

Michael J. Sandler

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HIGHLIGHTS of QUALIFICATIONS

- Extensive experience managing climate change programs and projects.
- Strong history working with and influencing government and stakeholders to achieve positive outcomes.
- Experience in building successful environmental organizations from start-up.
- Able to develop highly targeted strategies that achieve solid, measurable results.
- Proven ability in leading, managing and motivating teams to develop innovative solutions to complex problems.
- Broad knowledge across sustainability topics of climate change, clean energy, sustainable transportation, and more.
- Genuinely dedicated to and passionate about my career in climate protection.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority, Santa Rosa, CA

2010-Present

Climate Protection Program Manager

- Developed policy and programs for Special District created by State Legislation, including: Efficient Buildings, Clean Energy, Transportation, and Natural Resources.
- Led and coordinated efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the County of Sonoma, its nine cities, Water Agency, Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District and Transportation Authority, as well as other local government entities.
- Managed over \$3 million in contracts including ARRA funds from the U.S. Department of Energy and California Energy Commission to implement Energy Upgrade California in Sonoma County (building retrofit program).
- Supervised team of 3 staff and 6 consultants; directed grant research and writing; oversaw annual budget of the Authority.
- Headed multi-stakeholder collaborations including: electric vehicle infrastructure planning, sustainable communities planning efforts, building retrofit and renewable programs, a regional GHG data working group, and biochar carbon sequestration project.
- Set agendas and provided direction for several monthly advisory and local government coordinating committees.
- Planned and implemented workshops, study sessions, and stakeholder meetings regarding topics such as Community Choice Aggregation.
- Reported on progress to city managers, agency directors, and local elected officials. Produced Annual Report and other public outreach materials.
- Presented at conferences, speaking engagements, and public events.

Climate Protection Campaign, Sonoma County and Marina del Rey, CA

2001-2010

Co-founder and Program Manager

- Initiated community-based organization to work closely with Sonoma County local governments on a variety of initiatives to quantify and reduce GHG emissions with mix of research, advocacy, and collaborative roles.
- Achieved outstanding success - all nine cities in Sonoma County joined the program within one year, creating broad support for climate change initiatives throughout the region, whereas only a few years before there was none. Years of work at CPC led to creation by local governments of formal government structure (see RCPA above).
- Conducted GHG emission inventories and produced summary reports for cities and regional agencies. Presented at outreach events informing the public of GHG inventory results and at numerous conferences and workshops.
- Personally initiated the Carbon Share Project (www.carbonshare.org) in 2007, encouraging California's Air Resources Board to return income from the sale of emissions permits back to households as part of its AB32 implementation.
- Wrote report for Bay Area Air Quality Management District articulating a regional climate protection strategy, resulting in a \$3 million grant fund. Served as Advisory Councilmember to Air District in 2010.
- Lobbied for and succeeded in adding climate protection to the agenda of the Joint Policy Committee (comprised of regional elected officials from around the San Francisco Bay Area), which is now fully committed to climate protection, and is following my recommendations outlined in the Air District Report.

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California Interfaith Power and Light, Marina del Rey, CA

2006-2008

Southern California Outreach Director

- Provided outreach and education to the faith community (churches, synagogues) on global warming issues, including energy efficiency and renewable energy. Achieved significant growth in Southern California membership.
- Led major campaign to persuade Toyota to drop its lawsuit against California's clean air regulations. Gained broad media coverage.
- Organized numerous public awareness events, including "Lobby Day," which brought clergy to Sacramento to meet with legislators. Several bills suggested by clergy at these meetings became law.

Community Clean Water Institute, Sebastopol, CA

2002-2006

Program Coordinator

- Developed and introduced water quality monitoring programs in Sonoma and Humboldt Counties.
- Oversaw budgets; wrote annual reports; recruited, trained, and managed employees, interns and volunteers; and supervised projects.
- Participated in CEQA planning processes leading to 2-year appointment to Sebastopol City Planning Commission.
- Wrote successful grant applications, receiving funding from private foundations, State of California, and several cities.
- Organized training sessions and outreach events on water quality issues.
- Initiated "Climate and Water" program to educate policymakers and water agency staff on the overlap of water issues, energy use and climate, resulting in the Sonoma County Water Agency's increased involvement in energy and water conservation programs.

ICLEI, Local Governments for Sustainability, Berkeley, CA

2001

Coordinator

- Organized conference at the University of Michigan, educating elected officials on sustainability issues in preparation for the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.
- Conducted sustainability inventories for Berkeley and Palo Alto as part of an EPA pilot program.

Essenes Environmental Inc., The SEE Green Program, Sebastopol, CA

1997-2000

Environmental Economist

- Developed the SEE Green Program from concept to implementation, resulting in social and environmental business networks in the North Bay, growing membership from 0 to 200 businesses.
- Oversaw production of SEE Green Directory, promoting green businesses to consumers.
- Wrote and edited articles, created daily one-minute Environmental Moment radio spot for KSRO Radio, hosted events, and managed SEE Green website.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Urban Planning, University of California, Los Angeles

graduated 2009

Environmental Analysis and Policy Concentration; Leaders in Sustainability Certificate

Employed as Graduate Student Researcher at Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies with a research focus on Carbon Costs and Household Electricity Expenditures, published in *UCLA Policy Options 2010*

Bachelor of Arts, University of California at Berkeley

graduated 1997

Major: Political Economy of Industrialized Societies

Major Emphasis: Ecological Economics

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Advisory Councilmember, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, San Francisco, California

2010

Planning Commissioner, City of Sebastopol, Sonoma County, California

2004-2006