

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2007-3

**An Order Establishing a Task Force
To Develop a Climate Change Action Plan for the State of New Hampshire**

WHEREAS, there is scientific consensus that, without concerted action, global climate change has the potential to harm our environment, damage our economy and jeopardize the health of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Hampshire is experiencing warmer winters, higher summer peak temperatures, and higher annual average temperatures, which may damage traditional state industries and pastimes, including our beautiful fall foliage, maple sugaring and skiing; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency, renewable energy development and cuts in greenhouse gas emissions will help preserve New Hampshire's valuable environmental resources, protect the health of our citizens, and contribute to the state's economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Hampshire has acted to address climate issues including, passing the Renewable Energy Act, the Clean Power Act and the Voluntary Greenhouse Gas Registry, committing to the "25 x '25" Renewable Energy Program and the EPA Energy Star Challenge, and by joining with other Northeast states to develop the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative; and

WHEREAS, concerted action is needed to address New Hampshire's greenhouse gas emissions, which have increased significantly above 1990 levels.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, by the authority vested in me by Part II, Article 41 of the Constitution of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby order that:

1. A Climate Change Policy Task Force is hereby established and shall work in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Services to produce a *Climate Change Action Plan* that establishes climate change goals and recommends meaningful steps to meet those goals.
 - a. The members of the Task Force shall be as follows:
 - i. Sixteen members appointed by the Governor, who shall have background and experience in the following areas: general commerce and industry; environmental interests; forestry; science/academia; public utilities; municipal government and insurance industry.
 - ii. The Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, or designee.
 - iii. A member of the Public Utilities Commission, appointed by the Commission.

- iv. The Public Utilities Consumer Advocate, or designee.
 - v. The Director of the Office of Energy and Planning, or designee.
 - vi. The Commissioner of the Department of Resources and Economic Development, or designee.
 - vii. The Commissioner of the Department of Transportation, or designee.
 - viii. The Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services, or designee from the Division of Public Health.
 - ix. The Commissioner of the Department of Insurance, or designee.
 - x. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate.
 - xi. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- b. The Governor shall appoint a Chairperson from among the members.
2. The Department of Environmental Services shall serve as the lead agency in assisting the Task Force in its duties, providing staff assistance, background research and helping to prepare draft reports.
3. The Task Force, after giving due consideration to analysis and reporting by DES on the state of climate change science, shall:
- a. Recommend quantified goals for reductions of NH greenhouse gas given the inventory of NH greenhouse gas emissions and emission projections.
 - b. Recommend specific regulatory, voluntary and policy actions, based on Stakeholder input, that the state should consider to achieve its greenhouse gas reduction goals.
 - c. Hold at least 1 public hearing on the proposed *Plan* and appropriately consider all stakeholder comments.
 - d. Submit a *Climate Change Action Plan* and recommendations to the Governor by September 1, 2008.
4. This order supercedes Executive Order 2007-2



Given under my hand and seal at the
Executive Chambers in Concord, this 6th
day of December, in the year of our Lord,
two thousand and seven.

Governor of New Hampshire