

COVER LETTER — Policy Analyst

Melissa Miyashiro, Executive Director
Blue Planet Foundation
126 Queen St Suite 204
Honolulu, HI 96813

September 15, 2022

Aloha e Melissa,

Applying for a new position is not something I enjoy. As a candidate, I must speak too much about myself, boast a little, brag a bit, and frankly, I prefer to be a humble, soft-spoken individual. Please forgive my boldness in response to your request for applicants.

I have the solution for our global energy needs that resolves our climate and environmental challenges. I will not share this answer here. Interview me. I'll explain when we speak in person.

Began working on this issue serving the Gore presidential campaign in 2000; advocating for *An Inconvenient Truth* beginning in 2006; and, more recently, providing IT support for the manufacture of space-deployed solar panel systems, including: Ingenuity, the helicopter flying on Mars, and Solar Parker Probe currently orbiting and mapping the sun.

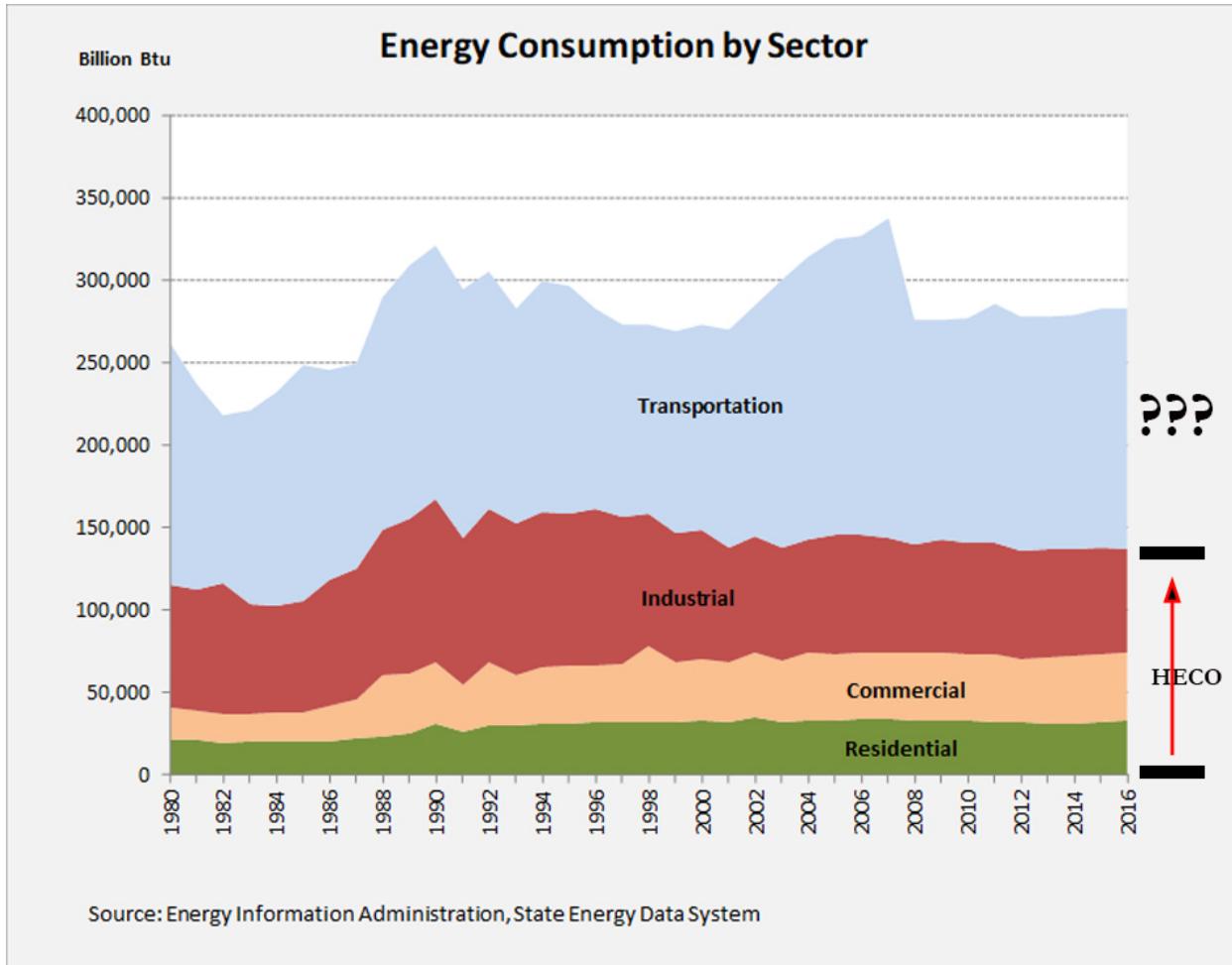
I am the *perfect fit* for this position. I'm not perfect. I simply fit your needs perfectly. I've attached your job description for the policy analyst role — and I answer YES to all your criteria — an emphatic YES, with proven excellence as I will demonstrate!

