,516,000	282,000
Regulation of Utilities	85,546,000	8,635,000	42,585,000	1,458,000
Total	98,932,000	9,260,000	50,101,000	1,740,000

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Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Administration	5,870,000	343,000
Regulation of Utilities	42,961,000	7,177,000
Total	48,831,000	7,520,000

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

Fund Type	Available FY 2019	Recommended FY 2020	Change
Special Revenue Funds - Other	5,750,000	5,750,000	0
Total	5,750,000	5,750,000	0

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

Program	Available FY 2019	Recommended FY 2020	Change
Regulation of Utilities			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	5,750,000	5,750,000	0
Total	5,750,000	5,750,000	0

Note: Most recent estimates as of 1/15/2019