

Project Manager ‘Grid Planning for the Energy Transition’

Starting as soon as possible; location is Berlin

This application will remain open until we have found a suitable candidate;
interviews will be run from April onwards

Background

The Renewables Grid Initiative is a unique collaboration of NGOs and TSOs from across Europe. We promote transparent, environmentally sensitive grid development to enable a steady growth of renewable energy and the energy transition. RGI facilitates the exchange of our members and further stakeholders to come up with

- a) new approaches on how to plan and build the grid infrastructure needed for the energy transition while defending environmental safeguards and fully recognising societal concerns related to the develop of large infrastructure and
- b) new and more progressive political positions on how to operate the electricity grid in a fast changing environment.

Specific tasks

The Project Manager ‘Grid Planning for the Energy Transition’ position is being created to work on the following tasks:

Facilitating a collaboration between ENTSO-E/ENTSO-G and European NGOs to develop a Paris Agreement compatible TYNDP scenario – The TYNDP so far has been based on scenarios which are insufficient to comply with the Paris Agreement (PA). ENTSO-E and ENTSO-G have confirmed their interest to close this gap. RGI fill facilitate a collaboration which looks into better making TYNDP scenarios fit for the future and how to improve stakeholder involvement. This is accompanied by a discussion on how to adjust modelling approaches.

Lead RGI’s contribution to the Horizon 2020 financed SENTINEL project – RGI is partner of the ETH-Zürich led SENTINEL consortium. SENTINEL will deliver a modeling framework that offers a better representation of an energy system in transition, greater transparency to facilitate access to a wider user community, and a better representations of the impacts of alternative system and market designs on particular actors. RGI contributes to this project via two case studies and by engaging relevant stakeholders.

Distil key messages and develop policy briefs regarding the “Need for grids in the electricity system to integrate an increasing share of RES’ from the above activities.

The candidate generally should be prepared to

- develop new multi-stakeholder projects (establishment of new collaborations)
- facilitate cooperation and collaborative processes leading to new solutions (similar to the role of a consortium manager) and
- document and disseminate generated insights across Europe.

Contribute to the development of communication material for civil society to explain the need for grids. The role of electricity grids on different voltage levels as enablers of the

energy transition is still insufficiently understood by both policy makers and a wider public. In addition to information for the political audience, RGI aims to develop communication materials for a wider audience to reflect upon this role, also in relation to other technologies.

Qualifications

Candidates should have

- working experience of at least four years, ideally with an international component.
- an understanding of energy scenario development and modelling.
- an understanding of expectations of different stakeholder groups for the energy transition.
- background knowledge on stakeholder acceptance related to large-scale energy infrastructure
- willingness, ideally experience in speaking in front of larger audiences.
- the availability to travel (nationally and at EU level).
- excellent written and verbal communication skills in English; at least one further European language highly desirable.
- an ability to learn fast and to quickly understand new issues; convincing personality with strong capacity to build up trustful relationships.
- an ability to work fully independently and highly efficiently and to structure the own work; be a respected discussion partner for stakeholders from the TSO/private sector as well as from the NGO/non-profit sector. This is at least as important if not more important than technical qualifications.

A big plus: insights into the debate of European grid development in the context of the energy transition

What we offer

- We are a small, highly international and diverse team, continuously inventing something new.
- We work with our members from 12 European countries and at European level.
- We are operating at the heart of an exciting industry that's currently undergoing a massive transformation
- We work at the interface of the corporate energy world, non-governmental organisations and the policy world.

Your application

Please address your application to Antonella Battaglini, the CEO of RGI. Include a CV, responses to the questions below and a letter of motivation in which you indicate expected salary, first possible available date and references. Send it to jobs@renewables-grid.eu.

The starting date for this post is as soon as possible. The contract will run for initially two years with the option of prolonging it. Our offices are based in down-town Berlin.

Only candidates with the required qualifications will receive feedback to their application.

Questions

Please give an example of you developing and/or managing a multi-stakeholder project. What were the specific challenges, how did you overcome them? (max. half a page)

Why do you think an organisation like RGI looks into energy scenario development and modelling of grid systems? (max. one page)