

Contact

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Top Skills

Public Policy
Policy Analysis
Politics

Grant Cope

Protecting People, Restoring Communities
United States

Summary

Dynamic environmental policy expert with 20+ years of experience in the successful development and implementation of innovative environmental and health policies, regulations and program management.

Experience

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Senior Counselor to the Administrator
April 2022 - Present (1 year 7 months)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

California Department of Toxic Substances Control
Deputy Director
April 2019 - April 2022 (3 years 1 month)
Sacramento, CA, United States

- Managing a statewide cleanup program with more than 300 engineers, scientists and other professionals. In 2021, State budget provided an estimated doubling of budget authority and four new programs to better serve and protect the public, including people already vulnerable to and overburdened by pollution.
- Leading an organizational change and strategic planning initiative to enhance services, increase enforcement, expedite decision-making and promote transparency.
- Creating a racial equity program to link cleanup work with community values and environmental justice and to promote diverse recruitment.
- Enforcing a Project Labor Agreement that promotes local and union hiring and prevailing wages
- Crafted COVID-19 Essential Response Action Guidance to authorize field work during the pandemic.

- Overseeing implementation of a new cleanup program for lead contamination that prioritizes resources for underserved and overburdened communities.
- Conducting high-level negotiations with tribal, federal, state and local governments to promote cleanups, resolve disputes and address community concerns.
- Directing activities at major sites, including landfills in residential areas and complex federal facilities.
- Producing a new policy to enhance work with tribal governments.

California Environmental Protection Agency
Deputy Secretary for Environmental Policy
2014 - 2018 (4 years)
Sacramento, California Area

- Negotiated Title VI Civil Rights settlement, one of the first examples of a voluntary resolution jointly developed by state agencies and environmental justice groups.
- Collaborated with stakeholders to craft creative solutions to complex problems and successfully negotiated agreements involving private industry, communities and other stakeholders.
- Oversaw policy and program development to accomplish statewide environmental goals, including the application of state and federal chemical standards in risk assessments that protect genetically diverse and vulnerable populations, reductions of greenhouse gases and air pollution, timely and transparent permitting, lead standards in drinking water fixtures and enforcement and compliance assistance.
- Negotiated provisions of federal TSCA reform legislation on behalf of the State of California, including as a member of ECOS, and state toxics control laws.

United States Senate
Senior Counsel
2005 - 2013 (8 years)
Washington DC-Baltimore Area

- Advised the Chair, conducted high-profile oversight, oversaw staff, and collaborated with other offices.
- Senior Counsel on an array of legal and policy issues, including chemicals policy on existing and new chemicals as well as emerging contaminants, scientific integrity, environmental justice, emergency planning, nuclear safety, climate change, NEPA, political nominees, regulatory reform, children's health and public right to know.
- Conducted extensive oversight on post-Fukushima nuclear safety reforms, reactor relicensing, Yucca Mountain, Deepwater Horizon disaster, coal ash, greenhouse gas rules and perchlorate in drinking water.
- Built productive relationships with bipartisan staff, agency officials, industry, and community members.
- Staff author on a report describing the job creation and health benefits of environmental laws.
- Drafted bills, reports, press materials and statements.

Earthjustice

Attorney

2002 - 2004 (2 years)

- Served as an attorney on litigation to protect farmworker children from agricultural pesticide exposures, including developing litigation strategies, preparing experts and assessing scientific and legal issues.
- Drafted, analyzed and negotiated legislation and administrative rules with multiple parties, including labor and agricultural representatives, public health professionals and faith-based organizations.

U.S. Public Interest Research Group

Staff Attorney

1998 - 2002 (4 years)

Washington DC-Baltimore Area

- Headed campaigns on toxic waste cleanups, drinking water quality and regulatory reform.

- Testified before Congress and federal agencies. Negotiated with Congressional and agency personnel.
- Produced detail-oriented legal and policy memoranda, reports and white papers.
- Worked closely with labor, scientific, consumer, food safety, public health and other organizations.
- Worked with print, televised and radio media. Prepared for and conducted editorial board meetings.

Education

Lewis & Clark Law School

Doctor of Law (J.D.), Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources
Law · (1995 - 1998)

San Francisco State University

Teaching Credential Program, Secondary Education and
Teaching · (1993 - 1994)

University of California, Berkeley

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Political Science and Government · (1992 - 1993)