



## Deputy Director, Water Policy

### Summary

The Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC) has an expanding program on water infrastructure, federal and state policy, and transforming the role of 'trust' in water services. We are taking on ambitious efforts to make drinking water better and its delivery and pricing fairer for all Americans, and to also improve the treatment of wastewater and stormwater for people and the environment. We believe America's water utilities can be more effective at strengthening customer trust, improving their focus on equity and health, and financing infrastructure while providing drinking water and enhancing water quality and quantity for nature. We have an opening for an experienced water leader who can help us achieve these goals. The position has significant flexibility in roles and responsibilities, depending on the skills, experience, and interest of the successful candidate.

### About EPIC

The Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC) builds policies that deliver spectacular improvement in the speed and scale of environmental progress. A nonprofit start-up, EPIC is committed to finding and highlighting the best approaches to scaling up results quickly. EPIC focuses on clean water, endangered species, environmental markets and the use of data and technology in producing conservation outcomes. Our recently released report, [H<sub>2</sub>Equity: Rebuilding a Fair System of Water Services for America](#), outlines strategies to get at the root causes of and key obstacles to health equity in water infrastructure, and will form the basis for planned work in the coming year. EPIC operates through a fiscal sponsorship with the Sand County Foundation.

### Position Description

We are seeking someone, on contract or as full-time employee, to help us create, advocate, collaborate, and advance projects on a wide range of topics including federal and state financing of water infrastructure, trust in water utilities, and federal advocacy of equity priorities in water infrastructure legislation and policies. We are looking for someone with significant experience with water utilities, EPA or state agencies, water finance, and the intersection of health, water, and infrastructure. Responsibilities could vary depending on the interests and qualifications of the successful candidate but likely include: coordination with partner groups and government agencies, outreach to water utilities, outreach to water technology companies, data synthesis and analysis, writing, interviews, cold calls, and facilitating dialogue among water infrastructure experts, community groups, tribes, and investors with water infrastructure interests.

### Responsibilities

#### **Lead parts of our strategy for water infrastructure and equity, in partnership with our Director of Water**

- Develop and implement strategic plan to make progress on new federal water policies or utility approaches to them.
- Develop and manage an extensive network of contacts with water utilities, government agencies, and nonprofit partners.
- Expedite nationwide or regional efforts to replace toxic lead water pipes, expand infrastructure financing for struggling small cities, and expand innovative use of and support for green infrastructure.
- Exhibit leadership in organizing convenings and public events to highlight prominent issues and solutions.
- Take a prominent role in developing and publishing 4-6 reports and other media such as op-eds and blog posts.



**Support analytical work that is critical to understanding government and utility programs, policies, and initiatives that affect equity, health outcomes, water conservation, and consumer trust of water supplies**

- Track and analyze existing and emerging regulations and programs.
- Pursue opportunities to create and advance new ideas in government or private support for water infrastructure.
- Identify and participate in industry working groups, associations, and nonprofit collaborations

### Qualifications

**Candidates must have:**

- Bachelor's degree required. Graduate degree (MBA, MS, MEM, MF, or MPA) preferred.
- 4+ years' experience in one or more of the following areas: municipal water utility management, state or federal level water policy, philanthropic support for water infrastructure, or community engagement on drinking water and water services.
- Empathy for communities who continue to suffer from inadequate, unaffordable, and unsafe water services and a passion for developing programs and policies that help them get better water services.

**We will prioritize candidates who can bring:**

- A network of contacts within water organizations and fields.
- Experience with innovative conservation finance and private sector investment strategies in sustainability.
- Expertise with federal and state-level environmental laws, regulations, requirements, and programs such as Clean Water Act, state and federal water permits, and Safe Drinking Water Act.
- Familiarity with offset and nutrient trading programs.
- Environmental advocacy experience.
- Track record of successful fundraising.
- Familiarity with green infrastructure solutions for flood risks.
- Strong people and program management skills.
- Strong analytical and research skills.
- Creative thinking.
- Excellent communications skills.

### Location

Depending on pandemic-related conditions, this position normally requires periodic travel to meetings, conferences, and other events. Work other than travel is done either in an office environment at EPIC's Washington, DC office or at the candidate's home office.

### Compensation and time commitment

EPIC offers competitive compensation commensurate with experience as well as a generous benefits package.

### Applying

Qualified candidates should send an email to Dr. Sri Vedachalam (Director of Water) at [sri@policyinnovation.org](mailto:sri@policyinnovation.org) with "Deputy Director Position" in the subject line. Please include a resume and a cover letter. You may also provide any supporting documents we should consider in evaluating your candidacy (e.g., writing samples).

As we describe above, we know **there is not one ideal candidate who has all these traits** so if you have a mix of interests, skills, and experience related to the above – and a passion for this work – **please don't let a gap in your strengths for this role stop you from applying or reaching out.** Thanks for your interest in the position.