

MARIELLA OJEDA

WORK EXPERIENCE

Minnesota Department of Commerce (*Saint Paul, MN*)

Energy Policy Advisor, Division of Energy Resources

January 2024 – Present

- Collaborates with the Deputy Commissioner on equitable energy policy development throughout the division
- Supports agency legislative efforts regarding energy and climate alongside the Government Affairs team
- Leads on energy-related fiscal note coordination and completion for the state legislature
- Partners with the Outreach and Communications Director and the Tribal Liaison to strengthen relationships and support energy policy development among environmental justice communities and Tribal Nations in the state
- Oversees project management communications and software for the energy division

Fresh Energy (*Saint Paul, MN*)

Senior Manager, Energy Access and Equity

October 2023 – January 2024

Senior Policy Associate, Energy Access and Equity

February 2022 – October 2023

Policy Associate, Energy Access and Equity

February 2021 – February 2022

- Subject matter expert for Fresh Energy's work at the intersection of energy and housing justice
- Manages coalition of housing and energy advocates that aim to reduce energy burden in under-resourced households in MN
- Extensive experience in public speaking in a variety of environments (e.g., legislative committees and regional conferences)
- Leads commenting and community engagement processes for administrative advocacy, such as RFIs, CIP dockets, and strategic planning processes (e.g. Climate Action Framework and Minnesota Housing)
- Serves on several advisory boards, such as CERTs Steering Committee and Policy Advisory Council for WAP
- Supports the Development team in grant-writing, reporting, and seeking new funding for the Energy Access and Equity team
- Co-Author and contributor of various publications (e.g., WAP Working Group Report and Multifamily Electrification)
- Conducts policy analysis and research to identify opportunities to eliminate racial and economic disparities
- Engages the community through oral and written presentations and publishing media content on energy access and equity

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity (*Saint Paul, MN*)

Project Manager

October 2017 – February 2021

- Oversaw cost-efficient best practices for Zero Energy Ready and Energy Star certification
- Researched potential innovations for renewable construction projects, such as a solar partnership with Xcel Energy
- Managed and updated the entire project budget and scope of work from site work to homeowner closing
- Reached project milestones such as budget re-forecasting, building permit submittals, and local hearing presentations
- Decision-maker on plan design and review, hiring subcontractors, estimating and specifying job site materials
- Coordinated the volunteer schedule and facilitated SOPs for volunteer engagement and production goals

Member, Diversity and Inclusion Action Team (DIAT)

October 2018 – February 2021

- Formed Habitat's first Affinity Group for BIPOC
- Organized and hosted monthly events for staff to build relationships and increase cultural competency in the workplace
- Facilitated conversations with staff on current issues of equity and justice
- Conducted interviews for the organization's first DEI Director

Construction Assistant

August 2017 – October 2017

Construction Volunteer Facilitator—AmeriCorps

September 2016 – August 2017

- Assisted site supervisor directly in completing daily construction projects to provide healthy homes for partnering families
- Engaged 75-100 homebuilding volunteers each week and ensured they had a meaningful and productive experience on site
- Managed materials necessary for each major phase of the project and scheduled weekly deliveries of such materials

National Sports Center—Sustainability Consultant (*Blaine, MN*)

May 2018 – August 2018

- Consulted NSC with their goal to be the greenest sports facility in the world by advising next steps in energy conservation
- Enhanced relationships with local community partners and NSC staff by discovering new resources and partnerships
- Analyzed reports and budgets in order to prioritize energy-saving and cost-saving opportunities

MARIELLA OJEDA

Castle Home Services, Inc.—Project Assistant/Office Manager (*Minneapolis, MN*) **August 2014 – August 2016**

- Maintained an accurate account of the company's finances through efficient bookkeeping on a day-to-day basis
- Kept company records, certifications, and licenses organized and up to date by staying on top of deadlines
- Coordinated company meetings every month to ensure staff were kept informed, including safety meetings for field staff
- Streamlined communication with clients by assisting in cost-estimating and product research

Minnesota GreenCorps, AmeriCorps—Green Business Outreach Coordinator **September 2013 – August 2014**
(*Latino Economic Development Center, Minneapolis, MN*)

- Conducted education outreach in Spanish to 50+ small Latino-owned businesses, collaborating with local organizations
- Collected data from surveys and tracked progress related to changes in environmental awareness and implementation
- Created curriculum for the workforce development team who teach job-related skills to hundreds of clients
- Supervised 2 volunteers who conducted recycling outreach along streets with high-density Latino business populations

EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Mitchell Hamline School of Law (*Saint Paul, MN*) **JD Candidate 2025**

Blended Learning Program

Hamline University (*Saint Paul, MN*) **August 2013**

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies (Physics Concentration and Art History Minor)

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Office of the Minnesota Attorney General – Extern (*remote*) **Summer 2023**

Expungement Program

- Conducts criminal history analysis to determine expungement eligibility for the applicant, per MN Statute 609A
- Communicates with applicant during the process to ensure transparency and understand next steps
- Advocates for sealing applicant's eligible convictions to the relevant county prosecutor

Minnesota Freedom Fund (*Minneapolis, MN*) **February 2021 – Present**

- Researches and compiles lists of local organizations and available resources that address the requested needs of people with whom we have engaged in follow-up check-in calls
- Assists Volunteer Coordinator with administrative tasks as needed (e.g., mailers)
- Engage legislators to take action on MFF bills introduced during session

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (*Saint Paul, MN*) **September 2016 – July 2019**

- Served in the Environmental Justice Advisory Group with 15 other local activists, influencing decisions made by the Commissioner and his executive team
- Analyzed and helped revise different departments' standard operating procedures to ensure marginalized communities were represented at each phase of the process
- Identified internal strategies to implement environmental justice policies in permitting and hiring
- Hosted educational listening sessions, particularly on the Volkswagen settlement
- Advised the EJ department in choosing 6 qualified new members to join the EJAG

Minnesota InterCorps Council **October 2016 – June 2017**

- Partnered with other AmeriCorps representatives to support current members and network with alumni

Women's Environmental Network – MN **January 2016 – January 2017**

- Attended regular networking and professional development events and participated in the mentorship program

Other Volunteer Experience: *Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association; MN350; PCs for People; Environmental Initiative; MN GreenCorps; Lake Street Council; East Minneapolis Exchange Club; Hamline University; Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity; AchieveMPLS; US Green Building Council – MN Chapter; InterVarsity Christian Fellowship; Safe at Home Program – Rebuilding Together Twin Cities; Do It Green! Minnesota*

MARIELLA OJEDA

SKILLS, TRAININGS, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Languages:** *English, Spanish*
- **Legal Research:** *Lexis, WestLaw*
- **Microsoft Office:** *Access, Excel, OneNote, Outlook, PowerPoint, Project, Publisher, SharePoint, Word*
- **Scheduling and Events:** *Doodle, Eventbrite, Facebook, Google Calendar*
- **Software and Databases:** *Asana, Citrix Workspace, Plural/Enview, Power BI, IV Desk/ESC, Solve CRM, Quickbooks, Ariett Classic/Touch, FileMaker Pro, OnCorps Reports*