

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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March 23, 2022

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and The Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Requested Action

In accordance with RSA 94:6, New Appointments, the Public Utilities Commission respectfully requests to place Rizwana Alamgir-Arif at Step 5 for the position of Senior Advisor (9U680) unclassified salary grade GG, earning \$99,112.00 annually effective upon Governor and Council approval. Rizwana Alamgir-Arif is a Canadian Citizen, and this request and the offer for employment by the State of New Hampshire is contingent upon the final approval of Rizwana Alamgir-Arif's visa and work authorization for the United States. Funding is 100% agency income (Utilities Assessment).

Explanation

Chapters 90 and 91 of the Laws of 2021 (the 2022 – 2023 State Budget) made significant changes to the organizational structure of utility regulation and energy policy by the state government. The Public Utilities Commission, in its present incarnation, is now tasked solely with the oversight of regulated utilities. As part of the legislative mandate to separate regulatory and policy functions, many of the former employees of the Public Utilities Commission have been transferred to the Department of Energy.

Chapter 91, section 194 of the Laws of 2021 established six new unclassified Senior Advisor positions at the Public Utilities Commission. The Senior Advisors are appointed by the Chair of the Public Utilities Commission to advise the Utilities Commissioners on matters pertaining to engineering, economics, accounting, finance, or law.

Dr. Alamgir-Arif has a Ph.D. in economics and has worked for the Canadian Government in various roles since January 2015. Dr. Alamgir-Arif is an expert in financial analysis and has developed policy advice and technical briefings for the Cabinet of Canada. She has experience designing and implementing policy programs, as well as conducting technical reviews to ensure regulatory compliance,

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with a focus on the telecommunications sector. Before her public sector service, Dr. Alamgir-Arif worked for Bell Canada Enterprises, where as Associate Director of Regulatory Affairs she conducted economic analysis of regulatory submissions, including costing and cost-benefit analysis. Prior to that, Dr Alamgir-Arif taught at the University of Ottawa in the fields of Microeconomics and Globalization. She also worked as an independent contractor with the Government of Canada between June 2006 and January 2012. Not accounting for planned increments this year, Dr. Alamgir-Arif's current annual salary is \$125,538 CAD, which roughly equates \$99,688 USD as of March 21, 2022.

Dr. Alamgir-Arif has accepted an appointment as a Senior Advisor of the Public Utilities Commission. The offer of employment was made contingent on the final approval of her work authorization and visa by the United States Government.

The Public Utilities Commission respectfully requests approval from the Governor and Council to compensate Rizwana Alamgir-Arif at step 5 of the salary grade GG, \$99,112.00 annually. This position is entirely funded through the utilities assessment established by RSA 363-A:1.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DANIEL C. GOLDNER", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel C. Goldner
Chair
Public Utilities Commission

RIZWANA ALAMGIR-ARIF

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MANAGER, POLICY DEVELOPMENT, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Ports success in regulatory policy development and planning, challenge function on leading regulatory files as well as on Cabinet documents

Talent Management; Succeeded Plus (+) rating in 2020-21; 2019-20 and 2018-19

Linguistic profile: Excellent oral and written communication skills in English (first language) and French (advanced)

Education: Ph.D. (Economics)

- Professional experience: Manager, Policy Development (Health); Senior Advisor (Treasury), Canadian Radio-Television Regulatory Commission (Senior Regulatory Advisor); Bell Canada (Associate Director, Regulatory Affairs).
- Experience/ Knowledge/ Skills:
 - People and financial management;
 - Regulatory proceeding processes and decision management;
 - Drafted consultation notices; reviewed comments; recommended advice to Commissioners; drafted orders/decisions on behalf of the Commission
 - Experience working with a vast range of stakeholders, and coordinating various proceedings/initiatives
 - Performed challenge function to federal initiatives as Senior Program Sector Advisor
 - Experience in preparing/reviewing cabinet and executive documents (Memorandum to Cabinet, Briefing Notes and Executive Decks, Policy Notes/Papers, Treasury Board Submissions).
- Personal aptitude: Excellent management and interpersonal skills, Creative and analytical thinking, Pro-active risk management, Reliable, Flexible, Strong commitment to learning, Sound judgment and values & ethics
- Professional recognition: Assistant Deputy Minister Instant Award, Social and Cultural Sector (spring 2018, fall 2018, spring 2019); Commission award for significant results on establishing a Basic Telecommunications Service (2017)

