

## 62-19-19. Advisory staff.

A. The chief of staff may hire, with the consent of the commission, advisory staff with expertise in regulatory law, engineering, economics and other professional or technical disciplines to advise the commission on any matter before the commission. The chief of staff may hire on a temporary, term or contract basis such other experts or staff as the commission requires for a particular case.

B. Advisory staff shall:

- (1) analyze case records;
- (2) analyze recommended decisions;
- (3) advise the commission on policy issues;
- (4) assist the commission in the development of rules;
- (5) assist the commission in writing final orders; and
- (6) perform such other duties as required by the chief of staff.

**History:** [Laws 1998, ch. 108, § 13](#); § 8-8-13, recompiled as § 62-19-19 by [Laws 2020, ch. 9, § 59](#).

### ANNOTATIONS

**Recompilations.** — [Laws 2020, ch. 9, § 59](#) recompiled former [8-8-13](#) NMSA 1978 as [62-19-19](#) NMSA 1978, effective January 1, 2023.

**Expert's status.** — Although an expert's relationship with the PRC and the expert's advice fell within the definition of advisory staff in Section [8-8-13\(A\)](#) NMSA 1978 so that the PRC was not required to provide the parties with the substance of the expert's advice, under another set of facts the expert could fall under the category of a non-party expert subject to the restrictions on ex parte communications of Section [8-8-17](#) NMSA 1978. *Qwest Corp. v. N.M. Public Regulation Comm'n*, [2006-NMSC-042](#), [140 N.M. 440](#), [143 P.3d 478](#).

