

Orange County Power Authority

Power Resources Director

Orange County Power Authority (Authority) is a new community choice aggregator (CCA) in Orange County that will launch phased electric service beginning in 2022. Upon full implementation, the Authority will service over 278,000 accounts in Southern California Edison territory. We serve four member cities (Buena Park, Fullerton, Huntington Beach, and Irvine) with the potential of expansion throughout the region. For more information, please visit our website at www.ocpower.org

The Authority is seeking a full-time position to serve as its Power Resources Director.

APPLICATION PROCESS

A detailed resume and cover letter, along with 3 professional references must be submitted to brian@ocpower.org. This is a continuous recruitment and open until filled.

SUMMARY

Under direction of the Chief Executive Officer, this position manages and plans the activities of major technical projects or highly complex contracts within the Authority. Oversees the most complex and technical energy resource planning and procurement activities for the Authority; oversees scheduling and settlement with the California Independent System Operator (CAISO); provides advanced level technical guidance to subordinate staff and contractors. Performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This position will serve as a high-level technical advisor on resource projects or contracts and/or manage the most complex short and/or long-term energy resources planning and procurement activities.

This position will collaborate extensively with the Authority's Portfolio Manager and Scheduling Coordinator and requires extensive and in-depth knowledge of energy trading and scheduling and the federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES / FUNCTIONS

Management reserves the right to add, modify, change, or rescind the work assignments of different positions and to make reasonable accommodations so that qualified employees can perform the essential functions of the job. Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Oversees and undertakes complex projects related to power forecasting, planning, procurement, and validation.
- Undertakes and approves energy purchases or sales of surplus energy, subject to the Risk Management Policies.
- Oversees CAISO scheduling and settlements.
- Manages and plans the activities of a major technical project or contract. Acts as a technical advisor on the most complicated projects and contracts.
- Develops, manages, and directs the implementation of short and/or long-term operating financial plans related to energy portfolios and operations.
- Manages and oversees the most financially complex and highest risk energy resource planning, contracting, negotiations, services, and agreements.
- Resolves disputed provisions of existing contracts.
- Collaborates and builds contacts with other organizations and representatives, regulatory agencies, and the public.
- Represents the Authority to outside agencies and organizations.
- Recommends and monitors changes to organizational processes and policies to ensure compliance with energy market requirements, improve operations, mitigate risks, increase revenue, and decrease costs.

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- Provides direction in the implementation of policies and procedures and ensures action plans are in support of the Authority's goals, objectives, and mandates.
- Plans, implements, and evaluates the Authority's programs and initiatives as they are related to energy resource projects.
- Manages and conducts marked-to market, rate and cost of service studies.
- Oversees and may perform the most complex studies, evaluates analytical and forecasting models and systems surveys; reviews and analyzes data, and prepares recommendations related to energy resources planning, supply and demand, energy risk management, CAISO scheduling and settlements, and forecasting.
- Keeps abreast of power supply and energy developments and programs and evaluates opportunities for new sources or available technology.
- Directs and coordinates audits on power purchases and sale agreements.
- Researches and prepares a variety of highly technical and administrative reports; prepares written correspondence on the more sensitive issues; prepares reports and presents at the Authority's Board of Director's meeting periodically and upon request.
- Supervises subordinate supervisory and other staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Evaluates training needs and workload balance for staff and prepares plan for implementation. Provides advanced technical guidance to contractors and consultants.
- Performs other related duties as required

QUALIFICATIONS

Minimum Qualifications

Education and Experience: A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in Business, Economics, Engineering, Environmental Studies, Law, Public Administration/Public Policy, Natural Resources, Statistics, or related field to utility business AND six (6) years of progressively responsible related experience overseeing and administering energy resources operations, planning, purchasing, scheduling, or contract negotiations. A Master's degree is highly desirable.

Possession of a valid State of California driver's license is required.

Acceptable Substitution: A Master's degree in a related field, may be substituted for up to two (2) years of the required experience. There is no substitution for the required Bachelor's degree.

Other Qualifications

Job Expertise: Demonstrates knowledge of and experience with applicable professional/technical principles and practices, and federal and state rules and regulations, including but not limited to: energy management, which may include experience with Electric Utilities, Electricity Generators or suppliers, California Independent System Operator (CAISO), California Public Utilities Commission, California Energy Commission, contract experience in power purchase agreements and/or the Edison Electric Institute agreement, and short-term Western Systems Power Pool (WSSP) transactions, knowledge of CAISO scheduling and settlements operations, knowledge of renewable, green-house gas-free and conventional electricity supplies and strong market knowledge.

Analytical Thinking: Approaches a problem or situation by using a logical, systematic, sequential approach.

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Collaboration: Develops networks and builds alliances; engages in cross-functional activities.

Communication Skills: Effectively conveys information and expresses thoughts and facts clearly, orally and in writing; demonstrates effective use of listening skills and displays openness to other people's ideas and thoughts.

Fiscal Management: Demonstrates strong financial management skills and oversees complex energy procurement practices with large financial impacts for the organization. Complies with applicable laws and polices including Energy Risk Management policies.

Leadership: Leads by example; demonstrates high ethical standards; remains visible and approachable and interacts with others on a regular basis; promotes a cooperative work environment, allowing others to learn from mistakes; provides motivational supports and direction.

Vision/Strategic Thinking: Supports, promotes, and ensures alignment with the organization's vision and values; understands how an organization must change in light of internal and external trends and influences; builds a shared vision with others and influences others to translate vision to action.

Supervision: Sets effective long and short-term goals based on a good understanding of management practices; establishes realistic priorities within available resources; provides motivational support; empowers others; assigns decision-making and work functions to others in an appropriate manner to maximize organizational and individual effectiveness.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Must possess mobility to work in a standard office setting and use standard office equipment, including a computer / laptop; to operate a motor vehicle and to visit various meeting sites in Orange County for the conduct of the Authority's business. This is primarily a sedentary office classification, although standing in and walking between work areas may be required. Finger dexterity is needed to access, enter, and retrieve information using a computer keyboard or calculator and to operate standard office equipment. Positions in this classification bend, stoop, kneel, reach, push, and pull drawers open and closed to retrieve and file information. Employees must possess the ability to lift, carry, push, and pull materials and objects up to 25 pounds.

ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

This is primarily a sedentary classification and the employee works in an office environment with moderate noise levels, controlled temperature conditions, and no known direct exposure to hazardous physical substances. The employee interfaces with staff, management, other Authority's representatives, and government officials, business representatives, and the general public in explaining the Authority's programs and requesting and providing information.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Salary: \$8,416.65 to \$12,499.98 per month. (Placement within the salary range will be based upon knowledge and experience. This is not a civil service position).

Hours: 40 hours per week. (This is an exempt position).

Benefits: Orange County Power Authority is currently developing benefit packages. This will be covered during the interview process.

Orange County Power Authority is an equal opportunity employer. This is an at-will position that reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer