

CELINA CUNNINGHAM

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

STATE OF MAINE GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE

Augusta, ME

Deputy Director

March 2020 – present

- Advise Governor and key State leaders and implement energy policies and programs to meet the State's ambitious climate change and clean energy goals.
- Manage Maine's Offshore Wind Initiative, a state-based initiative tasked delivering offshore wind energy to the state and building out a floating offshore wind industry, all while minimizing any potential impacts to the state's fishing industry.
- Partner with federal, state, local and private sector entities to increase funding opportunities to support the state's renewable energy vision.
- Oversee budgets, staff members, and stakeholder engagement for key components of the Energy Office.

SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Washington, DC

Vice President & Chief of Staff

June 2017 – Feb. 2020

- Worked with CEO to manage executive team and day-to-day operations of SEIA, the national trade association for solar energy, which has a \$17 million budget, 1,000 member companies, and a fifty-member staff.
- Advised on federal and state legislative and regulatory priorities critical to advancing solar development, including tax, land-use, infrastructure, and energy policies.
- Served as trusted advisory to CEO and assisted CEO in coordinating with SEIA Board of Directors, including developing content for Board meetings and implementing strategies for navigating key industry decisions.
- Planned and facilitated SEIA's executive strategy sessions, where 100 leaders build out the longer-term vision for the solar industry.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Washington, DC

Senior Advisor, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Feb. 2014 – Jan. 2017

- Advised Director on complex and long-range decisions, including identification of discrete areas for future oil and gas development and permanent protection.
- Advanced federal offshore wind program by helping to shape lease sales, navigating multiple-use challenges within the lease areas, and working with industry, Congressional, and inter-governmental stakeholders.
- Oversaw aspects of the development of the Nation's five-year program for oil and gas, including analyzing environmental impacts, public comments, and legal requirements.
- Drafted environmental standards regulations.
- Developed and implemented communication strategies for major Bureau actions.

Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary

Aug. 2012 – Feb. 2014

- Coordinated with the leadership of the Bureau of Land Management, offshore energy Bureaus, and surface mining Bureau to advance Secretarial priorities related to climate change, energy, and conservation.
- Served on Renewable Energy Strike Team to streamline projects on federal lands.
- Reviewed energy and environmental regulations for four Bureaus.

OFFICE OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE JAY INSLEE

Washington, DC & Shoreline, WA

Legislative Director

Dec. 2011 – Aug. 2012

- Managed and executed legislative priorities for an active Member of the Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources Committees.
- Drove legislative agenda, managed legislative staff, and oversaw all communications materials, both in Washington, DC and Washington State.

Legislative Assistant

July 2009 – Dec. 2011

- Served as senior advisor on a range of public policy priorities, including energy and environment, fisheries, and Native American issues.
- Cultivated relationships with business leaders, Congressional Members and staff, key constituencies, and local and national organizations to advance legislative initiatives.
- Drafted legislation, amendments, memos, and press materials.

Community Liaison

Aug. 2007 – June 2009

- Expanded Congressman's in-district presence by speaking at local meetings and strengthening relationships with public and private sector community leaders.
- Identified American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding opportunities and legislative opportunities for the 1st Congressional District.

GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNS, INC.

Seattle, WA

Canvass Director

May 2004 – Nov. 2004

- Directed fundraising canvass on behalf of the Democratic National Committee, which included hiring, training, and managing a staff of fifty.
- Exceeded organizational fundraising goal from small donors by more than twenty percent.

EDUCATION

University of Maine, Master of Business Administration, 2024 (expected)

The Colorado College, Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy