



NEW MEXICO
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COMMISSION**

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NMPRC Nominating Committee seeks applicants to fill an upcoming vacancy on the Commission

Committee approved job posting, established recruitment timeline at its last meeting

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) Nominating Committee is recruiting for qualified applicants to fill an upcoming vacancy on the Commission, with the term currently being served by Commissioner James Ellison set to expire at the end of the year.

During its meeting last week, the Nominating Committee approved language to include in the commissioner job advertisement and set a deadline of August 30 for all applications to be received. The Committee will meet as necessary to review application materials and interview potential candidates before submitting the names of at least two nominees for consideration to Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham, who will appoint one of them to begin a six-year term on January 1, 2025. A copy of the job posting can be found online [here](#).

“The Nominating Committee looks forward to reviewing applications from qualified commissioner candidates in the coming weeks,” said Rikki Seguin, who was elected Chair of the Committee during last week’s meeting. “As the Committee prepares for this recruitment period, we welcome participation from the public and stakeholders as we work toward a transparent process for sending nominees to the governor.”

Commissioners are pivotal in overseeing and regulating public utilities, telecommunications, and other services within the Commission’s jurisdiction, and are responsible for ensuring that these services are provided in a safe, reliable, and efficient manner while balancing the interests of the public and service providers. They establish policies, approve rates, and resolve disputes to maintain fair practices and protect consumers.

The Commission transitioned from an elected panel to an appointed body in January 2023. The current class of three commissioners was appointed to serve terms of two, four or six years, respectively. Upon completion of these initial terms, all commissioners will begin serving staggered six-year terms. Commissioner Ellison, who is serving a two-year term, is eligible to apply for his current seat.

The Nominating Committee consists of seven appointed members with a strong background in public utility regulation tasked with evaluating applicants to fill vacancies on the Commission. The Committee will next meet on September 9 to review resumes and cover letters and select applicants to complete a questionnaire to provide more insight into their qualifications and skills. Public and other stakeholder input is encouraged during Committee meetings, which are held in person and available to watch online.

The Nominating Committee must present its list of nominees to the governor by December 1.

*The **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC)** serves New Mexico by ensuring safe operations and reliable utility services at fair, just, and reasonable rates consistent with the State's legal, economic, environmental, and social policies. To learn more about the work of the NMPRC, please visit www.prc.nm.gov.*

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