Energy Advocacy Officer

The Green Connection (GC) is an environmental and social justice organization, striving for eco justice, community empowerment and resource advocacy. GC is running a ‘Who Stole Our Oceans’ campaign, which aims to protect the ocean through opposing offshore oil and gas developments and informing coastal communities about the negative impacts of Operation Phakisa (specifically offshore oil and gas projects). Such as the nuclear deal that was stopped by civil society in 2017. The government’s drive on oil and gas appears to raise similar concerns.

Background on climate justice and energy

Investing in more fossil fuels is not a shift to renewable energy, as a country that signed a Paris agreement to reach net-zero emissions. The drive to invest in fossil fuels is concerning, as the consequences of climate change are already being experienced by impoverished communities – The Green Connection foresees a future where oceans are protected against offshore oil and gas for the next generation. Research reports that we have conducted show the negative economic impacts that oil and gas will pose and further evidence proves that putting money into the industry will only head us to a climate disaster.

We are currently looking for an individual who is experienced in handling strategic discussions in parliament or government institutions - who will help us shift towards a just transition and ensure the campaign, as well as organisational goals are reached.

Brief Description

The position vacant is for an experienced Energy Advocacy Officer at The Green Connection. Someone who understands socio-political context of the energy terrain in the country and knowledge of stakeholders in the energy sector. They should have the ability to push the organisation’s position through political and public participation engagements. The Energy Advocate Officer will work closely with the organisation’s Strategic Lead and will report to her.

Key Responsibilities

Advocacy Against ‘False Solutions’

- Supports development of national advocacy plans on net-zero, carbon markets, geoengineering and nature based solutions with civil society. Monitors and implements objectives towards just transition.
- Provides strategic resources for GC to participate in decision-making about the energy future of South Africa.
Develops and implements advocacy training activities around net zero, carbon markets and climate based solutions for GC with the Strategic Lead and Legacy Coordinator.

Does research and writing to consolidate the knowledge of the carbon market impacts on the ground using existing sources to provide evidence base for the team to drive the Who Stole Our Oceans campaign.

Supports writing and production of external reports, fact sheets, position papers on Climate Justice and Energy issues to support the organizational goal to shift to renewable energy.

**Provide media support by contributing to the website content, social media, writing and being an organizational spokesperson.**

Liaise with the Outreach Coordinator in terms of supporting community empowerment.

Provide political insights connected with legal cases.

**Skills and Experience Needed**

- Must be an experienced campaigner or activist with strong tactical and networking skills who can advocate at a political level with government. (5 years)
- A well-committed team player with collaborative working skills.
- Understands alliance building, organizing and mobilizing.
- Must be willing to travel.
- Strong researcher, writer and verbal communicator with experience of reporting back to the Strategic Lead and Operations Manager.

Employment Status: Full-time

**Qualification**

Dip in Humanities/Social Sciences/Engineer or any relevant tertiary qualification

**Remuneration**

Negotiable

**How To Apply**

Email your CV and Cover Letter: admin@thegreenconnection.org.za

**Closing Date:** 18 April 2022