

Nutrient Pollution Policy and Markets, Senior Analyst

Summary

One of the Environmental Policy Innovation Center's (EPIC) top goals is to speed up the pace and scale of ecological restoration and environmental outcomes delivery in the U.S. so that it can match the need for improved water quality, increase our resilience to the effects of climate change, and provide additional co-benefits to communities. A key strategy to achieve this is to increase demand for environmental outcomes from both public and private buyers. Another of our top goals is to expand financing for water infrastructure needed to provide safe drinking water, treat wastewater, and enhance water quality and quantity for nature.

We have an opening for a senior analyst who will help us achieve these goals and implement our strategies, by focusing on Clean Water Act and Farm Bill-driven nutrient and stormwater pollution programs at the national and state level. The position has significant flexibility in roles and responsibilities, depending on the skills, experience and interest of the successful candidate. Given this flexibility to mold the position, we welcome applications from candidates who may not feel they have expertise in every area of the position responsibilities, but who have interest and some expertise in many of the job elements.

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 2019 report, [H₂Equity: 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. The [background on this page](#) describes our shared program on agriculture-municipal partnerships. The background and strategies provided in these resources will serve as the framework within which this position operates.

Position Description

We are seeking someone, either as a full-time employee, or on contract, to help us create, advocate, collaborate, and advance projects on a wide range of topics related to expanding funding and financing for conservation programs that generate clean water and ecosystem restoration outcomes. The Senior Analyst will work on uncovering [and advocating/clarifying] national policy and funding opportunities to support municipal-agricultural partnerships and conservation outcomes procurement. This includes work on EPA (Clean Water Act) nutrient and stormwater policies, expanding and clarifying eligibilities for EPA funding and financing to support outcomes procurement, and on USDA programs that similarly can better support ag-muni partnerships and conservation outcomes. This effort is particularly important during the first two years of the Biden-Harris administration. The position will likely also focus on opportunities to expand policy, funding and market development for expanding the pace and scale of ecological restoration that restores degraded and damaged landscapes and ecosystems.

We believe it is essential to recommend new ways for EPA (and USDA) to support approaches that allow voluntary pollution reductions from agricultural lands to contribute to compliance-related objectives of cities, point sources, and states. Improvements in government procurement policies also must make it easier for government to pay for environmental outcomes (like nutrient pollution reductions) after they are delivered. Likewise, it is critical for policy to support greater private investment in water quality improvements through establishing regulatory drivers and enabling conditions. Market- and watershed-based programs must build in co-benefits like environmental justice and this position will play a leading role in recommending program and procurement innovations to support maximizing the delivery of human health and equity co-benefits.

Responsibilities

- **Lead parts of our strategy focused on improving government procurement, private investment, and public policy innovations focused on creating an enabling environment and regulatory drivers for water quality and nutrient pollution.**
- **Support analytical and policy work that is critical to understanding: EPA and utility programs and permits, USDA policies and initiatives, and private investment opportunities and constraints regarding water quality outcomes and offsets.**

Qualifications

Candidates must have:

- Bachelor's degree required. Graduate degree (MBA, MS, MEM, MF, or MPA) preferred.
- 2+ years experience in one or more of the following areas: water pollution reduction strategies, state or federal level water policy, environmental advocacy, environmental finance and markets, or conservation policy focused on agriculture.
- Empathy for people and ability to craft policy, financing, and program solutions that reflect the realities of everyday life.
- Excellent communications skills.

We will prioritize candidates who can bring:

- A network of contacts within agricultural organizations and government agencies.
- 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.
- 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.

Location

This position normally requires periodic travel to meetings, conferences, and other events, but that may be revised depending on pandemic-related conditions. The preferred location for this position is EPIC's Washington, DC office but we are open to considering other arrangements and expect the Senior Analyst to be able to work remotely for a significant portion of their time.

Compensation and time commitment

EPIC offers competitive compensation commensurate with experience, as well as providing a generous benefits package. The salary for this position is \$70,000 per year.

Diversity and Inclusion

We are an equal opportunity employer that is committed to being a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and anti-racist workplace. We are committed to creating a workplace where people from all social identities and backgrounds feel welcome and can thrive. We believe that rich diversity makes us more innovative, competitive, and creative, which helps us better serve our funders, collaborators, and communities.

Applying

Qualified candidates should send an email to Phoebe Higgins (Director of Markets and Technology) at phiggins@policyinnovation.org with “Senior Analyst” 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).

We know there is not one ideal candidate who has all the traits described above, so if you have a mix of interests, skills, and experience related to the position description – 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.