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Top Skills

Climate Change

Energy Policy

Environmental Policy

Vicki Arroyo

Associate Administrator for Policy at USEPA
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Summary

Environmental professional with over 30 years experience in environmental policy and law, including more than 25 years directing public policy and legal analysis.

Specialties: Environmental law and policy, global climate change, US climate law and policy, Clean Air Act/air quality issues, climate adaptation, sustainable and resilient communities, transportation, energy, regulatory and environmental review (NEPA) and permitting processes, environmental federalism issues, and environmental justice. Experienced manager of large and productive teams including senior leaders and executives. Successful fundraiser and administrator in academic and nonprofit settings, and trusted counselor to nonprofits and public and private sector clients. Highly rated professor of law students (Georgetown, Tulane), graduate students (Georgetown, George Mason), and undergraduates (Catholic U.).

Experience

USEPA

Associate Administrator for Policy

January 2021 - Present (2 years 10 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

As EPA's Regulatory Policy Officer and Regulatory Reform officer, oversee rule development through the intra-agency Action Development Process within EPA and serve as chief liaison with OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), negotiating the successful interagency review of all significant regulatory and policy actions. Policy lead for EPA's economic analysis, including cost-benefit and EJ analysis used in rulemakings and development of the interim and final social cost of greenhouse gases. Work with expert Office of Policy staff to engage on substantive rule development and implementation, and serve on the steering committee for EPA's strategic planning efforts. As EPA's lead National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

official, responsible for the agency's unique role under NEPA and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act which provides for EPA review of other federal agency environmental impact assessments. In this role have set and implemented priorities around incorporating climate and EJ considerations in reviews, improving outcomes on federal projects, including the USPS purchase of significantly more electric vehicles than first planned. Oversee EPA's Office of Community Revitalization (formerly Office of Sustainable Communities) and its Smart Sectors Program's engagement with the private sector. Also oversaw work of the active and growing Office of Environmental Justice from January 2021 through September 2022 (when it became part of a new national program office). Appointed by Administrator Regan to serve as EPA's senior climate adaptation official, leading agency work on adaptation and resilience. Represent agency and Administrator in several cross-agency workgroups and initiatives, on topics including: climate change resilience and adaptation (e.g., extreme heat); energy communities; voting rights, cancer moonshot; and by serving as EPA's representative on the President's Gender Policy Council.

Georgetown University Law Center

Professor from Practice, Georgetown Law (on leave); Exec. Dir.

Georgetown Climate Center; Asst. Dean

December 2008 - January 2021 (12 years 2 months)

Washington DC

Launched and led Climate Center based at Georgetown University Law Center that focuses on state and federal energy, climate, and transportation policy issues. Oversaw all aspects of center's legal and policy work on climate and clean energy, transportation, and adaptation, including facilitating dialogues of high-level state officials including the Transportation & Climate Initiative. Responsible for Center's fundraising and budget, including procuring over \$20 million in grant support. Taught advanced environmental law/ climate change "experiential" courses. Also served as Special Advisor to Georgetown University President on issues related to interdisciplinary cross-campus opportunities and growth of the "downtown" campus. Extensive service within and beyond Georgetown, including serving as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies (2019-20); on the advisory board to National Science Foundation's Geosciences Directorate; and member of UCAR Board of Trustees. Served on editorial boards for the Climate Policy Journal (Associate Editor) ; Georgetown Environmental Law Review; UC Davis Institute for Transportation Studies; SPARCC Initiative and more. Served on advisory panels to Natl. Center

for Atmospheric Research, California Air Resources Board and US Energy Information Administration.

From 2013 -2019 also served as Assistant Dean for Centers & Institutes supporting growth of new centers including on voting rights, privacy, and more - with roughly 100 staff and a collective annual budget raised of \$20 million.

Served as Environmental Law Program Director from 2013-15, launching new Environmental LLM degree program. Voted by faculty to become Professor from Practice in May 2014 after serving as Visiting Professor since 2008.

