

**City of New York  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Citywide Job Vacancy Notice**

<b>Civil Service Title:</b> Counsel (DEP)/General Counsel	<b>Level:</b> M-VIII
<b>Title Code No:</b> 95221	<b>Annual Salary:</b> \$155,000 - \$175,000
<b>Office Title:</b> General Counsel	<b>Work Location:</b> 59-17 Junction Blvd., Flushing, NY
<b>Division/Work Unit:</b> Bureau of Legal Affairs	<b>Number of Positions:</b> 1
<b>Hours/Shift:</b> 35 Hours a week/Days	<b>Agency Tracking #:</b> N/A

**Job Description**

The Department of Environmental Protection is one of the largest water and wastewater utilities in the United States, supplying 9 million New Yorkers with more than 1 billion gallons of drinking water and treating 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater daily. DEP is also one of the largest construction agencies in the region, is the agency responsible for enforcing the City's air and noise regulations, and is the lead agency for developing and implementing citywide energy policy, particularly as it relates to energy generation, transmission, and distribution within the five boroughs. The agency has an annual enterprise budget of \$3 billion and nearly 6,000 employees. DEP currently has approximately \$15 billion in active construction and design contracts, with additional contracting of \$1 billion to \$2 billion each year. The water and wastewater systems are highly regulated by the New York State and Federal governments. One of DEP's key strategies for providing services at the lowest possible cost to New Yorkers is to make the Agency's interactions with our regulators more cooperative and collaborative, while at the same time, protecting the City's interests.

Reporting to the Commissioner, the General Counsel will oversee a large legal practice in environmental matters relating to drinking water and clean water, and in the commercial and administrative areas of contracts, employment, labor relations and discipline. The General Counsel advises the Commissioner, executive staff and all bureaus on legal matters, is the chief legal officer of the Department, is responsible for the rendering of timely advice and guidance on all legal matters affecting the Agency and its operations, is the direct liaison with the Corporation Counsel, and manages all litigation affecting the Department, including judicial and administrative proceedings. Participates directly with legal and engineering staff in the resolution of significant or complex matters, including contract negotiations, relations with regulatory agencies (EPA, DEC), and watershed regulations and partnership programs. The General Counsel will also advise on energy-development and public-private partnership opportunities, as well as issues relating to securing supplemental water supplies. Extensive knowledge and experience with the many Federal and State laws, regulations, and guidance that govern public water supplies, wastewater treatment, air quality, hazardous substances, and other specialty sub-fields of environmental law is essential.

DEP is currently engaged in a number of broad initiatives that must meet various laws, regulations, and guidance while also breaking new ground to improve the agency's performance and to achieve the City's broader goals, including: negotiating a citywide consent order with New York State to address combined sewer overflows through the use of, among other techniques, "green" infrastructure; soliciting private-sector partners to make better use of DEP's assets to produce clean and renewable energy, including anaerobic digester gas (ADG), sludge, and solar and wind power; rationalizing access and water quality standards; and seeking to modernize SPDES and other permits to meet existing conditions. Each of these initiatives involve complex legal issues and challenges, and the General Counsel will work with Agency personnel, the City Law Department, outside counsel and advisors, and others to craft dynamic solutions that meet legal requirements and enable initiatives to move forward as expeditiously as possible.

The General Counsel, working with the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner for Sustainability, and other senior managers acts as liaison in all legal matters with other governmental agencies and private groups. Directs, supervises and coordinates the legal affairs of all Agency units. Reviews all publications of the Department for legal sufficiency and accuracy. Coordinates the Agency's legal activities with the Mayor's representatives and other private and public groups. Reviews and comments upon proposed legislation and regulations affecting the Department and provides guidance on their requirements. Drafts legislative and rule-making proposals to improve the ability of the Department to carry out its responsibilities. Provides legal advice and counsel as requested to the New York City Water Board. Engages in a wide variety of complex legal work having significant financial or policy consequences over the entire spectrum of agency procurement, construction contracts, ethics issues, litigation, consent decrees, local code enforcement, watershed affairs, EEO and labor law, discipline, real property acquisition and management and environmental reviews.

**Qualification Requirements**

At least ten years of experience managing legal staff in environmental, commercial and/or employment law.

A license to practice law in the State of New York.

**Essential Skills**

Comprehensive knowledge of Federal, State and local environmental laws and regulations. Knowledge of contracts, employment and civil-service law. Excellent written, verbal and negotiating skills. Ability to advise the Commissioner on all legal matters for internal and external issues.

**To Apply:**

Please submit 2 copies of your resume placing the JVN# on the upper right corner of your resume.

The JVN# is located at the lower right CORNER of this page.

NYC Department of Environmental Protection

Recruitment Office: 59-17 Junction Boulevard - 18th Floor - Flushing - NY 11373-5108

OR

Via E-mail, please submit your resume in Adobe PDF or Microsoft Word

placing the JVN# on the upper right corner of your resume as well as in the subject line to:

Recruit@dep.nyc.gov

For more information about DEP, visit us at: [www.nyc.gov/dep](http://www.nyc.gov/dep)

Appointments are subject to OMB approval

**Post Date:** 06/7/2011

**Post Until:** 06/21/2011

**JVN:** 826-11-87493-LA