

Position Description

Policy Officer, Energy

Supervisor: Program Director, Energy and Water

1. The Public Interest Advocacy Centre

The Public Interest Advocacy Centre is a leading social justice law and policy centre. We build a fairer, stronger society by helping to change laws, policies and practices that cause injustice and inequality.

Our work combines:

- legal advice and representation, specialising in test cases and strategic casework;
- research, analysis and policy development; and
- advocacy for systems change and public interest outcomes.

We actively seek to collaborate and partner in our work to maximise its impact. Our priorities include reducing homelessness; First Nations justice; climate change and social justice; equality and non-discrimination; asylum seeker health rights; and the fair use of police powers.

2. Energy and Water Consumers' Advocacy Program

The Energy and Water Consumers' Advocacy Program (EWCAP) works for better regulatory and policy outcomes, so people's needs are met by clean, resilient, and efficient energy and water systems. We ensure consumer protections and assistance limit disadvantage, and people can make meaningful choices in effective markets without experiencing detriment if they cannot participate. Since 2017 we have pursued an ambitious reform agenda with the goal of lowering average household energy bills by 25% by 2025.

PIAC's energy and water program is a peak voice for consumer organisations and the community in debates and decision-making regarding the provision and regulation of energy and water services in NSW.

3. Position overview

The Policy Officer works with consumer and community organisations, industry, regulators, government and other stakeholders to develop and promote policies that deliver affordable and sustainable access to energy and water as essential services for NSW households.

The Policy Officer will report to the Program Director, Energy and Water and be part of the EWCAP team, which also includes two senior policy officers and a project officer.

4. Major accountabilities

- Contribute to the development and delivery of PIAC's energy advocacy in accordance with PIAC's strategic plan and EWCAP's funding agreement;
- Develop policy positions to provide a basis for advocacy on behalf of residential consumers in NSW;
- Research issues related to household energy supply to identify current and emerging issues;

- Draft high-quality submissions, media releases and other documents to communicate PIAC's policy positions to decision makers and to the community;
- Develop and maintain relationships with key stakeholders to exchange information and views, to exert influence and to raise community awareness of energy issues;
- Assist with the planning, development and execution of PIAC's energy projects, meetings, conferences and other events;
- Support the successful implementation of PIAC's Reconciliation Action Plan.

5. Knowledge, skills and experience

Essential

- Experience in, or good knowledge of the energy industry;
- Tertiary qualifications or relevant experience in social sciences, law, or economics.
- Experience in research and public policy development;
- Well-developed interpersonal skills and the capacity to develop relationships and networks with consumers, government and other stakeholders;
- Project management skills, including a demonstrated capacity to achieve outcomes individually and in a team environment and to produce quality results on time;
- Capacity to write submissions to government inquiries, and prepare reports and other publications.

Desirable

- Experience delivering presentations and conducting training to present technical information to a lay audience;
- Demonstrated understanding of the issues facing socially and economically disadvantaged people;
- Experience with the media and social media.

6. Conditions

Annual salary range: \$98,087 to \$102,445 (pro rata) plus leave loading and superannuation. PIAC is a Public Benevolent Institution and is currently able to offer salary packaging subject to PIAC's Salary Sacrifice Policy.

The position is offered 4-5 days per week, as negotiated with the successful candidate.

7. Applications

Your application should be no longer than 6 pages in total. An application should comprise a cover letter, resume, and a statement outlining your suitability for the role with reference to the selection criteria (see 'knowledge, skills and experience').

Applications should be sent by email to jobs@piac.asn.au
Inquiries about the position should be addressed to:

Deirdre Moor
Deputy CEO
Jobs@piac.asn.au