

## Contact

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## Top Skills

Policy Analysis  
Renewable Energy  
Energy Efficiency

## Languages

Spanish (Limited Working)

## Publications

Delaware's Energy Efficiency Potential and Program Scenarios to Meet its Energy Efficiency Resource Standard

Policies to Promote Community Solar Initiatives: Best Practices to Enhance Net Metering

Sustainable Energy Management for the Four Campuses of the Delaware Technical and Community College

# Zachary Schafer

Senior Advisor, Office of Water, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

## Summary

Drawing on experience in Federal government, the private sector, think-tanks and academia, I lead United for Infrastructure (formerly Infrastructure Week), a non-profit education, advocacy, and policy organization. As CEO, I supervise all full- and part-time staff and contractors, develop organizational strategy and execute key programming and events; lead all fundraising, sponsor-cultivation and relationship management; and work alongside the Board of Directors to set goals and measure progress. Externally, I manage relationships with our Steering Committee, which includes the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, AFL-CIO, Business Roundtable, American Society of Civil Engineers, Brookings Institution, and several other leading organizations. I also oversee outreach to our coalition of more than 500 affiliate organizations nationwide.

United for Infrastructure convenes business leaders at the highest levels of transportation, construction, engineering, manufacturing, and technology companies; labor unions; trade associations; and mayors, governors, federal agency leadership, and other public officials. Through strategic events, a coordinated press and social media campaign, and other programming we identify and elevate critical infrastructure needs at the federal, state and local levels; debate and disseminate solutions and best practices, and help decision makers in business and government find and act on areas of common ground.

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## Experience

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Senior Advisor - Office of Water

June 2021 - Present (2 years 5 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

United for Infrastructure  
CEO and Executive Director  
December 2013 - June 2021 (7 years 7 months)  
Washington, D.C.

Co-founder and first CEO of United for Infrastructure, a non-partisan, non-profit 501c(4) organization working to repair and modernize America's infrastructure. Through building untraditional coalitions across business, labor, and all levels of government, and planning strategic events and advocacy, United For Infrastructure has become a uniquely trusted convener on a critical issues impacting every American. United For Infrastructure's signature event, National Infrastructure Week, began in 2013, and is America's largest non-partisan infrastructure education and advocacy coalition. Infrastructure Week convenes a week of events, press, social media, and other programming annually to elevate infrastructure - transportation, water, energy, and digital - as a critical policy issue.

In this role I interact regularly with labor leaders, elected officials, corporate executives, and trade association and academic leaders to find common ground, identify opportunities for progress, and grow the coalition of citizens and legislators working to advance infrastructure policy and investment at the federal, state, and local levels.

As co-founder, CEO, and Executive Director, I lead all aspects of strategic planning and agenda-setting, board and coalition management, outreach to our more than 500 national affiliates, fundraising and donor cultivation/management, managing full-time staff and contractors, and developing/executing high quality programming.

Council on Competitiveness  
Senior Policy Director - Energy, Manufacturing and Infrastructure  
June 2013 - March 2015 (1 year 10 months)  
Washington, DC

Worked with Chief Executives and senior leaders from the private sector, Federal government, academia, and labor to conceive and manage initiatives in infrastructure, energy, manufacturing, and workforce development competitiveness policy. Focus areas include efforts to catalyze the R&D, funding, commercialization and deployment of clean energy technologies and systems, increase energy productivity throughout the manufacturing sector, and the development of public private partnerships to unlock new capital funding and finance for infrastructure projects. Key responsibilities include

research and analysis, membership development, event-planning, fundraising, and project management.

### Navigant Consulting, Inc.

#### Senior Consultant - Energy

August 2012 - May 2013 (10 months)

Washington, DC

Consulted on various engagements, developing a deep knowledge of energy efficiency policy formulation, analysis, implementation, and management. Key engagements and responsibilities included:

- Built and implemented verification testing and enforcement process for U.S. Department of Energy Building Technologies Office appliance and equipment standards; worked alongside DOE officials, testing laboratories, and engineering and product teams; collaborated in construction of multi-functional procurement and testing management database that increased throughput and quality control.
- Developed module for client to make strategic decisions to streamline reporting, funding, and project management of more than \$300 million in Federal investments in energy technology research, development, and deployment.
- Contributed substantially to winning response to RFP (~\$500,000) to evaluate city/municipal building energy performance disclosure programs and develop models for future implementation.

### MD-DC-VA Solar Energy Industry Association

#### Policy Analyst

January 2012 - July 2012 (7 months)

Washington, DC

Modeled economic impacts of state renewable portfolio standards legislation, including compliance costs, new investment, tax revenues, and job creation; generated supporting technical documents and advocacy materials for the Governor of Maryland, state legislators and industry leaders.

### Center for Energy and Environmental Policy

#### Research Associate and Policy Analyst

August 2009 - May 2012 (2 years 10 months)

Newark, DE

Advised state and municipal governments on policies to develop energy efficiency utilities, performance-based efficiency finance models, forward markets, and community scale renewables. Evaluated the technical and

program feasibility, and energy, climate and financial impacts of state energy efficiency resource standards, producing rigorous analysis and achieving buy-in and support from a broad coalition of stakeholders, including local and state government entities, utilities, and businesses.

## The White House

### Policy Intern

May 2011 - December 2011 (8 months)

Washington, DC

Key accomplishments in climate change adaptation research, inter-agency coordination, advocacy, and policy rollout. Wrote substantial portions of the National Action Plan: Managing Freshwater Resources in a Changing Climate; coordinated rollout strategy and validator/stakeholder support. Supported CEQ delegation planning for 2011 U.N. climate talks (Cop17-Durban); drafted talking points on climate adaptation, green economy, and clean transportation, and coordinated travel logistics. Analyzed EPA rule-making and Congressional appropriations impacting land, water, and energy issues.

## Obama for America

### Deputy Regional Field Director

August 2008 - November 2008 (4 months)

Recruited, trained, and managed up to 160 volunteers and staff, winning all precincts in bellwether swing district. Coordinated events for principals including President Obama and Vice-President Biden.

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## Education

### University of Delaware

Master's in Energy and Environmental Policy, Energy, Climate Change, Economics · (2009 - 2011)

### University of Delaware

BA, Economics, International Relations, History · (2003 - 2008)