



**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL (HARRISBURG)
ASSISTANT COUNSEL
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

The Pennsylvania Governor's Office of General Counsel (OGC) seeks a licensed attorney to serve as Assistant Counsel in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Office of Chief Counsel's Bureau of Regulatory Counsel. This position is based in Harrisburg, and will be classified as either an Attorney 1, 2, or 3 depending on the level of relevant experience possessed by the successful applicant.

DEP's Bureau of Regulatory Counsel is responsible for developing the Commonwealth's environmental regulations and policies that implement both state and federal environmental laws statewide. Attorneys within this Bureau provide counseling and litigation services for DEP's signature environmental programs, including Oil & Gas, Clean Water, Waterways and Wetlands, Safe Drinking Water, Mining, Environmental Cleanup, Waste Management, Air Quality, and Radiation Protection. DEP regulatory counsel draft regulatory and policy documents to implement the Commonwealth's environmental statutes, review permitting actions, defend regulatory decisions, and instruct DEP Central Office clients on legal issues that arise as part of program implementation. Counsel will appear primarily before administrative entities such as the Environmental Quality Board. Appellate litigation generally occurs before any of the state or federal courts. Attorneys also review responses generated by the programs in reply to Pennsylvania Right to Know Law requests. The work requires close coordination with DEP's management and technical staff, including geologists, engineers, chemists and biologists, and applicants must be comfortable with learning aspects of these scientific disciplines as necessary to provide sound counseling and drafting services.

The successful candidate for this position will have demonstrated: (1) solid legal research, analysis and reasoning capabilities; (2) superior interpersonal and communication skills, especially oral and written advocacy; (3) an ability to identify and resolve problems creatively and with professional discretion; (4) a willingness to handle a variety of legal matters both independently and as part of a team; and (5) the capacity to interact and function effectively within a governmental organization as well as the broader legal community. Candidates must have at least one year of professional legal experience, ideally including at least one year of practice in environmental law, and advocacy experience or exposure. The ability to foster trust and respect and to create friendly and collaborative internal working relationships with Commonwealth clients are a must.

The Governor's Office of General Counsel provides efficient, responsive legal services to the Commonwealth, the Governor, members of his cabinet and more than 30 executive branch and independent agencies, including DEP, that conduct the business of the Commonwealth. This includes rendering legal advice and representation concerning matters and issues arising in connection with the operation of executive agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction, as well as select independent agencies.

In addition to the aforementioned legal experience, the candidate must have a Juris Doctor degree from an ABA-accredited law school and be a member in good standing with the Pennsylvania Bar. Interested applicants should send a cover letter setting forth interest in this position, resume, and writing sample no later than December 3, 2021, to ogchiring@pa.gov, directed to Rodney R. Akers, Deputy General Counsel, 333 Market Street, 17th Floor, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101. OGC is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to a diverse workforce. The Commonwealth values inclusion as we seek to recruit, develop, and retain the most qualified people to serve the citizens of Pennsylvania. The Commonwealth does not discriminate based on race, color, religious creed, ancestry, union membership, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, AIDS or HIV status, disability, or any other categories protected by applicable federal or state law. All diverse candidates are encouraged to apply.