
Rachel Wilson

Associate

Synapse Energy Economics

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Synapse Energy Economics Inc., Cambridge, MA. Associate, 2010 – present, Research Associate, 2008 – 2010.

Performs consulting, conducts research, and assists in writing testimony and reports on a wide range of issues relating to electric utilities, including federal and state clean air policies; emissions from electricity generation; environmental compliance technologies, strategies, and costs; integrated resource planning; valuation of environmental externalities from power plants; and the nexus between water and energy. Uses optimization and electricity dispatch models, including Strategist, PROMOD, and PROSYM/Market Analytics, to conduct analyses of utility service territories and regional energy markets.

Analysis Group, Inc., Boston, MA. Associate, Energy Practice, 2007 - 2008.

Supported an expert witness asked to opine on various topics in the electric industry as they applied to merchant generators and provided incentives for their behavior in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Analyzed data related to coal production on Indian land and contractual royalties paid to the tribe over a 25 year period to determine if discrepancies exist between these values for the purposes of potential litigation. Examined Canadian policies relating to carbon dioxide, and assisted with research on linkage of international tradable permit systems. Managed analysts' work processes and evaluated work products.

Senior Analyst Intern, Energy Practice, 2006 - 2007.

Supported an expert witness in litigation involving whether a defendant power company could financially absorb a greater investment in pollution control under its debt structure while still offering competitive rates. Analyzed impacts of federal and state clean air laws on energy generators and providers and built a quantitative model showing the costs of these clean air policies to the defendant over a 30 year period. Built a financial model calculating impacts of various pollution control investment requirements. Researched the economics of art; assisted in damage calculations in arbitration between an artist and his publisher.

Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy, New Haven, CT. Research Assistant, 2005 – 2007.

Gathered and managed data for the Environmental Performance Index, presented at the 2006 World Economic Forum. Interpreted statistical output, wrote critical analyses of results, and edited report drafts. Part of the team that produced *Green to Gold*, an award-winning book on corporate environmental management and strategy. Managed data, conducted research, and implemented marketing strategy.

CERES, Boston, MA. Student Consultant, Spring 2006.

As part of a four-person team, made strategic recommendations on all aspects of messaging and engagement to encourage corporate directors to act on the issue of climate change. First strategic recommendation was sustainable governance forums, which were profiled in New York Times article “Global Warming Subject for Directors at Big Companies” on September 21, 2006.

Marsh Risk and Insurance Services, Inc., Los Angeles, CA. Risk Analyst, Casualty Department, 2003 – 2005.

Evaluated Fortune 500 clients’ risk management programs/requirements and formulated strategic plans and recommendations for customized risk solutions. Supported the placement of \$2 million in insurance premiums in the first year and \$3 million in the second year. Utilized quantitative models to create loss forecasts, cash flow analyses and benchmarking reports. Completed a year-long Graduate Training Program in risk management; ranked #1 in the western region of the US and shared #1 national ranking in a class of 200 young professionals.

EDUCATION

Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Master of Environmental Management, New Haven, Connecticut, 2007.

Concentration in Law, Economics, and Policy with a focus on energy issues and markets.

Claremont McKenna College, Bachelor of Arts in Environment, Economics, Politics (EEP) Claremont, California, 2003.

cum laude and EEP departmental honors.

School for International Training Quito, Ecuador. Spring 2002.

Semester abroad studying Comparative Ecology. Microfinance Intern – Viviendas del Hogar de Cristo in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

SKILLS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Microsoft Office Suite, Lexis-Nexis, Platts Energy Database, Strategist, PROMOD, and PROSYM/Market Analytics, some SAS and STATA.

Competent in oral and written Spanish.

Hold the Associate in Risk Management (ARM) professional designation.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Johnston, L., Hausman, E., Biewald, B., Wilson, and R., White, D. *2011 Carbon Dioxide Price Forecast*. February 11, 2011.

Fisher, J., R. Wilson, N. Hughes, M. Wittenstein, and B. Biewald. *Benefits of Beyond BAU: Human, Social, and Environmental Damages Avoided Through the Retirement of the US Coal Fleet*. Prepared for the Civil Society Institute. January 25, 2011.

Peterson, P., V. Sabodash, R. Wilson, and D. Hurley. *Public Policy Impacts on Transmission Planning*. Prepared for Earthjustice, December 21, 2010.

Fisher, J., S. Levy, Y. Nishioka, P. Kirshen, R. Wilson, M. Chang, J. Kallay, and C. James. *Co-Benefits of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Utah*. Prepared for the State Energy Office of Utah, March 2010.

Wilson, R. “The Energy-Water Nexus: Interactions, Challenges, and Policy Solutions.”
Presented at the National Drinking Water Symposium 2009, October 2009.

Fisher, J., C. James, L. Johnston, D. Schlissel, R. Wilson, *Energy Future: A Green Alternative for Michigan*. Prepared for Natural Resources Defense Council and Energy Foundation, August 2009.

Schlissel, D., R. Wilson, L. Johnston, D. White, *An Assessment of Santee Cooper’s 2008 Resource Planning*. April 2009.

Schlissel, D., A. Smith, R. Wilson, *Coal-Fired Power Plant Construction Costs*. July 2008.

Resume dated May 2011.