

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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*ppr 46*  
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April 18, 2017

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, NH 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Authorize the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to budget and expend the prior year balance forward funds in the Safety Division's Gas Pipeline Carriers accounting unit. The requested amount of \$55,000.00 will be used to fund budget shortfalls for salaries, equipment, telecommunications, and office space rental effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2017. Funding is 100% Other Funds.

These funds should be budgeted as follows:

<b>02-81-81-810510-28300000 Gas Pipeline Carriers</b>				
<b>SFY 2017</b>				
<b>Source of Funds</b>				
<b>Class</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>Modified Budget</b>
000-404260	Federal Funds	476,899		476,899
009-403292	Agency Income	204,384	55,000	259,384
Totals		681,283	55,000	736,283

<b>Class</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>Modified Budget</b>
10-500100	Personal Services Perm Classified	233,734	30,000	263,734
12-500128	Personal Services Unclassified	107,876		107,876
20-500200	Current Expenses	9,150		9,150
26-500251	Organizational Dues	800		800
27-502799	Transfers to OIT	44,770		44,770
28-500292	Transfers to General Services	28,344	20,000	48,344

30-500310	Equipment New Replacement	250	4,000	4,250
39-500188	Telecommunications	6,840	1,000	7,840
40-500800	Indirect Costs	5,396		5,396
41-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	669		669
49-500294	Transfer to Other State Agen	17,053		17,053
57-500531	Books, Periodicals, Subscriptions	750		750
60-500601	Benefits	184,201		184,201
70-500704	In-State Travel	11,950		11,950
80-500710	Out-of-State Travel	29,500		29,500
Totals		681,283	55,000	736,283

### EXPLANATION

The expenses of the Commission's Safety Division are funded primarily by grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation - Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). These grants support the Division's Pipeline Safety, Integrity Management, One Call, and Dig Safe programs. The amount of each grant award is determined by annual program audits by PHMSA of program requirements and benchmarks. The additional salaries are requested to meet a PHMSA approved increase in staffing allocated to Dig Safe training and inspections. The increase for equipment is needed to replace a failing, high-end laptop that is critical for the daily activity of the Director of the Safety Division. The additional telecommunications funds are requested to cover an increase in wireless communications costs for tablets obtained through a federal grant and used by staff during field inspections. The additional office space funds are needed to cover rent for the new larger, more centralized Walker Building office space the Safety Division relocated to in August of 2016, and to be compliant with the federally mandated calculation method for office rental expense.

Accordingly, your consideration of our request is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin P. Honigberg  
Chairman

**Gas Pipeline Carriers  
Fiscal Situation**

Fiscal Year	Grant Year	Expenditures	Grant Revenue	Pipeline Assessment Revenue	Balance Forward	
2015-2016	01/01/2015 - 12/31/2015	280,637	289,390	72,665		07/01/2015 - 12/31/2015
2015-2016	01/01/2016 - 12/31/2016	324,245	295,997	96,994	24,329	01/01/2016 - 06/30/2016
2016-2017	01/01/2016 - 12/31/2016				174,493	07/01/2016 - 12/31/2016

Note: Gas Pipeline Carriers does not lapse and year end closing instructions bring forward any balance in revenue class 009 - Agency Income.

SFY 2017 Balance Forward	174,493
Current Request	<u>(55,000)</u>
Remaining Balance Forward	119,493
Current SFY 17 Appropriation	681,283
Current Request	<u>55,000</u>
Adjusted SFY 17 Appropriation	736,283