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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director & Senior Attorney, California Climate Initiative, Environmental Defense Fund
San Francisco, CA (March 2007 – present)

Positions held at EDF: Senior Attorney (2014 – present)
Director (2011 – present)
Climate Change Policy Analyst and Attorney (2009 – 2011)
Regulatory Advocate (2007 – 2008)

- Currently manage EDF advocacy at California agencies and legislature on the implementation of climate change and transportation policy with particular focus on methane leakage, oil and gas production, low carbon fuels and vehicles, natural gas utilization, clean energy and heavy industry emissions. In this role, I direct and lead the organization's participation within a consortium of environmental, business, utility and transportation advocates; including developing consensus positions, negotiating with state agencies, preparing outreach materials, and interfacing directly with elected officials, policy makers and the media.
- To support organization advocacy, I design, organize and manage the development and release of original research reports and major policy briefing memos; including use of external professional and academic consultants on issues of economics, public health protection and public policy. These reports have been used and cited in regulatory proceedings, legislative deliberations and court filings to support public policy positions of EDF.
- Personally lead and manage development and sponsorship of statewide legislation on issues like natural gas (SB 1371 – 2014 & AB 1257 - 2013), gas and diesel fuel markets (SB 448 – 2013), ozone depleting substances (AB 1373 – 2009) and greenhouse gas emissions offsets (AB 374 – 2008), as well as coalition-building and advocacy on dozens more.
- Represent EDF in state and federal courts, commissions and agencies both as a formal party and amicus curiae (see below for further details). Issues adjudicated include natural gas, low carbon fuels standards, cap and trade, carbon offsets, power plant siting and divestment, electric vehicles, smart grids, energy storage and alternative fuels. Engagements require regular direct interaction with senior personnel and commissioners within state executive and legal offices.
- Personally supervised teams of staff and professional consultants over the past six years to conduct research, writing and external advocacy within state agencies, courts and the legislature.

Senior Air Quality Inspector, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Enforcement Division
San Francisco Bay Area, CA (Sep. 2001 – Dec. 2006)

Positions held at BAAQMD: Senior Air Quality Inspector (2005 – 2006)
Air Quality Inspector II (2003 – 2004)
Air Quality Inspector I (2001 – 2003)

- Performed environmental enforcement, audits and rule development at one of the nation's leading air quality regulatory agencies by conducting on-site assessment of environmental management systems and plant operations with an emphasis on petroleum refineries, landfills, power plants, fuel terminals, natural gas production sites, and heavy industrial manufacturing facilities.

Inspection duties included operations and engineering analysis to evaluate compliance with state and federal laws and permits, investigating violations and air pollution release events, and leading industry compliance and rule development audits.

- As a senior staff member in the enforcement division, collaborated with outside enforcement agencies in task forces and case development; coordinated with in-house legal counsel and local District Attorneys; and assisted agency engineers perform permit renewals and revisions.
- Assisted new regulation development through writing and reviewing drafts of new and amended rules and policies, participating in community workshops and industry workgroups, designing and implementing industry audits, and preparing briefing reports for agency management.

Law Clerk, U.S. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division
San Francisco, CA (Sep. 2005 – Dec. 2005)

- Researched, drafted memoranda and court filings for ongoing CERCLA and Clean Water Act cases. Briefed cases and regulations for staff attorneys; organized and summarized expert witness filings; participated in case management using CaseMap software; reviewed case documents prior to filing; attended settlement conferences for an ongoing Superfund case.

NNEMS Fellow, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air Quality
Research Triangle Park, NC (June 2000 – May 2001)

- Provided vital technical and organization assistance for a national conference on animal feeding operations and air quality. Performed air monitoring at swine waste lagoons using federal reference method particulate sampling devices and analysis techniques.

