

[COMMENTS](#) | [PRINT](#) | [EMAIL](#) | [MOBILE VIEW](#)

Ruderman to lead state's energy initiatives

By DENIS PAISTE

New Hampshire Union Leader Staff

11 hours, 10 minutes ago

CONCORD – Jack Ruderman has been named director of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission's new Sustainable Energy Division.

Ruderman, 45, who had been deputy director at the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning for five years, will oversee about \$20 million in energy efficiency funds.

"What we really want to see is that average New Hampshire residents, businesses and institutions have the opportunity to take advantage of new cutting-edge energy efficiency and renewable technologies from homeowners putting up solar electric panels on their roofs to businesses using indigenous biomass fuels to heat their facilities," Ruderman said.

PUC Chairman Thomas B. Getz said, "In this era of increasingly volatile energy prices it is critical that we make real progress towards long-term price stability, more environmentally sustainable and efficient use of energy and greater energy security for the sake of New Hampshire residents and businesses."

The Sustainable Energy Division will be funded through payments from electric utilities under the renewable portfolio standards that require specific percentages of generation from renewable sources and the Regional Greenhouse Initiative. RGGI established a "cap-and-trade" system that limits the amount of greenhouse gas that can be emitted during power production in 10 Eastern states, including New Hampshire.

"We can use this money to effectively combat climate change, to stabilize and reduce energy costs, to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and also to stimulate economic development," Ruderman said.

One of Ruderman's tasks will be to develop permanent rules to allocate RGGI funds. The PUC has adopted final rules for the Renewable Portfolio Standards funds, which will be available after July 1, 2009. An interim rule has been proposed to administer the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Fund created under RGGI. Those funds will be available earlier in 2009, he said. A final rule will need to be adopted by June, 2009.

Ruderman practiced law with the New Hampshire Public Defender's Office in Nashua for about six years before joining the Office and Energy and Planning 11 years ago.

According to a job posting on the PUC Web site, salary scale for the new sustainable energy director's position is \$60,216 to \$82,446, with a starting salary typically not to exceed \$72,208. The job comes with a 5.5 percent raise on Jan. 4, 2009.

Ruderman starts in his new post in mid-December.

All trademarks and copyrights on this page are owned by their respective owners. © 1997-2008.