CLEAN GRID

Vice President, Strategic Communications

Remote Position: Midwest Region

(Ideal Locations: Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN – Chicago, IL – Des Moines, IA – Indianapolis, IN)



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About Clean Grid Alliance



Advancing Renewable Energy in the Midwest

Clean Grid Alliance (CGA) is a nonprofit organization whose 60+ members include wind, solar and energy storage developers and manufacturers, non-profit environmental, public interest, and clean energy advocacy organizations, farmer organizations, and other businesses that support renewable energy. CGA is a vital player in the fast-changing clean energy sector. Clean energy (and other technologies that will enable a clean and renewable future) is growing rapidly and includes wind, solar, storage, and other emerging technologies like hydrogen —all of which will need CGA's expertise and engagement in the years to come. CGA's current footprint includes nine states: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Missouri. CGA's work with the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) also includes MISO South (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and a small part of Texas).







Areas of Focus

Leading the Way in the Renewable Energy Revolution

Wind:

The most cost-efficient source of renewable energy, wind power blows the Midwest toward a renewable energy future.

Solar:

Solar power creates jobs, drives innovation, and strengthens our economy as a key player in moving the Midwest toward a renewable energy future.

Transmission:

Transmission is critical to delivering low-cost energy when and where it is needed.

Storage:

Strong storage infrastructure can bring down energy costs by increasing grid efficiency and improving reliability and flexibility.

Wind & Solar Energy Projects – MISO North







The Opportunity

The Clean Grid Alliance (CGA) seeks a **Vice President, Strategic Communications** who will be responsible for developing and executing a comprehensive communications strategy that elevates the organization's brand, strengthens its reputation, and advances its strategic objectives. This role requires a strategic thinker with exceptional communication, political acumen, and media relations skills. The ideal candidate will be a passionate advocate for clean energy solutions and possess a deep understanding of the political landscape and its impact on the industry.

Key Responsibilities:

Develop and execute a comprehensive communications strategy:

- Align communications efforts with CGA's overall business strategy and strategic priorities.
- Develop and manage key messages and narratives across all channels.
- Oversee all aspects of media relations, including press releases, media inquiries, media training, and executive visibility.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with key local media outlets, journalists, and industry influencers.
- Monitor media coverage and analyze its impact.

Lead and manage the communications team:

- Lead and mentor a high-performing communications team of three plus personnel.
- Foster a collaborative and results-oriented team environment.

Enhance the organization's brand and reputation:

- Develop and implement brand-building initiatives across all channels.
- Manage CGA's online and social media presence, including the development of a webinar series.
- Develop and maintain strong relationships with key stakeholders, including investors, customers, government officials, and industry partners.

Provide strategic counsel to executive leadership:

- Advise the CEO and other senior executives on communications strategies for key initiatives, such as internal membership value, external relationship building, and industry communications thought leadership
- Prepare executive presentations and speeches for internal and external audiences.
- Monitor and analyze the competitive landscape and provide insights on industry trends and competitor communications.

Support advocacy for clean energy policies:

- In service to established policy goals, develop and execute public affairs campaigns to advance CGA's policy agenda.
- Provide written/visual collateral and creative content deliverables for communicating with key policymakers and government officials.
- Work with state advocacy, MISO, and regulatory teams to enhance positive relationships at political events and industry conferences.





The Candidate

The Vice President, Strategic Communications is a critical member of the executive leadership team and will report directly to the Executive Director. The ideal candidate is a results-oriented project manager who can deliver exceptional outcomes. They will create a compelling vision and implement a strategic plan for the communications team that incorporates both the strategic vision and daily work requirements.

Required

- 12 to 15 years of experience in corporate communications or public relations with a deep understanding of the energy industry and the political landscape.
- Bachelor's degree is required. Advanced degree or coursework is a plus.
- Excellent judgment skills and ability to immediately put plans into action.

Preferred

- Strong political acumen and experience working with government officials and policymakers.
- Understanding, knowledge, and experience in environmental issues, energy, renewable energy, or related fields is a strong plus.

Skills and Accomplishments

- Proven track record of success in developing and executing high-impact communications strategies.
- Ability to work independently and embrace collaboration, teamwork, and flexible thinking.
- Experience leading and managing high-performing teams.
- High degree of self-motivation and initiative, with the ability to prioritize, co-lead on major political relationships, and follow strategic communication projects through to completion.
- Knowledgeable of digital marketing and social media best practices.
- Intellectually curious and strong work ethic with a commitment to excellence.
- Results-oriented with a bias for action and strong organizational and management skills.





Submit your application at

https://driwaterstonehc.com/position/vp-strategic-comms-cga/

Salary and Benefits

The salary is \$140k depending on experience and the candidate's qualifications.

Excellent benefits include 100% employer-paid health, dental, and vision insurance, long short-term disability, generous vacation, 11.5 paid holidays, and 6% base pay contribution to retirement plan after the employee is vested after 1 year of employment.

Location

The preferred location for the position is in the Midwest; ideally in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN – Chicago, IL – Des Moines, IA – Indianapolis, IN - Remote position. CGA currently has a hybrid work environment and does host quarterly (March, June, September, December) member meetings in Minneapolis/St. Paul which staff attend in person.

Equal-opportunity Employer

CGA provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation, and professional development.

DR/Waterstone has been exclusively retained for this engagement. All first-round interviews for this position will be via video conference with DR/Waterstone.

About DRiWaterstone

DR/Waterstone is a women-founded executive search firm recognized by Forbes magazine as one of the leading executive recruiting firms in the U.S. With a focus on purpose and mission-driven organizations, we provide executive search and strategic consulting services to help regional, national, and international clients grow, thrive, and excel.

