

PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATION UNIT MANAGER

KIND OF WORK

Technical And administrative direction of a unit in the Public Utility Regulation program of the Department of Public Service.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

The Public Utility Unit Manager is responsible for planning, organizing and directing one of the three units involved in the rate and service regulation of gas, electric and telephone utility companies. The three units of the Public Utility Regulation Division are: 1) Telephone Unit; 2) Energy Unit (gas and electric utilities); and 3) Statistical Unit (rate of return and computer modeling statistic support). The unit manager is responsible for delegating work and assessing need and negotiating contracts with consultants to staff in utility rate case proceedings. The unit manager is responsible for projecting the unit's financial need and controlling expenditures within budget limitations. The Unit Manager is responsible to see that all the financial, economic and engineering testimony developed within the unit is clear, concise, articulate, easily understandable, well-documented, grammatically accurate and will fully and completely discuss the issues addressed and the rationale for the positions taken by the department. The employee must be prepared to testify as an expert witness in public hearing involving public utility regulation matters.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Develops and implements operating budgets for a unit of the Public Utilities Division.

Sets objectives and monitors progress for the activities for a specific unit of the Public Service Utility Division in order to insure efficient staff operation in regulation of gas, electric and telephone utilities in Minnesota.

Directs the formulation of policies, rules, and procedures for regulation so that the department's position will be consistent with statutes and the needs of the public and the utilities.

Reviews proposed staff testimony and testifies as an expert witness before the Public Utilities Commission so that the Commission is provided with complete and accurate information.

Negotiates contracts with consultants to provide support and expert testimony in public utility rate cases.

Coordinates the activities of a specific unit of the public utilities division with the activities of the administrative and legal divisions.

Represents the department before other state and federal agencies, trade associations, and utility groups, to provide for exchanges of information.

Develops proposed statutory changes of regulating public utilities and testifies before the State Legislature.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Performance budgeting methods.

Extensive knowledge of the rules, regulations, decision, practices, and procedures of the Public Utilities Commission and the Federal Power Commission.

Thorough knowledge of utility operations and utility regulation.

Ability to:

Establish effective relationships with the Public Utilities Commission, Public Service Director, Utility Division staff, and staff of Minnesota Energy Agency and Environmental Quality Council.

Establish and maintain harmonious relationships with public utility companies and the general public.

Keep abreast of changes in utility regulation and with the related fields of energy, pollution, and public involvement.

Est.: 6/81
Rev.:
Ckd.: 11/92

T.C.:
Former Title(s):