

STATE OF MINNESOTA



TIM WALZ
GOVERNOR

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Joseph Sullivan

109 Sienna Circle
Mankato, MN 56001
County of Blue Earth
Congressional District 1

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MAR 11 2020

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of: *President of the Senate*

Commissioner

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Effective: April 6, 2020

Term Expires: January 5, 2026

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, March 10, 2020.



Governor

Secretary of State

Replacing: Dan Lipschultz

Application for the position Member

Part I: Position Sought

Agency Name: Public Utilities Commission

Position: Member

Part II: Applicant Information

Name: Joseph Sullivan

Phone: (612) 306-0098

County: Blue Earth

Mn House District: 19B

US House District: 1

Recommended by the Appointing Authority: False

Part III: Appending Documentation

Cover Letter and Resume

| Type | File Type |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Cover Letter | application/pdf |
| Resume | application/pdf |

Additional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)

| Type | File Name |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| No additional documents found. | |

Part V: Signature

Signature: Joseph K. Sullivan

Date: 1/17/2020 1:39:57 PM

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President of the Senate

Governor Walz & Lieutenant Governor Flanagan
Minnesota State Capitol
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan:

I am writing to express my interest in serving as a Commissioner on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC). It has been an honor working for you at the Department of Commerce as the Deputy Commissioner for the Division of Energy Resources and I would like to build on this experience to help guide the PUC over the next six years. As you know, the decisions of the PUC directly impact every Minnesotan and set the trajectory for the state's energy future. Commissioners must recognize and balance an array of interests in order to ensure fair rates for electric, gas, and telecom services and sift through complicated sets of facts to determine what is in the public interest. My professional experience and deep understanding of the regulatory process have positioned me well to serve Minnesotans and your Administration in this critical role.

I was appointed to the Department of Commerce in February 2019. As a Deputy Commissioner at the Department I have been instrumental in helping develop the clean energy policies proposed by this Administration. Developing this policy framework has meant working closely with varied interests including; labor, environmental, communities impacted directly by the existing energy system, low income and consumer advocates, and our electric and gas utilities. I am also proud of the work we have done to realign the units I manage within the Division. Under my leadership we have renewed our focus on the Weatherization Assistance Program and started the process of better aligning the program with other resources to better serve Minnesotans and tribal communities in our state. We have also realigned the State Energy Office to focus on equity, emerging technology and market transformation. Each of these units now better fit with how the professional staff see their work and the key issues within the energy sector. Lastly, under my leadership at Commerce, and in close coordination with your office, we have started the years long process of working with the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) to start long range transmission planning. This effort is key to ensuring we are able to decarbonize our power sector and has involved outreach and engagement with governors' offices and commissioners throughout the Midwest and the South. When successfully completed, this work will hopefully enable thousands of new megawatts of clean energy and create tens of thousands of jobs for our state and the region.

Prior to my appointment to the Department, I was a leader within Minnesota's clean energy community where I worked at the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE). At CEE, I led our legislative policy team and worked in partnership with Xcel Energy, rural electric cooperatives, other utilities, clean energy advocates, and businesses to promote and protect Minnesota's nation leading clean energy framework. In various professional roles before that I was a key part of the coalitions that passed Minnesota's Next Generation Energy Act in 2007; Minnesota's 1.5 percent Solar Standard in 2013; and the many incremental but important policies that keep Minnesota a leading clean energy state. I have also represented a large municipal electric utility and several Greater Minnesota communities on issues including nuclear waste storage and power plant host community taxation and transition issues. Throughout this time and in my own personal pursuits, I have built a strong working relationship with Minnesota's labor and agricultural communities and recognize the central role they have in ensuring the clean energy transition is just, equitable, and rebuilds our rural communities.

I would like to serve on the Commission because the next six years will be amongst the most consequential in the next half century. I do not make this statement lightly. The next Commissioner will approve or review

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President of the Senate

resource plans and decisions for all of Minnesota's major utilities. These plans will be focused on replacing generation that today supplies more than seventy percent of Minnesotans electricity and will result in the expenditure of billions of dollars that create opportunities for tens of thousands of new jobs in Minnesota. On top of these resource plans will be rate cases, power plant siting and approvals, and resource acquisitions that will put pressure on Minnesota ratepayers. The PUC must methodically and thoughtfully work through this complexity in order to find the right balance. If the Commission gets the balance right, Minnesota will continue to lead the clean energy transition, have reasonable and competitive rates for our essential services, and ensure the benefits of our clean energy economy are shared by all communities and workers. And critically, getting these decisions right will have a significant impact on helping the Administration achieve its goal of Minnesota being the best state in the Union to raise a family. This is why I want to serve on the PUC. To be a part of guiding this transition. The next decade will shape the next fifty years and this appointment will be key to making sure the PUC strikes the right balance.

