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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, February 26, 2009

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**PUC ISSUES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROGRAMS
TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

CONCORD, N.H. - The N.H. Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has issued a request for proposals (RFP) for energy efficiency, conservation, and demand response programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions generated within New Hampshire. Selected programs will be supported by the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund created by RSA 125:O-23 as part of the state's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, known as RGGI. Proceeds from the sale of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission allowances are dedicated to the Fund.

The PUC expects available funding to be in the range of \$4.5 million to \$6.5 million, depending on the market price for CO₂ allowances in the March RGGI auction. State and local government agencies, as well as private non-profit and for profit entities are eligible to apply for funding. Responses to the RFP are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on March 23, 2009. The RFP is available at www.puc.nh.gov under "Request for Proposals" or by contacting the PUC at (603) 271-2431 or by email at GHGERF@puc.nh.gov.

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative is the first mandatory, market-based effort in the United States to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming. Ten Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states have capped and will then reduce CO₂ emissions from the electric power sector by 10% by 2018. The legislature authorized New Hampshire's participation in RGGI in the 2008 session. The Sustainable Energy Division of the PUC administers the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund while the Department of Environmental Services administers the CO₂ budget trading program for the state.

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