Summary
The Conservative Energy Network (CEN) is hiring a Director of Policy and Advocacy (Director) for its quickly expanding national team. Reporting directly to the President, the Director will be instrumental in helping to advance conservative market-based clean energy solutions in state capitols across the country. Working closely with the leadership team and CEN’s 21+ state members, the Director will serve as the Network’s resident policy and regulatory expert, developing and overseeing effective state team advocacy strategies and tactics, and serving as a thought leader in the broader conservative clean energy stakeholder community.

Success in this role will require an individual who thrives on data and research to influence policy outcomes, who is a good communicator, and is self-motivating, collaborative, and a team player who can prioritize myriad assignments to help where he or she is most needed. The right candidate will excel in a fast-paced, dynamic work environment—often with little direct daily supervision—and can balance competing priorities and deadlines, as well as potentially work from a remote setting. The Director will be expected to actively seek innovative policy opportunities that advance clean energy solutions at the state and local levels, effectively communicate CEN’s policy positions to target audiences (including stakeholders, the conservative energy community, and policymakers), represent CEN publicly on policy matters, and advance the collective mission of the organization and its members. Consistent with CEN’s federalist approach, the Director’s role will be to support, not manage, the policy objectives of state teams in coordination with regional directors and CEN leadership. This is a newly created position, and as such, the right candidate will have the unique and rewarding opportunity to shape the primary responsibilities of this role on the job and significantly contribute to the further advancement of clean energy policy across the country, as well as CEN’s educational goals at large.

Key Responsibilities
The Director will be expected to:

State Policy Design and Innovation
- Coordinate with state and regional directors to develop conservative policy platforms and objectives common throughout the Network, as well as state-specific objectives and strategies to advance the development and deployment of clean energy technology;
- Working with thought-leaders in the field, develop sample legislation and public service commission objectives with the state teams, including but not limited to the following topics:
  - Battery storage
  - Renewable siting
  - Competition
Electric vehicles (EVs) and clean transportation infrastructure
- Carbon capture & storage
- Innovation
- Tax policy
- Clean energy standards
- Climate
- Emissions Reductions
- Energy Efficiency

Develop a research agenda and oversee staff and consultants on the creation of educational materials including research briefs, white papers, reports, technical assistance briefs, legislative memos, infographic content, and presentations;

Monitor state policy in all CEN states (and keep an eye on significant movement relevant to our policy work in the remaining 29) and coordinate with state teams to quickly respond to priority legislative and regulatory proposals, inquiries from allies, and other rapid response opportunities to advocate CEN’s priorities and frame its positions for the media and others;

Convene and chair the CEN Policy Committee to periodically identify and pursue new policy priorities, partners, strategies, and tactics;

Identify measures of success against policy goals and achievable outcomes, critically evaluate results and correct strategies and tactics that are not effective in real-time;

Manage policy operations of CEN’s 501(c)(4) sister organization, Conservatives for a Clean Energy Future (CCEF), to include educating state leaders and promoting CCEF’s priorities, testifying at committee hearings, drafting sample legislation and correspondence to policymakers; and

Work with states and other partners to continue to develop state to federal policy strategies;

Network Support

- Develop and oversee annual policy strategic plan and budget;
- Streamline current Network and state team policy efforts while developing and overseeing the implementation of a new strategic policy plan, and helping guide the network’s policy strategy, identifying priority conservative clean energy policies and developing the intellectual foundation for the Network’s efforts.
- Coordinate policy objectives with broader conservative clean energy policy community;
- Represent CEN at energy conferences and conservative gatherings of state policymakers, such as ALEC, NSCL, CPAC, and LAMP;
- Serve as the liaison between CEN and its partner organizations and coalitions, and collaborate on policy initiatives with allies and other stakeholders to advance CEN priorities;

Further CEN’s objectives

- Work with the fundraising team to cultivate policy-specific funding opportunities and develop proposals;
• Support the communications team to develop talking points on policy issues, contribute policy updates to the monthly newsletter, as well as conceptualize and pursue policy-related media opportunities for CEN and state teams;
• Work with CEN state teams to help identify compelling policy frameworks and policy opportunities within key constituencies;
• Support CEN convenings and meetings, deliver presentations, give speeches and testimonies, and represent CEN to external audiences; and
• Other duties as assigned.

