

West Virginia Environmental Council

P.O. Box 1007, Charleston WV 25324

www.wvecouncil.org phone: 304-414-0143

October 5, 2015

Request for Proposals for (A) Legislative Lobbyists, including an interim session lobbyist, and (B) A Lobby Team Coordinator; Proposals due by November 1, 2015

A. Request for Proposals for Legislative lobbyists:

The WV Environmental Council (WVEC) is requesting proposals from two or more persons to perform legislative lobbying during the 2016 regular Legislative Session, which runs from early January 2016 through mid-March 2016.

We are requesting proposals for a part-time legislative lobbyist for the monthly 3-day interim sessions, timing to be determined by the Legislature, but usually runs from April until December of the same year. For the sake of continuity and of "same face" recognition, we expect that our interim session lobbyist will also be a regular lobbyist during the regular legislative session.

Please include in your proposal the number of hours per day, week, or month to which you are willing to commit during the regular Session and the monthly 3-day interim sessions.

Political savvy and capacity for relating to and influencing a wide variety of people are a plus. A broad range of familiarity with environmental issues impacting West Virginia is a plus. Dedication to the cause and a thick skin are essential survival skills. Rewards are few, but victories are that much more savored when attained.

Proposals should include: personal background information, relevant experience, and monetary expectations- subject to experience, negotiation of duties and time commitments. Also, please indicate whether or not you would be interested or willing to commit to following our environmental issues with state and federal agencies year around, including during the monthly interim Legislative Sessions that follow the regular session.

Lobbyists are expected to write articles for our **GREEN** Weekly newsletter regarding what's happening at the session. Lobbyists are also expected to meet as requested with the WVEC Governmental / Legislative Affairs Committee.

Lobbyists are expected to work in a team environment and communicate regularly with Member Groups regarding how activists from the Member Groups can be involved in lobbying efforts.

In your proposal, please address the following questions:

1- How would you propose to facilitate the use of WVEC member groups and other supporters in assisting our lobbying efforts?

2- How would you propose to collaborate with other lobbying groups, such as teachers, social workers, organized labor, children's issue advocates, health issue advocates, etc. into a coalition, as appropriate, to further enable WVEC to reach its environmental policy goals?

B. Lobby Team Coordinator:

The WV Environmental Council (WVEC) is requesting proposals for a person to work full time as a combined lobbyist and lobby team coordinator during the 2016 regular Legislative Session- which runs from early January 2016 through mid-March, 2016. The lobby team coordinator will be expected to be available to begin legislative session preparation work several weeks before the beginning of the regular 2016 legislative session, as requested by the WVEC Governmental Affairs / Legislative Committee or the WVEC board of directors.

Duties will include: Budget planning, fundraising, and assisting with assembling and coordinating a lobby team, lobbying, and liaison as requested by the WVEC Government / Legislative Affairs Committee and the WVEC Board of Directors.

Political savvy and capacity for relating to and influencing a wide variety of people are a plus. A broad knowledge of environmental issues impacting West Virginia is a plus. Dedication to the cause and a thick skin are essential survival skills. Rewards are few, but victories are that much more savored when attained.

Writing weekly articles for the WVEC's **GREEN** newsletter will be a part of job responsibilities and with a "wrap-up" report for the **GREEN** newsletter due within two weeks following the close of the 2016 regular session.

The Lobby Team Coordinator is expected to convene and work in a team environment and communicate regularly with Member Groups regarding how activists from the Member Groups can be involved in lobbying efforts.

Proposals should include: General personal background information, relevant experience, and monetary expectations. Also, please indicate whether or not you would be interested or willing to commit to following our environmental issues with state and federal agencies year around and especially during the 3-day monthly interim Legislative Sessions that follow the regular session.

Additionally, in your proposal please address the following questions:

1- How would you propose to facilitate the use of WVEC member groups and other supporters in assisting our lobbying efforts?

2- How would you propose to collaborate with other lobbying groups, such as teachers, social workers, children's issues, health issues, etc. into a coalition, as appropriate, to further enable WVEC to reach its environmental policy goals?

3. An analysis of the current WV Legislature and the political landscape in WV. Such analysis should include a report of the current legislative leadership, any potential champions for environmental legislation, and what will likely be the themes and issues put forth by members of the House and State Senate.

All Proposals are due not later than November 1, 2015, and should be sent both electronically and by hard copy. Please e-mail your proposal to WVEC Secretary, Karen Yarnell, at: karen.yarnell@fairmontstate.edu. A hard copy of your proposal, postmarked no later than November 1, 2015 should be mailed to:

WV Environmental Council
P.O. Box 1007
Charleston WV 25324

Direct any questions to: WVEC Governmental Affairs / Legislative Committee Chair Elise Keaton at elise.keaton@gmail.com or to committee Vice-Chair Frank Young at fyoung@mountain.net, or to WVEC President Bill Price by telephone to (304) 389-8822.

Our current staff is aware of this annual Request for Lobbying Proposals. No proposals will receive preferential treatment because of any applicant's prior or current position(s) on the WVEC Lobby Team.