



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DUTY STATEMENT

CEC-004 (Revised 2/2022)

Classification(s): Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

Working Title: Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

Position Numbers: 535-320-0765-001/535-320-0765-002

Division/Branch: Energy Research and Development/Energy Generation Research

Collective Bargaining Identifier (CBID): R10

Work Week Group (WWG): 2

Effective Date: August 2022

Conflict of Interest (COI): Yes No

If yes, this position is responsible for making or participating in the making of governmental decisions that may potentially have a material effect on personal financial interests. The appointee is required to complete Form 700 within 30 days of appointment, which identifies pertinent personal financial information.

Job Description

Under the general direction of the Energy Resources Specialist III (Supervisor) in the Renewable Energy and Advanced Generation Unit, the incumbent supports strategic research, development, and deployment (RD&D) grant investments to advance technologies, including solar, wind, geothermal energy generation coupled with lithium recovery, and low-carbon fuels (e.g., bioenergy, renewable hydrogen) production to meet the state's energy policy objectives. The incumbent is at the advanced journey level and independently identifies problems, develops courses of action, and conducts critical and/or sensitive scientific investigations and studies and may also prepare guidance, policy, planning, or regulatory documents. The incumbent independently performs the following complex, sensitive, and difficult technical duties: (1) analyzes innovative materials and processes relating to innovative renewable energy technology; (2) conducts analyses on public health and environmental attributes relating to the lifecycle of renewable energy technology innovations; (3) develops and manages RD&D grant solicitations and grant agreements implemented by the Energy Commission's research partners, including for solar technology; and (4) develops recommendations on research initiatives and delivers written summaries and oral presentations.

Specified activities require knowledge in chemical science, materials science, or related fields. Knowledge in ecological principles, marine science, solar perovskite materials and devices, or related fields, or experience in research and development is strongly desired.

Essential Duties

- 50% Lead advanced journey level research to identify and advance opportunities for renewable energy technology research, development, and deployment (RD&D) to support California's zero carbon goals. Apply scientific methods to identify and research problems, opportunities, and courses of action associated with the design of renewable energy technology and its associated public health or environmental impacts. Topics may include solar technology material and module design to optimize cost and efficiency while minimizing use of hazardous materials, hydrogen production and fuel cell chemistry approaches to optimize costs and efficiencies while minimizing toxic air pollution, emissions monitoring from gas combustion, wind energy technology designs to minimize oceanographic or end-of-life impacts, and lithium recovery methods based on geothermal brine composition. Research and use scientific literature, databases, and other sources of reliable information to identify and evaluate complex and sensitive data. Develop techniques for handling and analyzing a large variety of detailed data. Apply findings to applicable manufacturing specifications or investment plans to recommend course of action. Prepare detailed scientific summaries of findings to inform future investment areas and application requirements for grant solicitations.
- 30% Manage complex generation technology RD&D grant agreements implemented by the Commission's research partners, such as startups, established firms, non-profit research institutions, and universities. Use scientific expertise in environmental and sustainability issues, chemical properties, material science, or a combination of these to inform the design and scope of renewable energy production and generation research. Coordinate with other subject matter experts to evaluate and provide feedback on project activities and deliverables. Establish and maintain project priorities by developing work plans, budgets, and amendments. Evaluate and provide feedback on project activities and deliverables, including test plans, methods, and results, to ensure alignment with project objectives, technical accuracy, completeness, and clarity. Oversee grant fund expenditures by reviewing invoices. Foster productive partnerships with contractors and recipients. Implement best practices in grant management.
- 15% Manage the development of grant solicitations by conducting research, collaborating with other Energy Commission staff, and participating in high level discussions. Lead or support the unit's development of solicitations by evaluating and developing metrics and solicitation requirements for public health and environmental benefits. Provide strong scientific leadership by leading and participating in technical review and scoring teams to ensure projects address the solicitation criteria, including technical abilities to advance science or technology and public health and environmental benefits. Develop and deliver written summaries and oral presentations and briefings to support planning and decision-making of the Energy Commission. Identify, consult, and coordinate with relevant subject matter experts in academic and research organizations; federal, state, and local government agencies; national laboratories; utilities; and other entities.

Marginal Duties

- 5% Perform other duties as required, consistent with the specifications of the classification.

Working Conditions

The California Energy Commission offers a hybrid workplace model that is designed to support a distributed workforce of both office-based and remote-centric workers that relies on a high level of

telework. Limited-in person attendance and occasional travel may be required based on the needs of the division. Regular and consistent attendance - whether office-based or remote-centric - is essential to the successful performance in this position. This position is remote-centered, which means the incumbent works 50 percent or more of their time monthly from an alternate work location (i.e., teleworking).

Diversity and Inclusion Statement

As a state agency serving all Californians, the California Energy Commission is committed to being an organization that embodies diversity, equity, and inclusion. The Energy Commission plays an active and meaningful role in creating an environment that enables each employee to thrive.

Employee’s Acknowledgement: I certify that I am able to perform, with or without the assistance of a reasonable accommodation, the essential duties of this position.

Employee’s Name (Print): _____

Employee’s Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Supervisor’s Acknowledgment: I certify this duty statement represents a current and accurate description of the essential functions of this position. I have discussed the duties of this position with and provided the above-named employee a copy of this duty statement.

Supervisor’s Name (Print): Daphne Molin _____

Supervisor’s Signature: _____ **Date:** _____