

Sarah Shenstone-Harris, Senior Associate

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Synapse Energy Economics Inc., Cambridge, MA. *Senior Associate*, October 2022 – Present.

- Provides research, analysis, and consulting services on various energy-sector issues, including integrated resource planning, rate design, electric vehicles and electrification, and clean energy

Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD), Reading, MA. *Integrated Resource Analyst I*, January – September 2022; *Integrated Resource Specialist*, October 2020 – December 2021.

Integrated Resource Analyst I:

- Planned the Department's wholesale power supply strategy, including developing and running economic models to evaluate power supply decisions. Consistently working to achieve RMLD's goals of delivering reliable, low-cost, and emission-free power
- Led the rate increase process and the design of new rate structures, such as a residential electric vehicle time-of-use rate.
- Managed the retirement and sales of RMLD's Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) and Emission-Free Certificates (EFECs) to ensure compliance with MA Climate Law and the achievement of RMLD's grid decarbonization goals, while keeping rates affordable for all classes
- Developed and maintained forecasting tools of retail load, energy purchases and hedging, power supply costs (energy, transmission, and capacity), and RECS/EFECs
- Prepared annual and monthly power supply budgets for energy, transmission, and capacity costs
- Adjusted monthly rates for all classes, based on expected costs and revenues
- Designed and implemented significant process improvements to track budgeted and actual costs, and manage the \$65 million power supply budget

Integrated Resource Specialist:

- Administered, promoted, coordinated, and reported on utility energy efficiency and electrification programs, including Air Source Heat Pumps, Electric Vehicle Chargers, Commercial Lighting, Solar and Distributed Generation, Energy Audits, Appliance Rebates, and other energy management programs
- Designed and developed economic and analytical tools to help achieve RMLD's power supply and retail goals and objectives, such as a rate analysis models
- Developed and expanded utility load forecasts, to inform both power supply strategy and program management
- Implemented significant program process improvements, resulting in a >50% reduction in customer rebate application turnaround time

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- Established systems to track program performance, including measure adoption, cost-effectiveness, energy savings, and environmental impacts
 - Responsible for reporting to external agencies, such as the ISO-NE and US Energy Information Administration (EIA), as well as to board members and key stakeholders on all retail program activities
 - Provided technical support to the Customer Service team, including administering training on new programs, a customer portal for rebate applications, and new program processes
 - Coordinated with other RMLD departments, vendors, program partners, and other utilities to support RMLD programs and goals

ICLEI Canada – Local Governments for Sustainability, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. *Climate & Energy Planner Project Assistant*, October 2018 – March 2020; *Climate & Energy Project Assistant*, October 2017 – October 2018.

- Coordinated ICLEI’s climate and energy consulting work for municipalities, including:
 - Stakeholder engagement (stakeholder identification, establishment of working groups, facilitating dialogue, collecting feedback and incorporating stakeholder input)
 - Identifying and developing programs and policies to improve environmental sustainability across multiple sectors (buildings, transportation, waste, land use, resource use, etc.)
 - Quantifying environmental and financial impacts of emission and energy reduction measures, identifying and collecting data sources, modelling energy and emissions with different policy options
 - Clearly and succinctly summarizing technical concepts to clients and stakeholders
 - Presenting recommendations and final plans to City Councils
- Coordinated and delivered capacity-building programs that support Canadian municipalities in greenhouse gas emissions mitigation activities and community energy planning
- Created resources and tools for climate action plan development and implementation (best practice guidelines, communication materials, emission measurement tools, decision-support tools, etc.)
- Developed and delivered workshops, webinars and training services to local governments participating in ICLEI programs and projects

Sustainable Development Technology Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. *Research and Technology Analyst* (8-month Co-op position), September 2016 – April 2017.

- Wrote and prepared briefing packages for the Board of Director’s Investment Committee, detailing the technological, business, intellectual property, and financial merits of clean tech projects seeking funding
- Conducted research to assess and inform SDTC’s clean tech investment priorities

EDUCATION

University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Master of Science in Environmental Sustainability (focus on policy and economics), Institute of the Environment, 2017.

Masters Project: *Have we reached peak driving?: A 25-year decomposition of vehicle trends in Canada*

Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Bachelor of Science in Biology, 2013.

Graduated with Distinction and Dean's List Honors

PUBLICATIONS

Rivers, N., S. Shenstone-Harris, N. Young. 2017. *Using nudges to reduce waste? The case of Toronto's plastic bag levy*. Journal of Environmental Management, Volume 188. ISSN 0301-4797. ZURA Consulting,

ICLEI Canada and Wood PLC. 2021. [Town of Aurora \(Ontario\) Community Energy Plan](#).

ICLEI Canada and Wood PLC. 2020. [Township of Huron-Kinloss \(Ontario\) Climate Change and Energy Plan](#).

LURA Consulting and ICLEI Canada. 2019. [City of Kawartha Lakes \(Ontario\), Healthy Environment Plan](#).

ICLEI Canada and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. 2020. [Guidebook on Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Reductions at the Project Level](#).

Shenstone-Harris, S., Cai, Y., and Dean, M. 2019. [On the Money: Financing Tools for Local Climate Action, 2019](#). Prepared for Partners for Climate Protection.

ICLEI Canada and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. 2018 and 2019. [Partners for Climate Protection National Measures Report 2018](#), [Partners for Climate Protection National Measures Report 2019](#).

Rivers, N., Shenstone-Harris, S., Young, N. 2017. [Using nudges to reduce waste? The Case of Toronto's plastic bag levy](#). Journal of Environmental Management 188: 153-162.

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