Impact WV Fellow Job Description—Research Analyst at Downstream Strategies

Downstream Strategies offers consulting services to help build resilient communities, promote economic development, and protect the environment. Our staff members combine sound interdisciplinary skills with a core belief in the importance of protecting the environment and linking economic development with natural resource stewardship. Clients include government agencies, companies, nonprofit organizations, attorneys, and individuals. Downstream Strategies was founded in 1997 and currently has a staff of 13. We have a fast-paced, dynamic, interdisciplinary, collaborative work environment.

Our main office is located in Morgantown, an historic town in Monongalia County along the banks of the Monongahela River. Best known as the home of West Virginia University, Morgantown is 75 miles south of Pittsburgh, and its surrounding areas offer a wide range of outdoor recreation activities including hiking, fishing, whitewater rafting, and skiing. We maintain a second office in Alderson, West Virginia along the banks of the scenic Greenbrier River.

As a Research Analyst at Downstream Strategies, a typical day might include the following (and will depend on the specific skill sets of the person who is hired):

- Participate as a project team member on science and policy projects related to water resources, renewable energy, local food systems, and/or other topics.
- Analyze data and create charts and tables using tools such as Excel or Access.
- Research and summarize laws, regulations, and policies related to water quality, energy, and climate change.
- Write portions of technical and summary reports.
- Perform water or soil field monitoring.

This job might be for you if:

You work well with others on a project team by bringing your unique talents to the team while learning from others.

You enjoy solving problems independently. You love taking on difficult challenges and finding creative solutions. You don't get flustered easily. If you don't know the answer, you'll dig until you find it.

You pay attention to the details. As far as you're concerned, anything worth doing is worth doing right, every single time.

You communicate clearly. You write well. You speak eloquently.

You are skilled in the collection and analysis of existing, policy-relevant datasets.

You care about having the best science inform public policy.

To land this gig, you should have several of the following qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in a program related to environmental science, geology/hydrogeology, water resources, public policy, or related field.
- One or more years of experience working in a related field.
- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple tasks, complete tasks on schedule, and work independently.
- Aptitude for data synthesis and presentation.
- Proficiency with software tools including Excel, Access, and Word.
- Experience with technical writing.
- Strong research skills.
- Experience with collection, handling, and management of environmental samples.