I'm a STEM professional. Began my collegiate career in nuclear engineering, migrated to economics, IT, computer programming, and completed my PhD education in political science, research, statistics and public policy. My focus is just about every topic, as policy wonks are needed in so many social and political areas. My diversity of research and professional activity makes me a better analyst. Also have a strong legal background due to my policy work.

Have a unique energy background. As a PhD candidate, I served both the U.S. Department of Defense and Department of Energy providing research on the WIPP (Waste Isolation Pilot Project) facility in southeastern New Mexico.

Nuclear power could solve ALL our challenges by allowing us to end use of non-renewable fuels. Unfortunately, we cannot safely store the waste. Nuclear power will continue to be part of our future energy portfolio, but only on a limited scale.

We must end the use of coal, natural gas and oil. However, solar and wind have limits as well. I've reviewed and analyzed the state's Goal 2045 Initiative. HECO will need to deploy some 15 MILLION solar panels on rooftops and green spaces to provide sufficient electricity for residential, commercial and industrial needs. These panels will consume some 5,000+ football fields of real estate.



If we follow California's recent initiative to end the use of petrol to power vehicles, we will need to deploy some additional 15 MILLION solar panels — and consuming more than 5,000+ football fields of real estate to recharge EVs.

Production of battery backup systems based on lithium create serious environmental challenges. Australian researchers are making progress on aluminum-based batteries. Could be a game changer. Wind turbines have not been tested in hurricane conditions. Are they suitable for Hawai'i?

Ever see what happens to solar panels in a hurricane? The Puerto Rico island of Vieques learned the hard way. Hurricane Marie destroyed the state-of-the-art Tesla array in 2017 (below).



ALEXANDER C. KAUFMAN/HUFFPOST

A shattered Tesla solar panel outside a water facility.

There seems to be no way forward. I am working on *The Way* forward. First began advocating this innovation in Hawai'i around 2012.

I am actively involved in energy policy in the aloha state. Just yesterday, I released another review and criticism of HECO's decision to close the AES coal-fired plant. My position may appear to run counter to the mission of Blue Planet Foundation. Let me explain.

Closing the plant required HECO to increase ratepayer prices initially 7%. The company lowered their estimates to 4% more recently. These higher costs ripple and multiply throughout the local economy. Thus, the actual increase will be much higher.

Any increase in electricity costs are tough on families and small businesses in our intensely inflationary times. HECO did not need to pull the plug on September 1st.

Although HECO ended use of coal, the company substituted the loss of energy production with increased use of diesel fuel. Hawai'i is the only state in the nation reliant on

diesel for electricity generation. The USA relies heaviest on LNG, but Hawaii's PUC bans this option.

More importantly, few policy analysts and officials understand the scope of Hawaii's use of coal. Here are the facts: it will take local ratepayers in Hawai'i over 5,100+ YEARS to use the same amount of coal that China uses in ONE YEAR.

Or, comparatively, it will take local ratepayers in Hawai'i over 1,700+ YEARS to use the same amount of coal that India uses in ONE YEAR.

Ending burning of coal to burn oil, while increasing costs to local families is not good policy. We did not improve environmental conditions; we simply punished local residents.

Most importantly, I have a better solution. Have been working on this option. I am collaborating with experts in Hawai'i on this solution. Let's talk if you want to learn more.

Experience in Social Justice or Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

YES. As a PhD student, directed a research institute focused on criminal justice. I authored reports detailing, "Who's In New Mexico Prisons?" Who? Mostly Black and Brown young males arrested for minor drug infractions.

My reports made it to the desk of Republican Gov. Gary Johnson. Although I lean to the political Left, we collaborated on cannabis reform. The governor was first in nation to call for the legalization of both medical and recreational cannabis. People ridiculed us at the time. New Mexico legalized medical in 2007, and recreational cannabis in 2021.

Ignoring our calls for policy change cost the state over \$7 BILLION in revenue — and \$1 BILLION in taxes for schools and public projects. This money instead funded criminal enterprises and drug cartels.

Continue this work to legalize cannabis in Hawai'i. We are funding criminals, and today, these organization are heavily involved in the trafficking of human beings — primarily young women. Included my February 15, 2021, testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 64, as part of my application, which is related to discrimination of medical cannabis patients in the workplace.

My research during my tenure with the NM Workers' Compensation administration evolved program coverage to include over 40,000+ Farm & Ranch workers per year — totaling hundreds of thousands of workers and their families today.

My volunteer service as our agency union vice president improved the lives, careers, financial status and workplace conditions for our majority Hispanic female staff.

Have volunteered, served and advocated for environmental justice, criminal justice reform, and both equal and equitable rights as a civil rights activist throughout my career. I directed a non-profit sports camp for special needs athletes and families for over 15 years.

Solving our current energy needs and environmental challenges is the most important task facing all of us. Our poorest communities and nations will suffer the worst of global climate change. One-third of Pakistan, for example, is underwater today. There is no more time to hesitate!

