



Position Announcement

Position: **Vice President, Policy and Government Affairs**

Location: **Boston, MA**

Organization: **Northeast Clean Energy Council**

Reports to: **President**

Position Posted: **February 13, 2019**

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

NECEC (Northeast Clean Energy Council & NECEC Institute) is a clean energy business, policy and innovation organization whose mission is to build a world-class clean energy hub in the Northeast (the seven states of New York and New England), delivering global impact with economic, energy and environmental solutions. NECEC helps clean energy companies start, scale and succeed with our unique business, innovation and policy leadership.

NECEC includes the Northeast Clean Energy Council (a nonprofit business member organization), and NECEC Institute (a nonprofit focused on market development, innovation, policy development, education and communications initiatives). NECEC brings together business leaders and key stakeholders to engage in influential policy discussions and business initiatives while building connections that propel the clean energy industry forward.

POSITION BACKGROUND

Public policies are major drivers for clean energy, which operates in a highly regulated, capital-intensive industry context. All seven states in which NECEC is active have diverse clean energy policies and programs that have significant impact on the acceleration of regional clean energy companies, jobs and investment, leading to the adoption of clean energy solutions to climate challenges and reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

NECEC is a leading policy advocate, influencer and stakeholder convener participating in the development and advancement of state and regional clean energy policies across the Northeast. NECEC engages hundreds of member companies across all sectors of clean energy markets, including, solar, wind, energy storage, energy efficiency, smart grid, clean transportation, combined heat and power, fuel cells, and others. We lead efforts to develop policy positions and insights that advance clean energy market rules, economics and business models, driving clean energy growth, job creation, and acceleration of the transition to a clean economy. While NECEC's Northeast region is a leading, global clean energy region, the Northeast and other leading regions have significant policy, innovation and business challenges to be addressed to achieve sustainable, robust economies based on clean energy.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

NECEC is seeking a **Vice President of Policy and Government Affairs** to lead NECEC's policy development, legislative advocacy and regulatory reform efforts to accelerate clean

energy policies and programs across the Northeast, work with NECEC's hundreds of member companies to coordinate a strong business voice in support of policies for clean energy growth, and build and strengthen relationships with policymakers and other external stakeholders. This position is responsible for managing NECEC's small but talented team and coordinating a network of state coordinators and partners.

KEY QUALITIES SOUGHT IN IDEAL CANDIDATE

- Electricity / energy industry, policy and regulatory expertise and experience
- Stakeholder and relationship management
- State partner and coordinator management; team development
- Advocacy experience
- Fundraising experience / ability
- Spokesperson and thought leadership role
- Existing regional policy leadership relationships

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead NECEC Policy Development, Government Affairs and Advocacy efforts
- Oversee all NECEC clean energy policy development efforts and programs at the state, regional and national levels, including distributed energy resources (e.g., energy efficiency, demand response, and distributed generation); grid scale renewable and clean energy; grid modernization/21st century electricity system/ future utility business models; and clean transportation,
- Coordinate and manage all state and national government affairs efforts and relationships, including managing NECEC's Government Affairs Executive and external lobbyists and lobbying efforts
- Lead a member policy committee and working groups
- Lead NECEC's research efforts to develop updated policy positions and the shared insights and education to make the case for the value of NECEC's positions
- Coordinate with NECEC's state partners to develop and advance state-specific policy agendas
- Establish new and shepherd existing strategic relationships with policy and research organizations, aligned with common goals and related interests
- Lead NECEC's policy initiatives that combine proactive leadership positions along with reactive rapid responses to policy challenges and opportunities
- Grow relationships with policy makers in state legislatures, governors' offices and related executive agencies, and lead NECEC's team effort to educate and influence legislative policy, responding quickly to new bills and proposals affecting clean energy
- Manage NECEC's efforts in key regulatory reform initiatives, whether through interventions in utility cases, expert advisory committees to public sector initiatives, or the review and oversight of regulatory implementations of public laws
- Communicate effectively and professionally as an NECEC representative in public forums and with the media on clean energy issues
- Identify and pursue opportunities for maintaining and/or expanding NECEC's funding base through private foundation and corporate grants
- Establish and maintain key funder relationships in relation to NECEC's policy work
- Identify current research, best practices and strategies for supporting NECEC advocacy and policy work, maintaining a working knowledge of significant developments and trends in the clean energy industry
- Manage, contribute to, and edit development of policy briefs and other written products

- Ensure high quality of products and deliverables for state, regional and federal policy work
- Manage NECEC annual Clean Energy Days in various Northeast state capitals and other policy related events, including NECEC's Emerging Trends Series
- Work with NECEC's President and outsourced CFO to develop the Policy & Advocacy annual budget
- Participate as part of the senior management team with the President and Vice President of Innovation and Partnerships to manage the organization as a whole
- Manage Policy & Advocacy budgets, timelines and work plans

QUALIFICATIONS

- Comprehensive content knowledge of clean energy policies and regulations at the state, regional and federal levels
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively about those policies in a way that is easily understood by non-experts
- Minimum of 7+ years experience in related position(s)
- Passion for the mission of NECEC
- Advanced degree in public policy, public management, law, or related/relevant equivalent experience required
- Proven experience in legislative advocacy, policy development and practice, and policy research
- Highly regarded in professional circles for relevant skills and expertise
- Effective leader and team member
- Self-starter, comfortable shaping priorities and agenda within broadly-set parameters
- Expertise at developing relationships across multi-stakeholder communities and working to align stakeholder coalitions around a common set of positions
- Ability to conceptualize, plan and manage major complex projects and multiple initiatives simultaneously
- Ability to work independently as well as a collaborative member and leader of a team
- Experience in effectively managing and supervising full and part-time staff, consultants, and volunteers.
- Excellent facilitation, presentation, written and oral communication skills
- Demonstrated experience in clean energy policy research and report writing
- Demonstrated networking/partnership-building skills
- Entrepreneurial spirit
- Sense of humor
- Willingness to travel across the Northeast, and occasionally beyond the region up to 25% of the time

COMPENSATION

Salary range is commensurate with experience.

TO APPLY

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter, addressed to:

Peter Rothstein, President, prothstein@necec.org

CC: Jackie Mula, Office Manager, jmula@necec.org