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POSITION DESCRIPTION

Research Fellow (Energy Transitions Specialist)

Position Level	A/B
Faculty/Division	Law
Position Number	ADMIN ONLY
Original document creation	12/09/ 2023

Position Summary

The Centre for Sustainable Development Reform (CSDR), established by the UNSW Faculty of Law and Justice in 2022, aims to connect knowledge and people to make small steps towards big changes. It creates safe spaces for changemakers—from government, business, and wider society—to plan pragmatic action for a sustainable low-carbon future informed by knowledge and insights from across the world. The CSDR builds on diverse research, education, and knowledge exchange partnerships aligned with global sustainable development commitments to drive forward the implementation of innovative and transformative workstreams. Currently active in over 20 countries, the CSDR works closely with decision-makers across government, international institutions, local communities, and the private and non-private sectors to create new approaches to decision making as well as bold and intelligent reforms.

Our team is made up of multi-disciplinary focussed researchers who are working on topics at the intersections of economics, politics, law, environmental management, data science and development. The CSDR Research Fellow (Energy Transitions Specialist) is expected to contribute towards the research effort of the CSDR while developing their research expertise through the pursuit of defined projects relevant to their particular field of research.

The role of CSDR Research Fellow (Energy Transitions Specialist) reports to the Centre for Sustainable Development Reform Director and has no direct reports.

Accountabilities

Specific accountabilities for this role include:

Level A:

- Contribute to research/scholarly activities, independently or as a member of a team, particularly in relation to the RACE2030 Energy Upgrade to Australian Homes project.
- Integrate information from various sources to facilitate knowledge exchange by preparing and drafting documents including but not limited to: policy papers, event briefing documentation, collaborator communications, end-user handbooks and manuals and other capacity building products.
- Conduct scientific research and/or enable research teams to create scholarly output that is recognised by peers.
- Undertake specific academic project/s and provide a high level of project support, under the guidance of the CSDR Directors and leadership team, to contribute to delivery of research activities.
- Support the dissemination of research outcomes through appropriate channels and outlets by utilising knowledge translation and policy relevant communication styles.
- Participate in and/or present at conferences and/or workshops relevant to the project as required.
- Support the design, delivery and evaluation processes of research projects within the Centre and contribute to identifying future opportunities and the preparation of contract research bids and proposals.
- Align with and actively demonstrate the [UNSW Values in Action: Our Behaviours](#) and the [UNSW Code of Conduct](#).
- Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others.

In addition to the above, a Level B will:

- Mentor and guide students and colleagues and develop the next generation of academics through involvement in supervision of HDRs (as per the norms of the discipline).
- Contribute to the growth of the CSDR through the development of government and donor relations; fundraising, grant application preparation and competitive funding applications under the guidance of senior colleagues. This will include participating as co-investigator or chief investigator in grant applications.
- Disseminate findings to create scholarly impact which is globally and locally recognised by peers through academic journal articles, conferences and presentations, and publicly accessible knowledge products that advance the utilisation of disciplinary knowledge.
- Conduct research/scholarly activities under limited supervision, either independently or as a member of a team (as per the norms of the discipline) and design research projects.
- Establish a personal research portfolio and start developing independent research proposals.

Skills and Experience

- A masters in a related discipline, and/or relevant work experience specifically in the fields of energy policy, energy regulation, energy law, or associated professional services.
- Proven commitment to proactively keeping up to date with discipline knowledge and developments.
- High level communication skills and ability to network effectively and interact with a diverse range of stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team, collaborate across disciplines, create innovative solutions to complex problems and build effective relationships.
- Evidence of highly developed interpersonal and organisational skills.
- Experience working in varied cultural contexts, interacting with government ministers and senior officials, and experience in training and workshop delivery is highly desirable.
- An understanding of and commitment to UNSW's aims, objectives and values in action, together with relevant policies and guidelines.
- Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training.

In addition to the above, a Level B will:

- A masters, or PhD in a related discipline, and/or relevant work experience specifically in the fields of energy policy, energy regulation, energy law, or associated professional services.
- Demonstrated track record in research with outcomes of high quality and high impact with clear evidence of the desire and ability to continually achieve research excellence as well as the capacity for research leadership.
- A track record of significant involvement with academia or industry in relevant fields.

Pre-employment checks required for this position

- Verification of qualifications

About this document

This Position Description outlines the objectives, desired outcomes, key responsibilities, accountabilities, required skills, experience and desired behaviours required to successfully perform the role.

This template is not intended to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position. Characteristics of the position may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the role.