**Staff Attorney – Energy Justice Program**

The Center for Biological Diversity seeks a full-time **Staff Attorney** in our **Energy Justice Program**, which wages innovative legal and policy campaigns for energy justice and a renewable, clean and equitable energy future. You can find more information on the Energy Justice program at biologicaldiversity.org/programs/energy-justice/.  This position will be located with the Program in Washington, D.C.

**General position overview:**

To fight the climate emergency and extinction crisis, we must rapidly transition our economy to clean, renewable, wildlife-friendly and democratic energy. Monopoly electric utilities and government agencies like TVA continue to heavily invest in dirty fossil fuels and actively work to obstruct this urgent transition, particularly development of distributed energy resources (DER).

The Center’s Energy Justice legal program focuses on precedent-setting legal vehicles to drive a just energy transition by pursuing federal and state litigation, participating in regulatory proceedings, and pursuing administrative petitions, all designed to combat utility corruption and the obstruction of DER and other clean energy initiatives.

We seek a highly skilled, passionate, and creative attorney to join our legal team in pursuing and expanding these initiatives before federal and state courts, FERC, state utility commissions, and other decision-makers. The position will require top-notch litigation skills, including excellent research and writing; out-of-the box creativity; and a desire to be part of a dedicated and tight-knit team of advocates. In addition to litigation and related agency advocacy, the attorney will also be involved in the other aspects of our work, including legislative advocacy and campaigning efforts across the country.

Qualified attorneys at any level of experience will be considered, but several years of relevant experience is strongly preferred, particularly energy practice before federal or state courts or agencies.

**Main duties:**

* Litigate cases in federal/state courts and before administrative agencies such as FERC that help drive the clean energy transition and combat utility and government obstacles
* Develop Rulemaking Petitions and other creative advocacy vehicles, like the Petition we submitted to FERC earlier this year (see <https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/programs/energy-justice/pdfs/FERC_Petition_Trade_Group_Dues_031721.pdf>)
* Combat utility efforts to wield their monopoly power in order to lock in reliance on fracked gas and other fossil fuel resources rather than pursuing DER options
* Assist Energy Justice team’s legislative advocacy and campaigning efforts
* Participate in utility commission and other state proceedings focused on the clean energy transition
* Some travel required.

  **Essential qualities, qualifications and skills:**

* Law degree and bar admission, and preferably several years of relevant experience before federal or state courts or agencies.
* A demonstrated ability to take initiative and think creatively about litigation and project development, and a readiness to enthusiastically lean into new project areas.
* Excellent legal research and writing skills.
* Excellent oral advocacy skills, including public speaking experience and confidence.
* A demonstrated ability to work both independently and with a team.
* Familiarity with relevant legal advocacy tools preferred, including utility rate-making principles and relevant federal statutes (e.g., Federal Power Act; EPCA; NEPA; APA; FOIA).
* The ability to balance multiple tasks and deadlines in a busy environment.
* Passion to fight for the urgent and just clean energy future we need and deserve.

**Salary Range:** $52,000 - $72,000 DOE

**Benefits Package:**

* Paid generous medical, dental, vision, disability and life insurance
* 403(b) plan with opportunity for match
* Generous time-off policies
* Relaxed work atmosphere

**Application process:**

Please apply online by submitting **a single .pdf document** that contains your cover letter, resume, law school transcript (unofficial is fine), writing sample (of less than 10 pages) and a list of 3 references (we will not contact references without discussing with you first).

The position will remain open until filled, and we anticipate beginning the interview process in September.

No telephone calls, please. Only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.

The Center for Biological Diversity deeply values, and is committed to sustaining and promoting, both biological and cultural diversity. We welcome, embrace and respect diversity of people, identities and cultures. We are committed to fostering an organizational culture of diversity and inclusion. The Center believes staff and board diversity is critical to saving life on Earth.

**We are an equal opportunity employer.**