

JOB DESCRIPTION FORM

Specialist Economics

Position: 00030038

Reporting to the Deputy Director General

The Role

Working as a technical specialist and providing direct support to the Deputy Director General, the position will scope out, design and deliver research and analytical projects and studies on utilities markets, regulations and policies that require substantial economic input and expertise. This position will also contribute to projects in the Department's Economic Reform division on economic studies on broader microeconomic reform matters.

Selection Criteria

You must demonstrate:

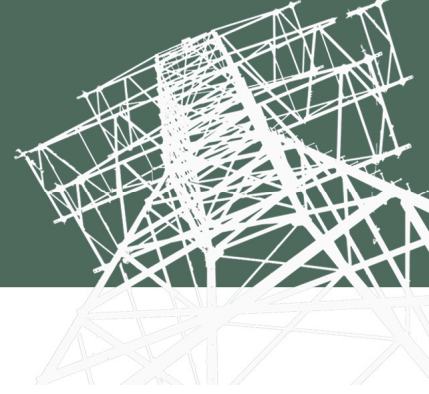
1. Substantial experience in a senior economic role delivering research and analytical projects and reports on regulation and public policy, preferable with experience in electricity and gas markets.
2. Strong analytical skills, including significant expertise in microeconomic analysis, regulatory economics and quantitative methods, and a willingness to be accountable for ensuring and demonstrating the quality and robustness of work.
3. An ability to work independently and deliver significant economic research projects, including developing work plans, identifying and marshalling input from staff and consultants, and communicating findings and recommendations in a form suitable for government decision making.
4. An ability to undertake smaller economic research projects either individually or as a leader of a small project team, and provide advice on technical economic issues to inform other analytical work being undertaken within the Public Utilities Office.
5. An ability to communicate economic concepts and analysis to a broad audience that includes government decision makers.
6. Relevant tertiary qualifications.

What you will deliver

Strategic and technical advice

The position will provide strong evidence-based policy advice including research, modelling and analysis of complex economic, financial and technical issues in the utilities sector and in other areas of public policy.

- Applying microeconomic analysis skills to research projects.
- Scoping and analysing complex issues to produce reports and recommendations in a format suitable for informed government decision making.
- Maintaining awareness of political, social and economic factors related to the utilities sector and microeconomic reform to anticipate trends and maximise opportunities for change and innovation.
- Identifying complementary policy and programs and developing practical options for their implementation.



- Providing balanced advice to government based on economic analysis.

Technical project management

- The position will manage and deliver research and policy projects requiring technical expertise in economic analysis.

Stakeholder relationship management

- Engage with government and business stakeholders, displaying relevant sector knowledge and passion to establish credibility at the senior level.
- Work in a measured, constructive and confident way to systemically progress complex and sensitive issues.
- Develop and maintain trusting and respectful relationships with senior stakeholders to promote credibility within the sector and to ensure integrity and objectivity in advice to government.
- Participate in stakeholder and industry forums to further develop industry contacts and raise the profile of the Public Utilities Office and Economic Reform businesses of the Department of Finance.
- Work collaboratively in multi-disciplinary teams across technical specialisations to progress complex reform projects.

Capacity building

- Contribute to development of the Public Utilities Office and Economic Reform businesses of the Department of Finance through coaching and mentoring and by modelling professionalism.

Other Requirements

Willing and able to work outside normal business hours

Certification

The details contained in this document are an accurate statement of the position's responsibilities and requirements as at 16 October 2015.

Deputy Director General

Director General

The Public Utilities Office provides the Government with independent high quality advice on Government policy and Government initiatives in the provision of essential energy services.