Relevant Employment Details

Associate Director – Regulatory Affairs

Bell Canada Enterprises

January 2012 – December 2014

- Led proceedings and testimonies on behalf of Bell Canada Enterprises with the Commission
 - Drafted comments and reply-comments to proceedings led by other telecommunications companies with their proceedings with the Commission
 - Led economic analysis of regulatory submissions by telecommunications companies, including costing and cost-benefit analysis
 - Responded to staff written requests for information (interrogatories)
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RIZWANA ALAMGIR-ARIF

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- Led funding proposals for Canada's Broadband Subsidy (Connecting Canadians) to Innovation Science and Economic Development
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Senior Analyst/Regulatory Advisor, Competitor Services and Costing, Canada Radio Telecommunications Commission, Federal Government of Canada

Canada Radio Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

September 2016 – December 2017

- Led important federal funding initiatives involving broad consultations and hearings to provide Broadband Funding to Canadians in remote regions through the Broadband Regime Strategy.
 - Reviewed and helped design maps for the funding Regime
 - Led lawful Access proceeding (Government of Quebec blocking online gaming website access except that of Lotto Quebec, Bill 74).
 - Led other forbearance application requests and recommendations for Commissioners, and drafted decisions (e.g., wholesale competition in the North of Canada - Telecom Decision CRTC 2017-299 | CRTC)
 - Led economic analysis of regulatory submissions by telecommunications companies.
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Senior Analyst/Regulatory Advisor, Telecom Policy, Canada Radio Telecommunications Commission, Federal Government of Canada

Canada Radio Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

January 2015 – September 2016

- Led regulatory economic study (cost-benefit analysis reviews)
 - Drafted questions (interrogatories) and reviewed responses on regulatory files (e.g., for rate reviews) for wholesale and retail telecommunications services and public goods (e.g., pay-phones)
 - Led economic analysis of regulatory submissions by telecommunications companies
 - Launched notices of consultations (public notices for consultations with parties, including Canadian companies and private citizens)
 - Briefed Commissioners orally and in writing with recommendations on wholesale and retail rates
 - Drafted and published decisions on behalf of the Commissioners
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Skills brought forward:

Costing and economic analysis, oversight and accountability function; briefing senior management

Senior Advisor

Federal Government of Canada - Treasury

January 2018 – December 2020

- Managed and briefed on billion dollar funding proposals.
- Provide policy advice and implementation guidance on Memoranda to the Cabinet (MCs); enable and challenge Treasury Board Submissions; work collaboratively with other Central Agencies (Privy Council Office and Department of Finance) on federal Budget proposals
- Work collaboratively with internal stakeholders (i.e., TBS policy centres) and external stakeholders (e.g., horizontal initiative partners, client department stakeholders) in reviewing proposals; ensuring compliance with TBS policy, and other legal and regulatory obligations.
- Provide expert advice through oral and written briefing (including memoranda, precis, Q&A packages) to the Assistant Secretary (ADM), Executive Director (DG) and other senior officials to prepare for Treasury Board meetings and Cabinet meetings

Corporate:

- Programs Sector Management Accountability Framework (MAF) federal lead
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RIZWANA ALAMGIR-ARIF

Programs Sector Departmental Result Framework (DRF) Amendments lead

- Programs Sector Departmental Evaluation Plan (DEP) lead
- Member of TBS EC-02 – EC-05 recruitment and interview board.

Skills brought forward:

*Central Agency experience (challenge/enable function) thorough knowledge of policy making;
Knowledge of program and regulatory implementation, oversight and accountability function; Experience delivering
programs related to federal legislation*

Manager, Policy Development (Strategic Policy, Planning and Portfolio Affairs)

Federal Government of Canada – Health

January 2021 – present

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- People management
 - Policy lead for the federal Budget for the Health Portfolio (HC, Public Health Agency, Canadian Institute of Health Research, Canadian Food Inspection Agency)
 - Policy lead for Mandate Commitments tracking, Medium Term Planning/Transition for the Portfolio
 - Policy lead for DM-Social Development and Welfare Committee
 - Daily advice to the DG on key policy files, agenda management and Portfolio coordination
 - Prepare decks, placemats and other briefing memoranda for the Deputy Minister
 - Manage ad-hoc Portfolio requests requiring horizontal coordination

Corporate:

- Co-Champion for Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion
- Organizing manager for *Vingt Minutes de Français* (virtual French lessons for the Branch)

Skills brought forward:

Horizontal coordination; Planning and Agenda management; Strategic advice and recommendations to ADM and above

Other Leadership Roles, Social Citizenship

Organizer of the Annual Ottawa Kite Festival

Fundraiser for CHEO Telethon 2016, CHEO 2017 and 2018

Fundraiser for Disabled Children's Fund (DCF) Bangladesh 2018 (as Executive Organizer of the Ottawa Kite Festival)

References

Available upon request.
