

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/taraknshah
(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Leadership
Defense
Energy Policy

Languages

English

Publications

Japan's Changing Electricity Market:
Recommendations for Policy Makers

Trump's cuts to energy innovation
would hit Chicago area hard

Revolution Now - The Future Arrives
for Five Clean Energy Technologies

Here's How Much More Your Fridge
Would Cost if Trump's Budget Cuts
Happened 40 Years Ago

Testimony to the House Select
Committee on the Climate Crisis

Tarak Shah

Until recently: Chief of Staff at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Summary

Fighting the climate emergency with everything I've got.

Experience

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Chief of Staff

January 2021 - May 2022 (1 year 5 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Biden-Harris Transition Team

Climate and Science Agencies Personnel Lead

July 2020 - January 2021 (7 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Organizing Together 2020

National Political Director

January 2020 - June 2020 (6 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Enlisting labor unions, some of the biggest organizations on the left, and America's governors as we build an independent, field-focused campaign to defeat Donald Trump and his agenda now, early in the 2020 cycle.

Clean Energy and Climate Policy

Independent Consultant

February 2017 - January 2020 (3 years)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Building on my roles in the Obama Administration, I work as an independent consultant to non-government and private sector organizations advancing clean energy technology and policy. This includes analysis and strategy work with a coalition of NGOs to develop and implement a strategy to maintain robust US energy innovation funding, assisting international organizations to strengthen global energy R&D capacity, and supporting deployment of the nation's largest deployment of fast charge electric vehicle infrastructure.

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Chief of Staff; Under Secretary for Science and Energy

May 2014 - January 2017 (2 years 9 months)

As a member of the Senior Executive Service, I directly supervised a 12-person team responsible for oversight and management of the world's largest investments in early-stage, high-potential energy innovation and physical sciences. This includes management of 13 national laboratories, 7 science and clean energy programs and an annual \$10 billion science and clean energy budget. In direct consultation with the Secretary of Energy, the White House, industry and NGOs, I provided strategic direction for DOE's budgets in FY15, FY16, FY17, and FY18-22.

United States Department of Defense

Special Assistant; Assistant Secretary of Defense for Operational Energy Plans & Programs

June 2010 - May 2014 (4 years)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

I served as the senior civilian advisor to the Assistant Secretary as we started up an office to formulate energy policy for the U.S. military, the single largest consumer of energy on earth. In addition to helping establish the office, I provided advice and guidance on military investments in clean energy technologies. I also managed communications for the Assistant Secretary, including speeches, talking points, briefings, congressional interactions. This included leading outreach efforts to Federal interagency, academia, and think tanks.

Executive Office of the President

Special Assistant to the Chair; Council on Environmental Quality

March 2009 - June 2010 (1 year 4 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

I led and directed a three person team responsible for preparing the CEQ Chair as she coordinated energy and environment efforts at the White House. I also wrote public remarks for the Chair, worked with CEQ Chief of Staff and senior management to coordinate government-wide energy and environmental budget and priorities planning, and hired dozens of permanent staff and interns.

Office of President-Elect Barack Obama

Director of Human Resources

November 2008 - February 2009 (4 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Starting from scratch, under extreme time-pressure, I led a team of five to onboard, compensate, provide benefits and office space for 600 staffers responsible for the peaceful and successful transition of power from one U.S. President to the next.

Obama for America
Deputy Director of Human Resources
May 2008 - November 2008 (7 months)
Greater Chicago Area

Led a team that managed \$50M payroll and benefits spend for 4000+ employees, including designing and implementing processes to hire 3500 staffers between June and August 2008 in all 50 states.

Hopefund Leadership PAC
Director of Operations
February 2005 - June 2006 (1 year 5 months)
Washington D.C. Metro Area

Operations lead for Senator Barack Obama's Leadership Political Action Committee

Obama For Illinois
Fundraiser
May 2004 - January 2005 (9 months)
Greater Chicago Area

Education

Cornell University - Johnson Graduate School of Management
Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Business Administration and Management, General · (2006 - 2008)

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning · (2000 - 2004)