Served on Georgetown Environment Initiative steering committee and many academic and search committees. Publish and speak extensively. On faculty leave to serve in Biden Administration.

Pew Center on Global Climate Change

Vice President for Domestic Policy and General Counsel. Previously Director of Policy Analysis

July 1998 - November 2008 (10 years 5 months)

Arlington, Virginia, United States

Initiated and led the Pew Center's domestic policy, policy analysis, science and impacts, economics, and adaptation programs for over a decade from its origins in 1998. Led development of, authored, edited and/or otherwise contributed to hundreds of analyses and reports. Served as Managing Editor and contributing author of book: Climate Change: Science, Strategies, and Solutions. Developed the Center's Agenda for Climate Action and represented the Center in US Climate Action Partnership steering committee negotiations and analysis. The Pew Center was recognized as the top environmental think tank in the world according to Penn's Think Tank and Civil Society Survey for this body of work. Represented Pew in international and domestic conferences including climate negotiations and other venues and spearheaded major events. Led successful fundraising efforts in support of this work.

Kilpatrick and Cody (now Kilpatrick Townsend)

Associate

July 1994 - June 1998 (4 years)

Washington DC

Provided client counseling and litigation support regarding various legal and policy issues under the Clean Air Act, CERCLA, and other laws and regulations for public, nonprofit and private sector clients. Led pro bono work for Raising Hispanic Academic Achievement, including launching and running a summer environmental institute for Hispanic youth and other mentoring programs.

USEPA

Policy Analyst, Office of Research and Development

September 1993 - August 1994 (1 year)

Washington DC

Supported development and review of criteria air pollutant standards in EPA's science policy office.

Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

Summer Associate/Law Clerk

May 1992 - May 1993 (1 year 1 month)

Washington DC

Conducted legal analysis and contributed to newsletters featuring regulatory updates and other client counseling and litigation under various environmental laws. Conducted pro bono work for clients via the Lawyers' Committee on Civil Rights Under Law.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Protection

Director, Office of Policy and Planning and Asst. Chief of Staff to Gov. Roemer (environment)

November 1988 - August 1991 (2 years 10 months)

Baton Rouge, LA

Created and led policy department within Louisiana Dept. of Environmental Quality's Office of the Secretary. Initiated long-term statewide environmental and natural resources planning, actively participated in drafting and working to pass air toxics legislation reducing emissions 50% over 4 years, linked tax exemptions to firms' environmental records, revised siting guidelines for large chemical and petrochemical plants; and initiated environmental justice grant program. Also served for some of this time as environmental advisor to Governor and represented him on NGA global warming task force.

US EPA

Environmental Protection Specialist

August 1987 - November 1988 (1 year 4 months)

Washington DC

Reviewed and supported development of air toxics standards in the Office of Air & Radiation of US EPA.

Served as Special Assistant to the Acting Asst Administrator for Air and Radiation. Represented the US in related OECD dialogues.

National Institute for Chemical Studies

Consultant

June 1986 - May 1987 (1 year)

Charleston, WV

Worked on risk management and communication in this chemical corridor post-Bhopal toxic chemical release to collect, organize, and share information with community on potential hazards and exposures.

Town of Braintree MA

Open Space Planner

January 1986 - May 1986 (5 months)

Braintree, MA

Drafted and took comment on town's Open Space & Recreation Plan, including representing town in Town Hall meetings and hearing from citizens and affected businesses.

National Audubon Society

Clean Water Intern

May 1983 - August 1983 (4 months)

Washington DC

Supported Audubon leadership and engagement around reauthorization of the Clean Water Act.

Education

Georgetown University Law Center

J.D., magna cum laude · (1992 - 1994)

Harvard University Kennedy School of Government

MPA, environmental policy · (1985 - 1987)

Emory University

B.S., high honors, Biology, double major: philosophy · (1981 - 1985)