Applications being received now for the NRDC/YSE Cameron Speth Fellowship!

Deadline to Apply: 5:00 PM (eastern) April 3, 2023
Send Resume, Cover Letter, and Preferred Project to: AHedgepeth@nrdc.org
Compensation: $10,000

The Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. (NRDC), a leading nonprofit environmental organization with a staff of over 600, including scientists, technical experts, lawyers, and other specialists, is seeking qualified applicants from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies for the Cameron Speth Fellowship.

The Fellowship is a 10-week paid research and advocacy position with NRDC starting in late May 2023. NRDC is looking for qualified applicants to work on various climate change, energy, and environmental issues.

The Fellow would work with staff based in Washington, DC or San Francisco, CA on one of four projects:

1. With the International Program’s International Climate Team on research, analysis, and advocacy related to an equitable global energy transition, particularly the phaseout of fossil fuels, adoption of clean energy, and alignment of global financial flows with the goals of the Paris Agreement. Projects may vary based on the Fellow’s specific expertise. Clean energy adoption projects could include mapping potential global clean energy investments the U.S. could support through its Build Back Better World (B3W) initiative and researching barriers and recommendations for how U.S. companies can more effectively export clean energy globally including through the tools offered by the U.S. government (such as the International Development Finance Corporation and the Export-Import Bank of the U.S.). Potential fossil fuel phaseout projects could include collating research and analysis on the state of play of liquified natural gas (LNG) trade globally and supporting the team’s work to analyze flexible electricity capacity alternatives to LNG.

2. With NRDC’s India Climate Program on research, analysis, and advocacy aimed to maximize NRDC’s strategic priority areas in India on climate change, clean air & healthy cities, and international climate policy. The fellowship includes analysis of India’s renewable energy market, clean energy access, energy efficiency, climate friendly cooling, climate adaption focused on heat stress, air pollution, and implementing the country’s climate commitments. Expected project deliverables may include stand-alone documents or memos that will be incorporated into NRDC reports, factsheets, blogs, briefings, and presentations on clean energy and climate change in India. The ideal candidate will have with excellent writing and research skills. Applicants should be knowledgeable about clean energy and climate change issues. While
International experience is helpful, it is not required. The Fellowship will provide an excellent opportunity to investigate major barriers and potential solutions to clean energy access, climate friendly cooling, air quality, and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals. The student will have the opportunity to engage with experts both internally and externally including policymakers.

3. With the International Program’s China Climate and Energy team on research, analysis and advocacy related to the global energy transition – particularly the promotion of renewable energy in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) countries, and US-China collaboration on reducing methane emissions in coal mining and agriculture. The work will focus on supporting the transition from coal to clean energy in China and BRI countries, e.g., financial tools to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy, and analyzing barriers, technologies, and policies to mitigate methane emissions in coal mining and agriculture. Materials will be produced for public use, as well as for engagement with policymakers, companies, investors, other civil society organizations, media, and other stakeholders. Familiarity or background in energy policy preferred, but not required. Location: Remote.

4. With NRDC China’s Environmental Law & Governance Project on research, analysis for advocacy of environmental and climate law, governance, as well as development of climate finance. The fellowship includes analysis of international landscape, recent trend and progress in climate legislations, regulatory framework; or policies and market solutions to mobilize investment for energy transition in line with Paris Agreement. The project deliverables include drafts of research memos, issue briefing papers, presentations, blogs, etc. Candidate should have knowledge about environment and climate change issues, and a background in environmental law, environmental management, or sustainable finance area.