



The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner



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December 4, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
And the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 4:8 - Gifts to the State, authorize the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), Office of the Commissioner, to accept a donation of used office furniture from Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) of Manchester, NH valued at approximately \$421,030, upon Governor and Council approval.

EXPLANATION

NHDES has been offered high-quality, used office desks, chairs, section partitions and storage cabinets manufactured by Evolve Systems. The donated items, which SNHU purchased between 2014 - 2019, will replace damaged, dusty, and outdated partition walls and furniture, including wooden desks and bookcases, that were purchased in the 1970s and 80s when offices were set up for paper processes. This new furniture will allow NHDES to finalize the workstation upgrades it began in the late 1990s, but was unable to complete due to funding constraints.

The donated furniture will allow NHDES to maximize the existing office space in a clean and efficient modular design. This donation will save the State the significant costs associated with purchasing and furnishing approximately 71 new workstations, and it also provides SNHU with a cost-effective, reuse option. This is clearly a "win-win" situation that also allows SNHU and NHDES to meet their environmental sustainability goals.

The attached Letter of Donation from SNHU provides additional information regarding this requested transaction. We respectfully request your approval of this item.

Robert R. Scott
Commissioner



**Southern
New Hampshire
University**

December 4, 2024

Susan A. Carlson, Chief Operations Officer
NH Department of Environmental Services
Office of the Commissioner
29 Hazen Drive/P.O. Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095

RE: Donation of Workstations

Dear Ms. Carlson,

Following systems that were put in place during the COVID pandemic, Southern New Hampshire University has adapted to a significant part of our workforce working remotely. As such, SNHU finds itself with a large surplus of high-quality office equipment which is available for distribution to other organizations. Without an effective reuse outlet for this furniture, SNHU may be forced into a situation where landfill disposal of this perfectly functional furniture would be the only other solution.

I was interested to learn that the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Service (NHDES) needs new workstations to replace substantially outdated and damaged cubicles walls and related office furniture to better enhance the health and productivity of its staff, and to create a more space-efficient working environment.

Based on recent conversations and meetings with your staff, it appears that SNHU is in a good position to fulfill NHDES' furniture needs, and in so doing, help SNHU find a preferred reuse outlet, creating a win-win situation for both agencies that also satisfies our mutual environmental sustainability goals.

For NHDES' records, the workstations were purchased between the years of 2014 and 2019. This high-quality furniture is manufactured by Evolve Systems, and is in excellent condition, as your staff will attest. The floor plan that Office Interiors designed for NHDES includes 71 workstations averaging 6' x 8' in size, with some larger workstation configurations as well.

Based on the original purchase records I was able to locate, and the basic desired configurations, each workstation is valued at approximately **\$5,930**. At 71 workstations, the total value of this donation is approximately **\$421,030**. All the furniture is immediately available for use at NHDES' convenience. NHDES' would be responsible to handle all the necessary disassembly, packaging, transport, and reassembly logistics.

If you need additional information or have any outstanding questions or concerns, please let me know. I look forward to working with NHDES on this mutually-beneficial effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Bergeron".

Christopher Bergeron

Associate Director Satellite Facilities, Facilities Management

Facilities Management

2500 North River Road | Manchester, NH 03106 | 603.645.9613 | snhu.edu