As a quasi-judicial institution, the Commission must remain neutral and objective. This is the source of its authority. For the Commission to be successful then it must be led by thoughtful, experienced leaders who exhibit good judgment. I believe I have these necessary qualities along with the strong analytical skills necessary to navigate complex decisions. Like a judge, PUC Commissioners must understand the law and the administrative rules that govern their choices and good decisions require commitment to the work and development of the record. This requires deep public engagement. Throughout my career I have been focused on reaching out and engaging with as many voices as possible and on the Commission I will continue in these efforts. I believe public engagement is especially important at the PUC because of the utility regulatory compact. If done correctly, the compact is a great example of a public and private partnership that delivers public values. Universal service, programs for those without resources, environmental performance and justice, competitive prices, and equitable access are all values that can be achieved only if we have competent, professional and ethical regulators working from a full and complete record.

Your Administration has an historic opportunity to decarbonize Minnesota's energy system and a big part of this legacy will be the Commission you appoint. I am a leader in the energy community and have committed my career to be both an advocate for a decarbonized clean energy future and a just and equitable transition for communities and workers. To this end, I believe in the regulatory compact between our state and regulated utilities and recognize that it is the regulator who ensures universal utility services, access, fair and reasonable rates and clean energy. It has been an honor to work for you and to help shape this Administration's energy policy as the Deputy Commissioner for the Division of Energy Resources. I would like to build on this and continue my service to the State and this Administration at the PUC. I hope to hear from you soon and thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Joseph Sullivan

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President of the Senate

Joseph Sullivan

109 Sienna Circle
Mankato, MN 56001
(612) 306-0098
Email: jsullivan@mncee.org

EXPERIENCE:

STATE OF MINNESOTA, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, St. Paul, MN-Deputy Commissioner for the Division of Energy Resources, February 2019 to Present

- Instrumental in the development of the Walz/Flanagan Path to Clean Energy
- Led effort with governors' offices throughout Midwest and various other energy stakeholders to work closely with the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) to develop a new long-range electric transmission plan
- Realigned State Energy Office by creating Equity, Market Transformation, and Emerging Technology Units

CENTER FOR ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT, Minneapolis, MN-Manager of Legislative Affairs and External Relations, September 2014 to February 2019

- Represented CEE at the Minnesota Legislature on a range of clean energy and efficiency initiatives
- Worked with a wide range of external and internal stakeholders including elected and appointed policymakers, clean energy, utility, and environmental advocates, labor and business interests to promote and protect energy efficiency and clean energy policies.

CANDIDATE FOR US CONGRESS, First District of Minnesota-July 2017 to April 2018

- Campaigned for the US Congress for 9 months.
- Stood up and managed a paid professional campaign staff.
- Secured the endorsements of the Minnesota State Building and Construction Trades Council, Operating Engineer Local 49ers, Iron Workers Local 512, the League of Conservation Voters and State Representatives Jack Considine and Duane Sauke.

WIND ON THE WIRES, St. Paul, MN-Regional Policy Manager, July 2012 to September 2014

- Represented a coalition of renewable energy developers, manufacturers and clean energy advocates in five states-Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, South Dakota & North Dakota.
- Worked with members to propose and push legislation favorable to the renewables industry and support transmission initiatives necessary to integrate large wind installations.
- Passed bi-partisan legislation reforming Minnesota's renewable energy siting process.

FLAHERTY & HOOD P.A., St. Paul, MN-Senior Attorney, February 2006 to July 2012

- Flaherty & Hood P.A.'s lead attorney and state lobbyist on state and federal energy policy, electric utility taxation, and nuclear waste policy.
- Represented small and medium sized cities and a large municipal power agency based in Sioux Falls, SD before the Minnesota legislature and various regulatory agencies on a range of issues including energy policy, wastewater treatment, utility taxation, and storage of spent nuclear fuel.

THOMSON WEST, Minneapolis, MN-Reference Attorney, Fall 2004 to January 2006

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, Washington, DC-Project Analyst, GS-13, Dec 1999 to June 2001

US HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, Washington, DC-Staff Assistant, July 1998 to December 1999

EDUCATION:

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL, Graduated May 2004

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA LAW SCHOOL, Visiting Student—Spring 2003

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY, Graduated cum laude—May 1998

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

WALZ/FLANAGAN FOR MINNESOTA, Finance Committee Member, 2018

BICYCLING AROUND MINNESOTA, Board Member, 2012 to Feb. 2019

MANKATO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Board Member, 2018 to Feb. 2019

MINNESOTA LAND TRUST, Board Member, 2018 to Feb. 2019

MANKATO PLANNING COMMISSION, Member, 2018 to Feb. 2019

ADMISSIONS

MINNESOTA BAR, October 2006-present

WISCONSIN BAR, July 2004-present

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REFERENCES:

- Available upon request

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President of the Senate Joseph K. Sullivan
Resume