Skills and Qualifications
The ideal candidate will possess the following:
• Bachelor’s degree (e.g. public policy, political science, economics, environmental studies, or other relevant major);
• Significant experience working on conservative clean energy or environmental policy issues;
• Effective public speaker with excellent verbal communication skills;
• Prior published work;
• A collaborative nature and adept problem-solving skills;
• Interest in crafting original policy strategies from conception to execution that moves the needle on clean energy development and deployment;
• Philosophical alignment with the mission of CEN;
• Prior experience working within the conservative policy community;
• An entrepreneurial spirit, interest in learning new skills, and eagerness to conceptualize and implement innovative and impactful advocacy tools that advance the collective goals of CEN and its members and actively move the needle on clean energy development;
• Willingness and ability to travel periodically;
• Top notch writing skills, and experience distilling complicated policy and regulatory issues in memos, policy briefs, speeches, presentations, and other collateral to advance policy messaging and increase engagement among different target audiences, with an eye towards policymakers and other thought leaders;
• Demonstrated experience working with state policy issues;
• Ability to effectively utilize data and research to drive policy strategies towards implementation;
• Connections with policymakers, thought leaders, and other policy stakeholders;
• Deep understanding of the political realities and sensitivities involved in conservative clean energy issue advocacy;
• Outstanding time management and organizational skills, with the ability to manage and meet challenging deadlines and balance multiple project priorities at once;
• Experience working for issue advocacy nonprofits, public affairs firms, political campaigns, or government, preferred; and
• Flexible, resourceful, and go-getter attitude, with a willingness to pitch in where needed.

Work Environment
• Fast-paced, dynamic work environment sometimes faced with high-pressure deadlines.
• A supportive and collegial team that encourages creativity and initiative.
• Plenty of opportunities to grow and expand your skillset.
• While CEN headquarters is based in Lansing, Michigan, members of the management team work remotely from various parts of the country. CEN welcomes applicants regardless of location and may accommodate tele-commuting.
• Role requires ability to work some evenings and/or weekends for special events.
• Role requires frequent travel, including overnight travel, usually once per month but dependent on conferences and events calendar.

Compensation and Benefits
CEN offers a competitive salary and benefits package that includes a generous health insurance plan, 403(b) retirement plan, and ample paid time off, among other benefits. Salary will be commensurate with applicant’s experience.

Application Process & Requirements
Please email a resume, one page cover letter, writing sample(s), completed application, and three references to CEN Executive Director Brittany Zwierzchowski Tisler at brittany@conservativeenergynetwork.org for consideration for this position (with “Policy & Advocacy Director – [Your Name]” in the subject line of your message). The cover letter should address your interest in contributing to CEN’s mission, how your past experiences make you a good fit for our team, the date/timeframe you are available to start, and salary requirements.

CEN looks to fill this position as soon as possible (with an ideal start date of no later than December 2, 2019) and will be considering applications on a rolling basis. If you have any questions, need more information, or would like to inquire about other open positions at CEN, please don’t hesitate to email. We’re excited to hear from you!

About Conservative Energy Network
The Conservative Energy Network (CEN) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 2016 that educates policymakers and the public about the strong economic, conservation, and national security benefits of clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency. CEN works with partners and members across the country to advance conservative market-based solutions to the serious energy problems facing our states. We serve to advance energy liberty for property owners and empower ratepayers, seeking free-market options with less government intervention and more rights for states.

Since its founding in January 2016, CEN has had a profound impact on clean energy advocacy and the politics of energy at state and federal levels. CEN was launched by and for
conservatives to support and connect state-based conservative clean energy organizations throughout the nation. Starting with only seven teams, CEN now comprises organizations in 21 states in four regions: the Midwest, Mountain West, Southeast, and Texas—and we’re looking for new team members to help us continue this momentum.

CEN is a small but quickly expanding team of individuals fighting for commonsense, market-based clean energy solutions. We are building a national conservative clean energy movement that champions innovation, competition, energy independence, and promotes a diversified energy portfolio that is good for the economy, environment, and our national and grid security. If you agree with our mission and share our commitment to improving how we power our nation’s energy future, we invite you to apply to join our team today.

Visit CEN on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn to learn more.

CEN is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We prohibit discrimination and harassment in any form, and we are dedicated to engaging and developing a diverse workplace environment. All applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran or disability status, or other characteristics protected by federal, state, or local laws.