
Nicole Hughes

Research Associate

Synapse Energy Economics

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Synapse Energy Economics Inc., Cambridge, MA. Research Associate, 2009 – present. Performs consulting, conducts research, and assists in writing testimony and reports on a wide range of issues from economic technologies and policies, air emissions from electricity generation, smart grid and rate cases, consumer advocacy, energy efficiency planning and potential, integrated resource planning, carbon price forecasts and the intersection of water and electricity generation within the energy industry. Completed training in two Ventyx models: PROMOD and Market Analytics. Has experience running PROMOD to examine impacts on electricity generation under various sensitivities. Is currently running Market Analytics to examine incremental emissions reductions from programs and policies that increase renewable energy and energy efficiency penetration.

TRC Companies, Lowell, MA. Intern, Summer 2008.

Worked in the Energy Group and collaborated on the Environmental Impact Statement process for the Cape Cod Wind Energy Project. Assessed and addressed comments received during public comment period. For comments raising concern regarding additional environmental impacts not addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, researched impacts and wrote them into the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Assisted in editing draft Environmental Impact Statement. For upcoming Spectra Energy pipeline project, performed field work identifying endangered and threatened species along the proposed pipeline right-of-way.

Houston, TX. Intern, Summer 2006.

Worked in the Exit Strategy and Remediation Groups. Assisted in managing and analyzing data from wells monitoring Brownfield and Superfund remediation sites. Attended conference on various chemicals available to break down pollutants. Researched marketing opportunities for additional Superfund sites in need of remediation. For Energy Group, assisted in researching and writing Resource Reports on soil impacts and endangered species impacts for an upcoming pipeline proposal.

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Bachelor of Arts in Earth and Planetary Sciences, Cambridge, MA, 2009. Coursework in Environmental Economics, Micro Economics, Atmospheric Studies, Structural Geology, Chemistry, and Math. Independent Study Project on Geothermal Energy Potential. Citation in Spanish achieved in May 2008.

SKILLS

Microsoft Office Suite, Ventyx PROMOD, Ventyx Market Analytics/PROSYM
Competent in oral and written Spanish.

PUBLICATIONS

E.D. Hausman, V. Sabodash, N. Hughes, and J.I. Fisher. “J. Fisher, R. Wilson, N, Hughes, M. Wittenstein, B. Biewald. Benefits of Beyond BAU: Human, Social, and Environmental Damages Avoided through the Retirement of the U.S. Coal Fleet.” Prepared for New Energy Economy, February 2011.

J. Fisher, R. Wilson, N, Hughes, M. Wittenstein, and B. Biewald. *Benefits of Beyond BAU: Human, Social, and Environmental Damages Avoided through the Retirement of the U.S. Coal Fleet*. Prepared for Civil Society Institute. January 2011.

B. Biewald, E. Brandt, N. Hughes, G. Keith, L. Mancinell, A. Napoleon, and K. Takahashi. *Beyond Business as Usual: Investigating a Future without Coal and Nuclear Power in the U.S.* Prepared for the Civil Society Institute. May 2010.

PERTINENT EXPERIENCE

Ms. Hughes completed the PROMOD training session.

Resume dated May 2011.