Southern California Public Power Authority
Government Affairs Manager | Sacramento Office

The Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA) is a joint powers agency and an independent public entity created in 1980 pursuant to the California Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Cal. Government Code §6500 et seq.) for the purpose of jointly planning, financing, developing, constructing, operating and maintaining projects for the generation or transmission of electric energy. SCPPA’s Members consist of 11 cities and one irrigation district: Anaheim, Azusa, Banning, Burbank, Cerritos, Colton, Glendale, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Riverside, Vernon, and the Imperial Irrigation District. Each Member owns and operates an electric utility serving retail customers within its territorial boundaries. The Members use SCPPA to procure generation, transmission, and fuel resources from projects across several Western States. Collectively, Members serve a population exceeding five million people in five Southern California counties. Click here for an overview of SCPPA.

The State Government Affairs Manager will work in the SCPPA Sacramento office; however, periodic travel to the SCPPA headquarters office in Glendora, California may be required when necessary. The position principally assists SCPPA Members in monitoring, advising, and engaging in policy matters pending before state regulatory agencies including the California Energy Commission (CEC), the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the California Independent System Operator (CAISO), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and the Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB) with the assistance of SCPPA’s outside consultants under the direction of the Director of Government Affairs. Coverage of pending legislative matters may be necessary as needed, as well as assisting with the American Public Power Association’s (APPA) annual Legislative Rally in Washington, D.C., public power’s annual Capitol Day in Sacramento, and SCPPA’s annual legislative and regulatory staff tour.

The State Government Affairs Manager will assist the Director of Government Affairs in effectively representing SCPPA Member interests on matters including, but not limited to:

- CEC rulemakings and public processes related to implementation of California’s Renewables Portfolio Standard; greenhouse gas emissions reduction initiatives; the Integrated Energy Policy Report; energy efficiency; energy storage; electric vehicles; Integrated Resource Planning; and other matters affecting publicly owned utilities.

- CARB rulemakings related to implementation of California’s Cap-and-Trade Program; the Climate Change Scoping Plan; the Low Carbon Fuel Standard; and other matters affecting publicly owned utilities.

- CAISO stakeholder processes for energy storage; resource adequacy; the Energy Imbalance Market; grid regionalization; and other matters affecting publicly owned utilities.

- SCAQMD rulemakings related to implementation of pertinent air quality regulations for the utility sector.

- CPUC rulemakings related to implementation of California’s Renewables Portfolio Standard; rate reform; Net Energy Metering; energy storage; Integrated Resource Planning; pertinent General Order matters for the utility sector; and other matters that may affect publicly owned utilities.

- Wildfire matters, including those before the WSAB, affecting publicly owned utilities.
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- Pending energy policy matters at the State Capitol as needed.
- Supporting the Director of Government Affairs, with assistance from SCPPA’s contract federal lobbyists, with the annual American Public Power Association’s Legislative Rally in Washington, D.C.
- Supporting the Director of Government Affairs, with assistance from SCPPA’s contract state legislative lobbyist and state regulatory consultants, with public power’s annual Capitol Day in Sacramento and SCPPA’s annual legislative and regulatory staff tour.

This position requires an ability to communicate clearly and effectively – both orally and in writing; the ability to quickly assess competing priorities and respond accordingly; general knowledge of the operations of an electric utility and local governments more generally; the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with individual SCPPA Members and state regulatory agency staff; the ability to develop and maintain a general working knowledge of SCPPA Member needs to quickly identify the Members affected by each issue; the ability to effectively contribute to discussions across SCPPA working groups and with other utility trade associations and stakeholders towards developing consensus positions; the ability to become a point of contact for stakeholders regarding the technical impacts of proposed changes to SCPPA Members; the ability to draft comments and persuasive position papers based upon Member input and built around consensus; the ability to participate in stakeholder processes to promote SCPPA positions; and the ability to be a self-starter when needs are identified.

Applicants must have a four-year college degree in a policy-related field and at least six years of pertinent professional policy experience with demonstrably strong writing and speaking skills. Ideally, the candidate will have had direct experience interfacing with energy and/or air quality regulatory agencies, some experience interfacing with California’s state legislature, and demonstrable experience reaching consensus positions amongst competing stakeholders. An advanced policy-related degree and/or additional years of relevant experience is a plus. The current annual salary range is $117,000 to $148,00 dependent upon experience and qualifications, plus benefits, and is under consideration by the SCPPA Board of Directors for an upwards band adjustment. SCPPA provides retirement benefits through a contract with the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS).

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, three references, and a brief writing sample – combined into one .pdf file – to SCPPA’s Administrative Services Manager, Salpi Ortiz, at sortiz@scppa.org by December 10th at 5 p.m. Pacific Time.