

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Natalie Hanson

12/2/2025 8:17 PM

Application: **EB - Energy Board**

Applicant Information

Birthday: [REDACTED] Gender: Female Education Level: Masters degree

Address: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED] <<

Volunteer Groups Applied For

Energy Board

Job Description

☒ I have read the job description

Questions

I acknowledge and understand it is recommended to apply for no more than (3) Board/Commission volunteer positions in any one recruitment cycle. YES

If applying for more than (1) board/commission please list all boards in order of preference (the most important board to you should be listed first). Please enter N/A if you have not applied to more than one board/commission. n/a

I acknowledge I am available when the Energy Board meets: Regular Board meetings meet the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. - Work Sessions meet the fourth Thursday of even numbered months (i.e.; February, April, etc.) YES

How many hours per month are you willing to put in (including research, work, and meeting time) as a board member? 10

Which Council District do you live in? Please refer to the map at: <https://gisweb.fcgov.com/HTML5Viewer/Index.html?Viewer=FCMaps&layerTheme=Council%20Districts> 5

Current Occupation: Consultant

Current Employer: Optony

Prior work experience (please include dates):
2022 - Present
Optony, Inc. (Fort Collins, CO)
Executive Director of Energy Programs,
2022 - Present
Assistant Director, US Department of
Energy Western Onsite Energy TAP, 2023
- Present

2014 - 2022
Nuvista Light & Electric Cooperative, Inc.
(Anchorage, AK)
Executive Director, 2016 - 2022
Program Coordinator, 2014 - 2016

2012 - 2013
E2 Environmental (Anchorage, AK)

ES Environmental (Anchorage, AK)
Environmental Specialist

Volunteer experience (please include dates):

I have volunteer experience across a vast array of sectors and would be happy to provide a list of experience and dates if the purpose of the request can be clarified

Have you applied for this board before? If yes, please explain.

No

Are you currently serving on a City board or Commission? If so, which one?

No

Why do you want to become a member of this particular board or commission?

I have expertise in this sector and I would like to give back to my community/the city.

Fort Collins' Our Climate Future plan presents a framework for achieving the community goals of 100% renewable electricity and 80% carbon reduction by 2030. What do you feel are the biggest barriers that need to be addressed to reach these outcomes?

Fort Collins' biggest barrier to reaching 100% renewable electricity by 2030 is reliance on PRPA for wholesale power, meaning progress depends on the pace and scale of PRPA's resource transitions and clean energy procurement. For transportation, which makes up a major share of local emissions, the largest barrier is widespread public adoption of EVs and other e-mobility options.

Specify any activities which might create a serious conflict of interest if you are appointed:

I do not anticipate any conflicts of interest related to my professional work with the City. If a situation arises in which participation could create a perceived conflict, I will recuse myself to maintain full transparency.

Have you had any exposure to the board or commission you are applying for? If yes, please explain:

No

Have you ever been the subject of a code of conduct or ethics complaint? If yes, please explain.

No

Have you ever been found in violation of the code of conduct or ethics rule? If yes, please explain.

No

Are you willing to complete the required training if appointed?

YES

How did you learn of a vacancy on this board or commission?

Other (please specify);
City newsletter (email)

NATALIE HANSON

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As an energy program director with experience across the non-profit, Tribal, and private sectors, I bring a grounded, community-oriented perspective to clean energy planning and project development. My work includes managing clean energy and building and transportation decarbonization projects and initiatives, as well as securing and managing state and federal grants that help cities and community partners move projects from concept to implementation.

At Optony, I also serve as the Assistant Director for the DOE Onsite Energy Technical Assistance Partnership for California, Arizona, Hawaii, and Nevada. In this role, I oversee implementation of a DOE technical assistance program that supports manufacturers and other large energy users as they evaluate onsite and distributed energy opportunities as part of their broader decarbonization and energy management efforts.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 - Present

Optony, Inc. (Fort Collins, CO)

Executive Director of Energy Programs, 2022 - Present

Assistant Director, US Department of Energy Western Onsite Energy TAP, 2023 - Present

- Lead clean energy and decarbonization planning for public agencies, educational institutions, utilities, and community choice aggregators, with a focus on transportation electrification, distributed energy, and long-term implementation strategy.
- Direct comprehensive fleet electrification studies for municipal and commercial clients, including duty-cycle analysis, vehicle transition modeling, EVSE needs assessments, operational planning, and infrastructure phasing.
- Develop EV charging infrastructure strategies that incorporate utility coordination, meter configuration and rate design, charging management systems, space constraints, load growth and grid-impact considerations, demand forecasting, and long-term scalability.
- Guide public agencies in rightsizing DER and EV charging projects to avoid overbuilding while ensuring operational reliability, goal alignment, and optimizing project economics.
- Support the development of strategic plans for clean energy and transportation electrification that integrate capital planning, operational change management, workforce needs, procurement timing, and regulatory compliance.
- Lead stakeholder engagement processes involving public works, fleet operations, utility partners, facilities staff, procurement teams, and elected officials to ensure clear communication and workable implementation pathways.
- Provide program oversight for the DOE Western Onsite Energy TAP, coordinating technical assistance that helps manufacturers and large energy users explore onsite and distributed energy

opportunities within broader decarbonization efforts.

- Oversee Optony's interdisciplinary teams delivering technical evaluations, economic analyses, implementation plans, and funding strategies for clean energy and electrification projects.
- Present findings to City Councils, commissions, and community boards, translating complex technical information into clear, actionable policy and investment decisions.
- Build strategic partnerships with utilities, engineering firms, universities, and national laboratories to expand clean energy and fleet electrification support across the region.

2014 - 2022

Nuvista Light & Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Anchorage, AK)

Executive Director, 2016 - 2022

Program Coordinator, 2014 - 2016

- Led development of a community energy project in rural Alaska, including planning, securing funding, and conducting stakeholder engagement for a microgrid of distributed energy assets (wind-to-heat, battery energy storage, wind, waste heat recovery, and future solar PV) and development of a comprehensive power purchase agreement.
- Secured and managed state and federal grant funding to support multi-year clean energy and sustainability projects across the Yukon-Kuskokwim region.
- Directed regional energy planning efforts involving 50+ remote communities, coordinating technical partners, local leadership, and state agencies.
- Oversaw stakeholder engagement, research, and contract management for multi-community sustainability planning efforts in partnership with NREL and other organizations.
- Advocated for rural Alaska and Tribal energy priorities at the state and federal levels.
- Managed organizational operations, including HR, budgeting, board coordination, strategic planning, and partnerships.

2012 - 2013

E3 Environmental (Anchorage, AK)

Environmental Specialist

- Stakeholder engagement support for a large infrastructure project
- Data collection, research, and analysis for a major proposed infrastructure project in rural Alaska
- NEPA Environmental Impact Statement document preparation
- Resigned to attend graduate school

EDUCATION

Spring 2022

Colorado State University (Fort Collins, CO)

Project Management Certificate Program

Class of 2016

University of Alaska Anchorage (Anchorage, AK)

Master of Science, Civil Engineering (Water Resources emphasis)

Class of 2012

Boise State University (Boise, ID)

Bachelor of Science, Geosciences (Hydrology emphasis)

Class of 2008

Bethel Regional High School (Bethel, AK)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2021 - 2024

National Inter-Tribal Energy Council

Board Member

2021 - 2022

National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)

Advisory Board for REOpt Tool Development

2016 - 2021

Association of Village Council Presidents

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee, Energy sector

2018 - 2019

Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy

Indian Country Energy Infrastructure Working Group

Class of 2017

National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)

Executive Energy Leadership Academy