EDUCATION

JURIS DOCTOR, Dec. 2006 | Golden Gate University School of Law, San Francisco, CA
Concentration Certificates: Env. Law, Public Interest Law
Study abroad: University of Florida, Costa Rica Env. Law Program, Summer 2005

MASTER OF ENV. MANAGEMENT, May 2001 | Duke University, Durham, NC
Nicholas School of the Env., *Concentration:* Environmental toxicology, chemistry and risk assessment.
Master's thesis: Particulate matter formation at an open air swine waste lagoon.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, August 1998 | University of Oregon, Eugene, OR
Major: Environmental studies. *Minor:* Biology
Studies abroad: University of Iceland, Summer 1997, Semester at Sea, Fall 1997

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- District of Columbia Court of Appeals (application pending)
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Admitted 2012)
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California (Admitted 2012)
- State Bar of California, Bar # 250490, active (Admitted July 2007)
- Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) issued by the Institute of Professional Environmental Practice, Pittsburgh, PA (03/2007), (expired)
- Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) certification (2003), (expired)

RELEVANT RESEARCH & MEDIA

- O'Connor, Hsia, and Koehler, Driving California Forward, Public Health and Societal Economic Benefits of California's AB 32 Transportation Fuel Policies, June 2014
Available at: www.edf.org/drivingcaliforniaforward
- O'Connor, Viewpoints: "Explosions are not the only danger of natural gas leaks", Sacramento Bee, June 2014
- O'Connor and Holmes-Gen, Opinion: "January countdown: Fuel policy good for health — and wallet", Capitol Weekly, May 2014
- Hsia, Reyna and O'Connor, California Carbon Market Watch, A Comprehensive Analysis Of The Golden State's Cap-And-Trade Program / Year One 2012–2013, January 2014
Available at: www.edf.org/climate/cap-and-trade-emissions-reductions-low-cost
- O'Connor, Dewey, McKenzie, Roberts and Skowronski, Invest to Grow: Investing AB 32 Proceeds to Grow California's Clean and Efficient Economy, 2012
Available at: www.edf.org/invest-to-grow
- Herter, O'Connor and Navarro, Evaluation Framework for Smart Grid Deployment Plans: A Systematic Approach for Assessing Plans to Benefit Customers and the Environment. Herter Energy Research Solutions, 2011
- O'Connor, Anderson, Carlin and Fisher, Policy Recommendations for Selection & Development of Offshore Geologic Carbon Sequestration Projects Within Texas State Waters, prepared for U.S. Department of Energy, 2011
- O'Connor and Pasciucco, Green Jobs Guidebook: Employment Opportunities in the New Clean Economy, 2009

RELEVANT TECHNICAL & POLICY WORKING GROUPS

- Bay Area Air Quality Management District Advisory Council (2012 – present)
- California Air Resources Board, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Protocol for Mine Methane Offsets in the California Cap-and-trade regulation Working Group (2013)
- Center on Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES), GHG Accounting Method for Carbon Capture and Sequestration Projects Working Group (2011)
- California Air Resources Board, Air Quality Guidance for Siting Biorefineries in California Working Group (2011)
- Climate Action Reserve, Landfill Methane Project Protocol Working Group (2009)
- Western Governors Association, Western Regional Air Partnership, Oil and Gas Production Technical Workgroup (2009)
- Climate Action Reserve Livestock Manure Management Protocol Working Group (2007)

