

PRIYANKA SUNDARESHAN

1301 20th St NW Apt 506 · Washington, DC 20036 · 617-645-2090 · priyaz@alum.mit.edu

EXPERIENCE

Environmental Defense Fund, Washington, D.C.

Attorney, Oceans Program (September 2015 - present)

- Advocate for sustainable federal fisheries policy and implementation through agency action, legislation, and the courts. Strategize and conduct congressional outreach to ensure fishery conservation outcomes, including educational meetings and advocacy on relevant legislative proposals, limiting passage of harmful fish bills in the 115th Congress. Write comments and letters to encourage action by NOAA and the New England regional fishery management council. Coordinate with allied organizations and share information to protect the Magnuson-Stevens Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and other ocean conservation laws. Manage state and federal advocacy for council appointments. Communicate results to funders.

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, Washington, D.C.

Associate (October 2012 – September 2015); *Summer Associate* (May 2011 – July 2011)

- Associate in Energy group and Environment, Land Use, and Natural Resources group. Assisted in representation of clients in nuclear, oil and gas, and hydroelectric energy industries in regulatory and litigation proceedings. Experience in administrative law, Endangered Species Act, CERCLA, NEPA, Atomic Energy Act, TSCA, natural resource damage assessments, and associated regulations.
- Representative matters included: Research and draft complaint filed against federal agency under Administrative Procedure Act based on interactions of the Endangered Species Act with hydroelectric relicensing, and draft 1st Circuit brief on similar issues; Internal investigation of nuclear safety culture and whistleblower issues, and defense in Nuclear Regulatory Commission enforcement actions; Research regulations under NEPA and AEA for response to contentions in nuclear plant licensing proceedings; Conduct environmental due diligence to assist corporate acquisition deals; Advise clients on environmental compliance and liability related to CERCLA/Superfund, tort claims, and other federal and state environmental issues.

U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C.

Legal Intern, Loan Guarantee Program Office (June 2010 - August 2010)

- Participated in project finance negotiations for construction of energy projects applying for federal loan guarantees, including transmission lines, battery storage for frequency regulation, wind farms, and vehicle manufacturing projects. Investigated manufacturers for compliance with energy appliance standards.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C.

Summer Intern, Office of the General Counsel, Energy Markets division (May 2009 - July 2009)

- Researched legislative history and prior orders to guide FERC's demand response national action plan. Attended internal discussions on Smart Grid development and advised staff of antitrust law interactions.

PA Consulting Group, Cambridge, MA

Consultant Analyst/Analyst, Federal & Defense Services practice (August 2006 - July 2008)

- Analyzed steam and power sale contracts of major U.S. power company's natural gas assets for exposure to potential carbon legislation. Assessed the coal procurement and transportation strategy of major Midwest utility, comparing financial impacts of their existing coal mix to benefits gained from new sources and rail extensions, and wrote report for state public utility commission. Reviewed data and created performance status updates for leadership of largest and most complex government defense acquisition program to date. Gained in-depth knowledge and experience with project performance metrics.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Energy Resources, Boston, MA

Volunteer Intern (September - December 2007)

- Created wedge analysis of state policy options for greenhouse gas emissions reduction over 30 years.

Synapse Energy Economics, Cambridge, MA; *Intern* (January 2005)

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- Researched methods of financing major U.S. wind energy projects and costs for retrofitting coal plants with pollution controls. Compared carbon allowance projections based on proposed U.S. legislation.

EDUCATION

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ - Dual J.D./M.S. Program in Economics, Law, and the Environment

- **James E. Rogers College of Law**, *Juris Doctor*, December 2011, GPA 3.560/4.0
Honors: Dean's List; Dean's Achievement Scholarship; James A. Glasgow Scholarship (2008-2009); Clark Scholarship in Env. Law (2010-2011), Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Fdn Scholarship (2011-2012)
Publications: Editor-in-Chief (2010-2011), *Arizona Journal of Environmental Law & Policy* (AJELP); Founding Member, Executive Articles Editor (2010), *AJELP*; 2L Writer (2009-2010), *Ariz. J. of Int'l & Comp. Law*.
Note: "Using the Transfer of Water Rights as a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy: Comparing the U.S. and Australia" (published in 2010, available at 27 *Ariz. J. Int'l & Comp. L.* 911).
Activities: Environmental Law Society; Election Protection 2010, 2008; Graduate & Professional Student Council (Law Rep. 2009-10); Law Women's Association (Communications Chair 2009-10); American Constitution Society (Treasurer 2009-10); Phi Alpha Delta
- **Dept. of Agricultural & Resource Economics**, *Masters of Science in Agricultural & Resource Economics*, December 2011, GPA 3.889/4.0
Teaching Assistant, Fall 2010: Economic Statistics undergraduate class
Research Assistant, Spring 2011: Prof. Bonnie Colby; research on achieving environmental flows through transfers of water rights and editing for a chapter on water supply reliability published in *Water Markets for the 21st Century: What Have We Learned?*, K. William Easter, Qiuqiong Huang eds. (2014).

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Bachelor of Science, Chemical Engineering, Minor in Environmental Policy, June 2006, GPA 4.4/5.0

McDermott Scholarship 2004-2006; MIT Terrascope Program (Undergraduate Teaching Fellow); Alpha Chi Omega (VP Chapter Relations & Standards (judicial/mediator role), House Manager); MIT Natya (President, Treasurer)

ASSOCIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Licensed Member of the Bar in Arizona and District of Columbia
- South Asian Bar Association (D.C.): V.P. Communications 2018 and 2019; General Director 2016
- Organizing for Action, D.C., Spring 2014 Fellow
- Arizona Democratic Party, Voter Protection Hotline Legal Director, 2018 Coordinated Campaign (October 2018 - November 2018) - Managed and trained volunteer lawyers staffing the voter protection hotline from Oct. 2 to Nov. 15, 2018. Answered questions to assist voters with general voting information and receive reports of voting incidents through early voting and Election Day, and assisted voters to cure ballots.

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- Panelist, D.C. Environmental Film Festival, March 20, 2018 screening of film *Blue* on ocean issues
- "Lack of Accountability in the New England Groundfish Fishery and U.S. Treaty Implications," ABA International Environmental and Resources Law Committee Newsletter, February 2017.
- Speaker, MIT Terrascope, Apr. 12, 2015, "Topics in Energy and Environmental Law."

OTHER SKILLS/ACTIVITIES

- Intermediate spoken Spanish, basic spoken Tamil and Kannada
- MIT Alumni Leadership: Terrascope Program Advisory Board (2006-2008); MIT Club of Boston Summer BBQ Chair 2007; Alpha Chi Omega Alumnae Reunion Chair 2007, 2008; MIT Club of Tucson 2010
- Bharatanatyam (Indian classical dance); gave solo recital in 1999 in Bangalore, India
- Interests: running, biking, hiking, other outdoor activities