

Class Concept

This is supervisory professional level in the Public Staff and Utilities Commission Divisions managing work activities involving utilities regulated by the NC Utilities Commission. Positions analyze, examine, manage, and audit the financial condition of, and rates charged by the investor-owned public utilities providing electric, natural gas, water and wastewater, transportation, and telecommunications services to customers in the State of North Carolina. Positions supervise the investigation and audit of financial transactions and accounting practices of regulated public utilities within the Section.

Positions direct the development of Public Staff accounting litigation and settlement positions in the assigned work areas of public utility services matters, including written and oral recommendations to the Utilities Commission regarding rate base adjustments, revenue requirements, rate design, appropriate accounting treatment of capital/expense items, establishment and compliance with regulatory conditions, utility tax treatment, affiliate contracts, and other accounting/financial findings.

Duties and responsibilities are associated with the following:

- Regulatory proceedings and/or investigations involving general rate increase requests
- Commission rulemakings
- Requests for the creation of regulatory assets and liabilities
- Transfer of control (sales, mergers, and/or acquisitions) with respect to existing utilities
- Affiliated company transactions and contracts
- Requests for certification of water, wastewater, and transportation utilities
- Requests for water and wastewater system improvement charges and special assessments
- Demand side management and energy efficiency programs
- Surveillance reports for electric, natural gas, and telecommunications utilities

Positions work on highly complex cases and projects.

Positions directly supervise, train, mentor, and assign work to Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst I and Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst II. Work is assigned by Division Director or Agency/ Division representatives and evaluated for overall program effectiveness.

Recruitment Standards

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Thorough knowledge of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and their application.
- Thorough knowledge of investor-owned utility accounting practices and related regulatory accounting rules and regulations, including the Uniform System of Accounts.
- Demonstrated experience examining financial records (payroll, journal entries, ROI, depreciation, etc.) of regulatory and/or utility businesses.
- Demonstrated experience analyzing financial reports for regulatory and/or internal audit compliance.
- Demonstrated supervisory or team-lead experience in audits and/or investigations.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills to clearly, effectively, and timely communicate complex regulatory accounting matters to other members of the Public Staff, the Commission, and third parties.
- Demonstrated skills to compile, monitor, audit and examine a variety of moderately complex financial and/or program information sources for accuracy, integrity, and conformance to rules and regulations.
- Demonstrated ability to identify substantive issues and thoroughly and accurately research and analyze them.
- Demonstrated ability to identify changing requirements and problems regarding account structures/reports, and/or accounting systems.

Note: This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA.

- Demonstrated ability to assess and resolve unprecedented problems that require research and review of policy, procedures, and regulations and apply judgment for problem resolutions or program requirements.
- Demonstrated ability to manage team workflow, supervise front-line personnel, review subordinate work product, and provide feedback, and perform administrative HR functions.
- Ability to establish and maintain cooperative and effective relationships with fellow employees, regulators, utility representatives, other state and federal officials, and utility customers.

Minimum Education and Experience

Bachelor's degree in accounting, banking, finance, business administration, public administration, economics, or related discipline from an accredited institution and five years of directly related experience to include at least one year of supervisory experience or performed in a team lead role as a Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst II; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.