

ZAHEER TAJANI

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Summary

- Environmental attorney with multiple years of Executive Branch, judiciary, and law firm experience
- Specific expertise with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Clean Water Act (CWA)
- Demonstrated expertise in environmental policy and compliance for domestic and international challenges; issues of climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience; environmental justice consultation best practice; inter-agency coordination and federal rule promulgation; and, litigation strategy and briefing at the federal district court, courts of appeal, and Supreme Court levels
- Scientific experience as an environmental engineer with public and private sector experience

Public Experience

Department of Army

2021 - Present

Office of General Counsel, Associate Deputy General Counsel

- Specialist in environmental and administrative law
- Clean Water Act: Developments of strategies related to review of permits issued under the Navigable Waters Protection Rule; drafting and coordinating inter-agency comments on the Revised Definition of “Waters of the United States” rule; and, strategy and drafting of briefs for associated CWA litigation at the district court, courts of appeal, and Supreme Court levels
- National Environmental Policy Act and Climate: Drafting and legal review of new NEPA guidance with more expansive climate review for Army Corps implementation; coordination of environmental and inter-agency review of domestic and international infrastructure projects, exceeding \$30 billion; legal and policy review of Army Climate Strategy and new installation resilience measures; assistance with bilateral meetings for infrastructure development projects; and, developing responses to inquiries from public, NGO, and multilateral bodies regarding issues of compliance and environmental justice

866OurVote

2020

Volunteer

- Election monitor, monitor team manager, and trainer for early voting and election day voting sites cataloguing abnormalities, instances of intimidation, and possible issues related to voting integrity
- Training and monitor work focused on Urdu and Spanish speaking communities

Biden for President

2020

Volunteer, Policy Committee

- Member of Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee, focused on Climate Governance
- Assisted in drafting Day 1 and Day 100 papers for Siting and Permitting modernization efforts

White House Council on Environmental Quality

2014

Law Clerk

- Coordinated inter-agency comments on proposed changes to federal NEPA regulations, briefed Council leadership on collected comments, and developed draft regulatory language
- Drafted memoranda of administrative law obligations to guide rule making process and implementation

United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

2014

Judicial Extern

New York State Attorney General, Environmental Protection Bureau

2013

Law Clerk

United States Environmental Protection Agency

2011 - 2012

Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Fellowship