

## **Ottumwa-area Community Organizer**

Request for consulting services

Deadline: Open until filled

Clean Up MidAm requests services from an Ottumwa-based consultant to assist with community organizing and campaign activities that support and build a coalition dedicated to a community-centered transition from local coal power generation to clean energy.

[Clean Up MidAm](#) is a coalition consisting of more than 10 Iowa nonprofits dedicated to ensuring that MidAmerican Energy Company retires its coal plants- including the Ottumwa Generating Station- in favor of more efficient, cost-effective and safe clean energy.

The coalition provides research and data and organizes Iowans to move policies to address air and water pollution, health impacts, and the economics of coal plants and to move toward alternatives. Campaign activities include public education, communications, organizing, outreach and advocacy.

The goal of this work is to ensure that MidAmerican Energy and Alliant Energy begin to engage all local stakeholders in a transparent and timely process for transitioning to new energy, new jobs, and a healthy community.

### **Description of Services Requested:**

The consultant will be responsible for building a local coalition with representative voices from Wapello County (and Southeast Iowa) and engaging the group in activities that support the campaign goals. In addition to their independent work within the community, the consultant will regularly report to the Clean Up MidAm coalition partners to recommend strategies and assess progress on goals.

### **Services include:**

- Outreach to engage local community organizations, individual advocates, labor unions, faith communities, small businesses and others.
- Meetings with community leaders and elected officials to share information about the campaign and the impacts of the coal plants.
- Effective communications to external campaign supporters and internal coalition partners
- Organizing public meetings and educational forums, supported by the Campaign's staff and resources.

- Attend and help lead a working group along with partner organizations that will meet regularly to coordinate strategy
- Arrange one-on-one meetings with potential working group members.
- Support for local activities led by one or more of the Coalition partners, like Iowa Environmental Council, Sierra Club, Iowa Interfaith Power and Light, Eco Madres/Moms Clean Air Force, or more.
- Work with the Coalition communications and social media team to capture images and stories about the campaign and people that power it
- Provide regular reports on activities in Ottumwa and join monthly coalition calls and other periodic group meetings (via video chat).

**Timeline and compensation:**

The position can start immediately. The duration of the contract will be a minimum of six (6) months with the opportunity for an extension based on funding availability and project success.

Current available funding is a maximum of \$1,750 per month, with an estimated 15-20 hours per week to complete the work.

**Selection Criteria:**

The contractor will be selected on the basis of professional qualifications and demonstrated competence. Particular attention will be paid to:

- Ability to perform the services requested in this description
- Qualifications and relevant experience of the individuals who will work on the contract
- Demonstrated record of success by the individual
- Proven ability to work with diverse constituencies and in a collaborative environment
- Effective verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to travel in Wapello County and reliable transportation

Experience with community organizing, clean energy issues, or nonprofit organizations is a plus. Highly desirable are familiarity with Latino/a and Indigenous communities in the area, as well as Spanish language skills.

**Proposal Submission:**

Interested individuals should respond to Jordan Oster, Energy Program Director at the Iowa Environmental Council, via email to [oster@iaenvironment.org](mailto:oster@iaenvironment.org). Please include, at a minimum:

- A professional resume the individual providing services
- A short narrative (1-2 pages maximum) describing work history, past and current community organizing and local government engagement, and other experience relevant to providing services under this proposal. Include any background and experience in clean energy and environmental issues and media relations/communications.

The [Iowa Environmental Council](#) is an Equal Opportunity Employer dedicated to building a culturally diverse and pluralistic community engaged with working in a multicultural environment, and strongly encourages proposals from all qualified firms or individuals