Again, my apologies for this bold, assertive and self-aggrandizing behavior. My true personality is more humble and reserved. Believe my personality and character exemplifies the Blue Planet Superpowers: Vision, Imagination, Boldness, Heart, Curiosity, 'Ohana, and Extraordinary Work.

I leave you with a third-party review of my character, personality and performance:

YOU have been a great asset to our team and it is your personality and humble nature that makes all of us so comfortable working together. We have had contractors on the DBA team before, but never with the synergy and positive energy that you bring with you. I believe you have had the greatest influence in our success and glad that we selected the right contractor. You have definitely made your mark here at HECO and have set the bar very high for future contractors!

Thank you for being you...keep doing what you do...keep that good karma flowing!

Mahalo nui loa you for your time; thank you for your passion on this critical issue. Hope we can speak further about the mission of Blue Planet Foundation and how I can serve your accomplished team.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Honolulu, HI 96815
[REDACTED]

APPENDIX

POSITION: Policy Analyst (full-time)

REPORTS TO: Executive Director

LOCATION: Honolulu, Hawaii

SUMMARY:

The Policy Analyst will play a key role in Blue Planet's efforts to research, propose, champion, and activate support for policy solutions that help Hawai‘i cut its carbon emissions in half by 2030. The Policy Analyst will leverage strong research skills to support Blue Planet's data-driven policy proposals, while keeping the community at the heart of our climate policy work and strengthening Blue Planet's role as a credible and trusted advocate on equitable climate policies.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES MAY INCLUDE:

Policy Research

- Researching, preparing, and editing issue briefs, status reports, and memoranda on clean energy and equitable climate policy.
- Tracking legislative and regulatory actions that relate to Blue Planet's mission, including tracking bills, hearings, testimony, and docket filings.
- Conducting research and analysis to identify and propose policy initiatives and advocacy strategies at the state and county levels to help Hawai‘i achieve deep decarbonization and center equitable climate solutions.
- Monitoring trends on climate policy efforts and industry developments inside and outside of Hawai‘i.
- Preparing legislative testimony on behalf of Blue Planet Foundation and testifying at hearings as requested.
- Assisting and preparing the Executive Director for hearings and key meetings with lawmakers, government agency officials, media, and community leaders.
- Tracking and providing written summaries of key advocacy metrics for internal and external audiences.

Outreach and Coordination

- Developing and executing a year-round grassroots advocacy and community engagement strategy to build coalitions for sustained advocacy on climate policy solutions.
- Identifying and engaging key partners, champions, and impacted stakeholders on Blue Planet's policy proposals.
- Stewarding and serving as a primary point of contact with Blue Planet's network of clean energy advocates.
- Working with the communications team to develop talking points and messaging for policy communications, including content for email actions alerts, social media, and web.

- Participating on behalf of Blue Planet in coalitions, task forces, working groups, community meetings and other entities focused on clean energy and climate policy.
- Supporting events and outreach activities.
- Building and implementing creative processes that steward and deepen relationships with grassroots supporters.

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS:

- 3+ years of demonstrated experience in a related public policy, policy research, legal research, or advocacy role
- Exceptional writer and copy-editor
- Experience in social justice or diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Strong commitment to Blue Planet’s mission to make Hawai‘i a model for climate solutions that inspire and catalyze action globally
- Experience working among diverse groups with varying perspectives and/or facilitating challenging conversations
- Exceptional analytical skills, including with calculations and data analysis
- Clear and concise communicator – ability to prioritize, clarify and communicate ideas simply, succinctly and accurately with attention to detail
- Ability to self-start and self-direct
- Creative, adaptive problem-solving ability and willingness to test new ideas and embrace unfamiliar topics and projects
- Ability to navigate ambiguity with patience, professionalism, and a solutions-focused mindset
- Extremely detail-oriented and thorough, with excellent organizational skills
- Ability to meet deadlines and follow through to completion of assigned projects
- Ability to balance multiple projects and priorities and thrive in a fast-changing environment
- Exemplifies our Blue Planet Superpowers: Vision, Imagination, Boldness, Heart, Curiosity, ‘Ohana, and Extraordinary Work

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Graduate degree in law, public policy, physical sciences, economics, or engineering
- Experience working with nonprofits and community-based organizations
- Experience working on clean energy and climate issues, with a particular focus on renewable energy, clean transportation, energy efficiency, utility regulation, and climate policy
- Experience with community organizing and grassroots campaigns
- Familiarity with Hawai‘i’s legislative processes at the state and county levels

COMPENSATION

The starting salary range is \$64,500-\$82,500. This is dependent on experience that will be discussed and vetted throughout the interview process. Blue Planet Foundation offers excellent

benefits that include generous paid time off, flexible work hours, professional and personal development opportunities, and medical, dental, and vision coverage.

APPLICATION DETAILS

All applicants must apply online via Blue Planet's website. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

ANTICIPATED START DATE:

January 2023