

Career Pathway Spotlight

Discover a Career in Regulatory & Government Affairs



Discover your career in energy!

Government affairs professionals shape the rules, laws, and stakeholder relationships that determine how the energy industry operates — from rate cases and climate policy to legislative campaigns and partnerships.

Policy Research and Analysis

Energy policy analysts and economists study how rules, taxes, and incentives shape the energy industry. They write briefing papers, model the cost of new programs, and advise leaders on which policies will help meet climate and affordability goals.

Regulatory Filings and Proceedings

At utilities, regulatory affairs and tariff analysts prepare the filings that keep operations on track with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and state public utility commissions. They build rate cases, file reports, and respond to data requests.

Government Affairs and Stakeholder Engagement

In statehouses, on Capitol Hill, and in Tribal council chambers, government affairs specialists track legislation, brief lawmakers, and represent energy companies. Stakeholder and Tribal relations staff build long-term partnerships that keep major projects moving and local communities heard.

CAREER PATH

Start with:

- » A high school diploma or GED

Get Educated:

- » A bachelor's degree
 - Political science, public policy, economics, or environmental policy
- » A master's degree for senior policy or analyst roles
- » A military or government service pathway
 - Congressional staff, agency internships, or military policy roles

Specialize With:

Knowledge in:

- » Clean and renewable energy policy
- » Energy supply and fuel prices
- » Energy equity and justice
- » Climate and emissions policy
- » State, regional, or federal energy regulation

OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS

- » Strong analytical and critical thinking abilities
- » Sharp attention to detail in research and writing
- » Clear, persuasive written and verbal communication skills
- » Curiosity about energy systems, markets, and regulation
- » Strong interpersonal skills and keen political awareness
- » Comfort with data analysis and policy modeling tools
- » Adaptability across hearings, briefings, and public forums

BENEFITS

These energy industry careers offer:

- » Strong demand at utilities, government agencies, and advocacy groups
- » Competitive pay with policy-shaping influence
- » Growth into director, vice president, or executive roles
- » Specialize in clean energy, equity, or regulation
- » Meaningful work shaping the energy transition

What Might You Do In Regulatory & Government Affairs?

ENTRY LEVEL

1-4 years

What you will do:

- » Researching state and federal energy rules and tracking legislative developments daily
- » Drafting policy briefs, regulatory comments, and memos for senior review
- » Attending public hearings, agency meetings, and stakeholder events with senior staff
- » Building tracking spreadsheets and dashboards for active regulatory proceedings and bills
- » Supporting rate case work, data requests, and discovery responses for regulators
- » Following confidentiality, lobbying disclosure, and ethics rules in all settings

MID- CAREER

5-8 years

- » Independently leading regulatory filings, rate case workstreams, and policy proposals
- » Drafting comments to FERC, state commissions, and federal agencies on energy issues
- » Using AI-assisted research tools to analyze new policy and legislative trends
- » Briefing executives and lobbying lawmakers on company priorities and positions
- » Coordinating with attorneys, engineers, and operations teams on regulatory submissions
- » Mentoring junior analysts and reviewing their research and writing products

EXPERIENCED

8+ years

- » Leading regulatory and government affairs strategy across the entire energy company
- » Setting company positions on rate design, climate policy, and reliability issues
- » Driving public affairs campaigns, coalition work, and major regulatory settlements
- » Adopting new technology like AI policy modeling and digital advocacy tools
- » Coordinating with executives, regulators, elected officials, and Tribal governments
- » Mentoring mid-career analysts and shaping recruiting, training, and career advancement pathways

What knowledge, skills and abilities will you need to succeed?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Listen and follow directions from senior analysts and managers » A bachelor's degree in a relevant energy or policy field » Strong research, writing, and clear public presentation skills » Comfort with data, spreadsheets, and policy databases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Working knowledge of FERC, state commissions, and federal energy regulations » Fluency in policy analysis, regulatory writing, and data tools » Clear communication with executives, regulators, and elected officials » Composure and integrity under public scrutiny » Familiarity with energy markets, equity, and climate frameworks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Deep expertise across energy policy, regulation, and government affairs » Leadership and people-management skills for large multi-discipline policy teams » Strategic communication with executives, regulators, lawmakers, and the press » Strong financial judgment for major regulatory and political investments » Mastery of change management as policy and politics evolve |
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GET PAID!

For salary information on Regulatory & Government Affairs roles, please refer back to the Get Into Energy Explorer.

Get Into Energy Explorer



ENERGY INDUSTRY CAREERS OFFER:

- » Excellent salaries
- » Opportunities for advancement
- » Job growth & stability
- » Professional development and training
- » Great benefits

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