



## **Job Title: Energy Policy & Community Advocate**

### **Position Opportunity:**

The Susitna River Coalition (SRC) is seeking a dynamic, driven professional to engage with communities, policymakers, and stakeholders to advance renewable energy initiatives and advocate for the stewardship of the Susitna Watershed. This position offers the opportunity to work on diverse projects, grow professionally, and make a meaningful impact in Alaska's conservation and energy landscapes.

### **About the Susitna River Coalition**

Founded in 2011, the Susitna River Coalition began as a grassroots organization dedicated to opposing the proposed Susitna-Watana Dam, which posed a significant threat to wildlife, recreation, and local economies throughout the Susitna Watershed. Thanks to the tireless efforts of advocates across Alaska, the dam is not an immediate threat—but SRC remains vigilant as the potential for development persists.

Since its inception, SRC has grown into one of Alaska's only grassroots conservation organizations based between Anchorage and Fairbanks, representing a region that is both one of the state's fastest-growing and a critical ecological resource. With an all-volunteer board, a small but dedicated staff, and over 14,000 members, SRC is committed to protecting the 312-mile free-flowing Susitna River and the vibrant communities and ecosystems it supports.

### **Why Join SRC?**

As a key member of the SRC team, you will contribute to a legacy of grassroots conservation success, engaging with Alaskans to protect one of the state's most treasured natural resources. This role offers a unique opportunity to drive meaningful change, collaborate with passionate advocates, and help shape the future of the Susitna Valley and Alaska's conservation and energy landscapes.

- Work in a collaborative, small-team environment with significant local and statewide influence.
- Opportunities for constant learning and creative problem-solving.
- Be part of an organization experiencing growth and increased impact.

- Engaged board, vibrant community, and strong grassroots support.
- Flexible hours, remote work options, and opportunities for travel to engage with diverse communities.

If you are passionate about renewable energy, watershed protection, and grassroots advocacy, we invite you to apply and join SRC in its mission to protect the Susitna River for generations to come.

## **Key Responsibilities**

### **Strategic Outreach and Advocacy**

- Effectively communicate SRC's vision of watershed stewardship to diverse audiences.
- Stay well-informed on SRC's major activities and priorities, such as:
  - Opposition to the Susitna Dam.
  - West Susitna Mining Road and Susitna Valley development projects.
  - Fish passage and culvert issues.
  - Renewable energy initiatives and railbelt electricity politics.
- Engage with the community to understand their needs and concerns.

### **Energy and Utility Engagement**

- **Utility Elections and Advocacy:**
  - Engage candidates, organize forums, and elevate awareness of Matanuska Electric Association (MEA) elections.
  - Lead MEA candidate recruitment, campaign planning, voter outreach, and education.
  - Build relationships with utility Board members and staff through regular communication.
  - Attend utility board meetings (virtual or in-person).
- **Representation in Energy Conversations:**
  - Facilitate and lead SRC-led working groups, including agenda preparation and meeting facilitation.
  - Represent SRC's interests in Alaska Renewables coalitions and other related spaces.
  - Monitor Alaska Energy Authority activities and legislative sessions to track developments relevant to renewable energy and watershed priorities.
  - Develop narratives to communicate policy impacts to SRC, our communities, and legislators.

### **Renewable Energy Outreach and Engagement**

- Research emerging renewable technologies and their applications.
- Collaborate with Native communities, NGOs, and other stakeholders to address climate impacts.
- Manage SRC's project endorsement process.
- Develop and distribute materials such as infographics, flyers, social media content, newsletters, and website updates to effectively engage and inform our audience.
- Organize and execute events that build community engagement in Mat-Su region conservation and energy initiatives.

### **Other Duties**

- Support inventory, mailing, and administrative tasks.
- Monitor local coal, gas, and other resource extraction projects.
- Attend approximately six evening community council meetings per year to provide updates on relevant issues and engage with the community.

## Preferred Skills and Qualifications

A strong candidate will possess most of these skills and qualifications, but we encourage you to apply even if you don't meet all the listed criteria.

### Skills

- **Communication and Outreach:**
  - Strong verbal and written communication skills to connect with diverse audiences.
  - Experience creating outreach materials such as newsletters, infographics, and social media content.
  - Ability to translate complex policies into clear, engaging messages.
- **Advocacy and Leadership:**
  - Experience in community organizing and volunteer engagement.
  - Strong facilitation skills, including agenda creation and meeting leadership.
  - Ability to mobilize individuals for advocacy campaigns and public testimony.
- **Project and Event Management:**
  - Proven ability to plan and execute both virtual and in-person events.
  - Capable of managing multiple projects and priorities effectively.
  - Ability to build and maintain partnerships with stakeholders and community leaders.
- **Policy and Energy Knowledge:**
  - Familiarity with renewable energy policies, utility operations, and legislative processes.
  - Understanding of Alaska's conservation issues, including hydropower and fish passage.
  - Capacity to analyze and communicate complex topics to varied audiences.
- **Technical Proficiency:**
  - Skilled in tools like Canva, Adobe Creative Suite, MailChimp, and WordPress.
  - Proficient in managing social media platforms to reach broader audiences.
  - Experienced with office productivity tools such as MS Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and/or Google Workspace (Docs, Sheets, Slides).
  - Photography, video editing, and basic graphic design skills (preferred).

### Background

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience in Environmental Science, Public Policy, Communications, or a related field.
- 1-3 years of experience in community engagement, renewable energy, or environmental advocacy.
- Experience working with Mat-Su communities or Alaska-based issues is a plus.
- Computer literacy, including proficiency in MS Office Suite or Google Workspace, database management, spreadsheets, social media, newsletters, and basic website maintenance.
- Mat-Su Borough residency preferred.

## Personal Attributes

- Passion for conservation and renewable energy.
- Self-starter with the ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- Highly organized, with a balance of creativity and practical problem-solving.
- Sense of humor and adaptability in a fast-paced environment.

## Salary and Benefits

- **Compensation:** \$25–\$30 per hour for a  $\frac{3}{4}$  time position (negotiable for an ideal candidate).
- **Paid Time Off:** 13 paid holidays plus paid time off between Christmas and New Year's and 10 PTO days annually, equivalent to three weeks of paid time off based on a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -time schedule.
- **Retirement Match:** 5% retirement match after one year of employment.
- **Remote Work Stipend:** Monthly stipend to support remote work.
- **Additional Benefits:** Opportunities for travel and professional development

## How to Apply

To apply for the Energy Policy & Community Advocate position, please submit the following materials:

- A cover letter detailing your interest in and qualifications for the position.
- Your resume.
- Contact information for two professional references.

Send your application materials via email to [Melis@susitnarivercoalition.org](mailto:Melis@susitnarivercoalition.org). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Our goal is to onboard the successful candidate by January 16, 2025.

## Equal Opportunity Employer

The Susitna River Coalition provides equal employment opportunities to all individuals regardless of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran status, or disability.