RELEVANT PROCEEDINGS & CASES

- (Ongoing) R. 15-01-008, Rulemaking to Adopt Rules and Procedures Governing Commission Regulated Natural Gas Pipelines and Facilities to Reduce Natural Gas Leakage Consistent with Senate Bill 1371; Currently represent EDF as a Party before the CPUC
- (Ongoing) A.14-11-003 and A.14-11-004, Applications of San Diego Gas & Electric Company and Southern California Gas Corporation to Establish Electric and Gas Rates for Service Effective on January 1, 2016; Currently represent EDF as a Party before the CPUC
- (Ongoing) Rocky Mountain Farmers Union v. Corey, Case no: 1:09-cv-02234-LJO-BAM Currently act as co-counsel for EDF as an Intervenor-Defendant in Support of California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) before the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California; Favorable decisions rendered in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and U.S. Supreme Court
- (Ongoing) R.14-03-003, Rulemaking to Address Natural Gas Distribution Utility Cost and Revenue Issues Associated with Greenhouse Gas Emissions, California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC); Currently supervise EDF's participation as a Party before the CPUC
- (Ongoing) Doc. 08-AFC-08A, Application for the Hydrogen Energy California Power Plant Project ("HECA"), California Energy Commission (CEC); Currently represent EDF as a Party in support of environmental integrity standards related to the use of carbon dioxide for sequestration in the Elk Hills Oil field
- Our Children's Earth et al., v. California Air Resources Board, Case No. A138830; Represented EDF as an Intervenor-Defendant in Support of California's cap-and-trade regulation before the California Court of Appeal, Final judgment issued in 2015 in support of EDF position
- Docket No. ER12-1856-000, et al., Order 741 tariff filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) by the California Independent System Operator (CalISO) (2012 – 2013); Represented EDF as an Intervenor-Party in support of the CAISO before the FERC
- A.11-06-006, Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902E) for Adoption of its Smart Grid Deployment Plan (2011); Represented EDF as a Party in comment on SDG&E's deployment plan; Final decision issued in support of EDF position
- A.10-11-010, Application of Southern California Edison Company (U 338-E) for Approval to Sell its Interest in Four Corners Generating Station before the CPUC (2010 – 2011); Represented EDF as a party in support of divestment; Final decision issued in support of EDF position
- R.10-12-007, Rulemaking Pursuant To Assembly Bill 2514 to Consider the Adoption of Procurement Targets for Energy Storage Systems (2010 - 2011); Represented EDF as a Party; Final decision issued in partial support of EDF position
- California Energy Comm. v. Superior Court of the State of California, Riverside, Case No. RIC10005849 (2010); Amicus Curiae Brief submitted to the California Supreme Court in support of CEC Program; Final judgment issued in 2010 in support of EDF position
- R.09-08-009, Rulemaking on alternative-fueled vehicle tariffs, infrastructure, and policies to support California's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals. (2009 – 2010); Represented EDF as a party before the CPUC; Final decision issued in 2010 in support of EDF position

RELEVANT PRESENTATIONS

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Climate Leadership Conference, “Contribution of California’s AB 32 to Economy-Wide Pollution Reductions Amid Economic Recovery” Washington D.C (Feb. 23, 2015)
- California Biodiesel Association, Annual Conference, “Domestic and International significance (Environmental and Economic) of California’s Fuel Transition”, Sacramento, CA (Feb. 4, 2015)
- State Bar of California, Annual Environment Law Conference at Yosemite, “Expansion of Cap-and-Trade to Cover the Transportation Sector”, Fish Camp, CA (2014)
- Argus California Carbon Summit, ”General Session: Cap-and-Trade Today and the Upcoming Role of Fuel Markets”, Napa, CA (2014)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Western Climate Collaborative Partners Meeting, “Natural Gas for Goods Movement: Current and Future Emissions Performance”, San Francisco (2014)
- California Energy Commission, Integrated Energy Policy Report Workshop Presentation, “Natural Gas Market Assessment and Methane Leakage”, Sacramento, CA, (2014)
- Environmental Defense Fund, National Reporter Briefing, “Driving California Forward, A Report on Public Health and Societal Economic Benefits of California’s AB 32 Transportation Fuel Policies: LCFS and Cap-and-Trade Regulations”, San Francisco, CA (2014)
- Law Seminars International, California AB 32 Update, “California Carbon Market Watch: A comprehensive analysis of the Golden State’s cap-and-trade program, YEAR ONE: 2012-2013”, San Francisco, CA (2014)
- University of California, Davis, Conference on Policy and Land Use Change, “California Low Carbon Fuel Standard, Incentives and Legal Constraints to Avoid Land Use Change”, Davis, CA (2014)
- National Biodiesel Board, National Conference, “State Policy Update, California Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS)”, San Diego, CA (2014)
- University of California, Irvine, 1st Annual Conference on Environment and Energy “Energy Development and Environmental Protection”, Irvine, CA, (2013)
- Navigating the American Carbon World, “Crossing the Ice Field: Key Legal Topics for California Climate Initiatives”, San Francisco, CA (2013)
- California Independent Energy Producers Association Annual Meeting, “AB 32 & Cap and trade ‘Nuts and bolts’”, Lake Tahoe, CA (2012)
- Navigating the American Carbon World, “Rocky Shoals: Legal Issues Lurking in Shallow Waters”, San Francisco, CA (2012)
- International Energy Agency, 3rd IEA International CCS Regulatory Network Meeting, “NGO Perspectives of CCS Developments”, Paris, France (2011)