EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2004-7

An order improving the energy efficiency of State Government

WHEREAS, New Hampshire is dedicated to the mutually compatible goals of environmental protection, efficient use of resources, sound fiscal policy, economic growth; and,

WHEREAS, the State is the largest energy user in New Hampshire with energy costs greater than $15 million in 2002, and occupies over 1,200 buildings totally approximately 9 million square feet; and

WHEREAS, improving energy efficiency in the new and existing State buildings will lower state operating costs; and,

WHEREAS, the use of energy to operate fleets and supply electricity, heating and cooling has a significant impact on the environment, contributing to emissions of greenhouse gases, nitrogen oxides, air toxics and other pollutants; and,

WHEREAS, the State expends significant resources acquiring, maintaining and operating a motor vehicle inventory of more than 4,000 State-owned motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the operation of State facilities and fleet vehicles shall be in accordance with the governmental goals of promoting efficiency, economy and improving the quality of customer service of State government at the lowest possible cost; and

WHEREAS, the state government has strong commitment to leading-by-example in promoting the efficient use of energy and natural resources in the interest of the long-term protection and enhancement of our environment, our economy, and the health of our children and future generations of New Hampshire.

NOW THEREFORE, I, CRAIG R. BENSON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by RSA 9:16-b and Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order that:

1. The Department of Administrative Services shall develop an energy information system, including an energy efficiency rating, for use by each Department to track and report on their energy usage. In addition, each Department, as a minimum shall take the following actions:

   a) Conduct an inventory of its facilities for all energy use for the past three years (documenting the appropriate utility account numbers for future tracking), and develop and implement a procedure for inputting energy usage and costs into the centralized database developed by Administrative Services.

   b) Train staff in use of EPA's Energy Star® benchmarking program and benchmark all facilities using EPA's program.

   c) Develop a procedure for annual tracking and reporting of energy use information by department.

   d) Track and report progress to Governor's Office of Energy and Planning.

2. A steering committee with representatives from the Department of Transportation, Department of Safety, Department of Environmental Services, and Administrative Services shall convene to develop recommendations for improving the energy efficiency of State buildings, operations and fleets shall specifically consider the following:

   a) Develop a plan and energy reduction goal for implementing energy improvements with a reasonable payback period.
b) Develop plan for conducting energy audits of facilities scoring between 40 percent and 60 percent on EPA's Energy Star® benchmarking program.

c) Develop purchasing policies require Energy Star® ratings for purchase of new equipment and appliances.

d) Develop recommended energy efficiency standards for new construction design of building shell, lighting, heating and cooling, equipment proposed as new construction.

e) Develop a procedure for review of design criteria for new building projects to ensure energy efficiency has been incorporated into the design to maximum extent possible.

f) Develop a procedure for commissioning new construction to ensure testing of all equipment and design specifications were met.

3. Develop a clean fleets policy to improve the energy efficiency of the State Fleets and shall specifically consider the following:

   a) Establish a policy to purchase the most economical, fuel efficient and low-emission vehicles appropriate to the mission. Unless a need is clearly demonstrated otherwise, the goal will be that all new vehicles shall have a highway fuel economy rating of 30 miles per gallon or better, and an emissions classification of one of the following: LEV (Low Emission Vehicle); ULEV (Ultra Low Emission Vehicle); or SULEV = Super Ultra Low Emission Vehicle.

   b) Require purchase of 5W20 or 10W20 lubricating oil in lieu of other lubricating oils to improve the fuel efficiency of the vehicle fleet unless otherwise specified.

   c) Require fleet operators to specify low rolling resistance specifications for the purchase of replacement tires for their passenger vehicle and truck fleets with appropriate exemptions.

   d) Implement an anti-idling initiative across all departments similar to the program adopted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation.

   e) Encourage ride sharing between agencies and consider ways of increasing communication between agencies in order to provide more information about ride matching.

The Advisory Committee shall, within 120 days after the effective date of this Executive Order, submit to the Governor a plan, in accordance with the recommendations above to increase the energy efficiency of State buildings, operations, purchasing, and the State fleet.

Given at the Executive Chambers in Concord this 22nd day of October, in the year two thousand and four, and the independence of the United States of America two hundred and twenty-eight.

[Signature]

CRAIG R. BENSON
GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE