Andrew Solfest

One Broadway, 9th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02142
andrew.solfest@ethree.com

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS, INC.   Boston, MA
Senior Consultant

Andrew Solfest joined E3 in 2022 and supports E3's Climate Pathways and Electrification practice. His work has focused primarily on distributed energy resources and small-to-medium scale decarbonization initiatives. He has contributed to several distributed resource cost and rate-determination projects, including California's Avoided Cost Calculator and similar public-facing evaluations for New York, Washington state, and Illinois. He has also supported and led transportation and building electrification projects for utilities and public entities. Mr. Solfest is particularly interested in equitable implementation of climate-focused initiatives.

Mr. Solfest previously worked on Xcel Energy's energy efficiency and renewables team, administering Midwest community solar programs, coordinating project development, and helping institutional and residential customers achieve their clean energy goals. Just prior to joining E3, Mr. Solfest completed an M.P.A. in Environmental Science and Policy at Columbia University, where he researched decarbonization pathways for the United States and developing nations and analyzed hydrofluorocarbon emissions policy for the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Selected E3 Projects include:

- **California Public Utilities Commission Avoided Cost Calculator (2022-Present)**. Supported revision of California's Avoided Cost Calculator (ACC) for the 2022 and 2024 update cycles, overseeing updates to the Transmission and Distribution cost streams. The ACC is used to evaluate incremental benefits for distributed energy resources within the state.

- **NYSERDA Value of Distributed Energy Resources (VDER) Calculator (2022-Present)**. Performed annual updates to facilitate ongoing and improved functionality of the Solar and Storage Value Stack Calculator. Updates in 2024 include merging the existing solar and standalone storage value stack models and the development of training materials for public use of the tool. This calculator is a public resource provided by NYSERDA which helps estimate compensation for solar and storage projects in New York State.

- ***Multiple Private Sector Clients* - Market Assessments and Diligences (2023-Present)**. Managed several market analyses and sell- and buy-side diligences for clients investing or operating in energy resource markets. Deliverables include market sizing and price forecasts and assessments of existing portfolios and the relevant policy landscape.

- **Washington Public Utility District Association - Benefits and Costs of Net Energy Metering (2023)**. Developed a framework for modeling costs avoidable by Washington state utilities due to distributed solar and net energy metering. This supported an E3 report addressing the overall costs and benefits of Washington's statewide net energy metering programs.

- o **New York City – Power-Up NYC Transportation Electrification Plan (2022-2023)**. Conducted a cost-benefit analysis and developed implementation recommendations for New York City's plan to electrify its school bus fleet. This plan will transition over 10,000 school buses from diesel to electric over a 13-year period and seeks to prioritize benefits for environmental justice communities within the city.

- o **National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation Decarbonization Plan (2022-2023)**. Modeled and provided recommendations for decarbonization scenarios for five national parks and monuments. This modeling informed a plan in partnership with Willdan Group and which will be implemented by the Parks to achieve 100% emissions reductions in land-based operations. Decarbonization measures include vehicle and heating electrification, energy efficiency measures, and renewable energy and storage procurement to reduce climate impact and improve resiliency for the parks.

- o **Xcel Energy – Transportation Electrification Analysis (2022-2023)**. Supported a cost-benefit analysis and subsequent testimony to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission regarding vehicle electrification in Xcel's Minnesota and Wisconsin service territories. This assessment evaluated the impacts of transportation electrification in the each state and the cost-effectiveness of Xcel's proposal to help fund this transition from participant, ratepayer, and societal perspectives.

- o **NYSERDA Building Electrification and Efficiency Model (BEEM) – Statewide Potential Study and Low-Moderate Income initiatives (2022-2023)**. Performed modeling and developed a tool for analyzing results from NYSERDA's building electrification modules. These modules are used to study the impacts of various energy efficiency and electrification programs within New York State, including changes in adoption, costs, and participant and ratepayer energy bills.

- o **Utah State University Campus Decarbonization Plan (2022)**. Modeled decarbonization scenarios to achieve carbon-neutrality for the USU central campus by 2050. This initiative identified and prioritized construction projects to reduce emissions from the central utility plant and supported Willdan Group in developing its strategic plan for the university.

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL   New York, NY
Graduate Student Consultant – Hydrofluorocarbon Management Project   January 2021 – April 2021

- o Researched international initiatives and policies to reduce climate impacts of chemical refrigerants
- o Interviewed industry experts on key considerations for managing hydrofluorocarbon emissions
- o Drafted memos and reports for NRDC use, providing recommendations for life-cycle management of HFCs

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY   New York, NY
Graduate Teaching Assistant   September 2020 – May 2021

- o Provided guidance for undergraduate student research on issues in sustainable development
- o Led weekly discussion sections on research methods and graded term papers and presentations

BAMBOO TECHNOLOGIES   Seattle, WA
Paid-Search Advertising Analyst (Search Engine Marketing)   October 2019 – May 2020

- o Built and managed digital advertising campaigns for clients on Google and Microsoft platforms
- o Analyzed market trends to set campaign budgets and optimize bid targeting and creative content
- o Leveraged Google and Facebook Analytics platforms to provide insights on core audiences
- o Worked with Account Managers to develop long-term holistic growth strategies for client accounts

FRENCH MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION – ACADÉMIE DE MONTPELLIER   Alès, FRANCE
English as a Foreign Language Teaching Assistant   October 2018 – May 2019

- o Taught English to French secondary students at the Collège Jean Moulin in Alès
- o Acted as a cultural ambassador and developed curriculum to inspire interest in cross-cultural exchange

XCEL ENERGY   Minneapolis, MN
Marketing Assistant – Minnesota and Wisconsin Community Solar Programs   2017 – 2018
Contract Marketing Assistant   2016 – 2017

- o Administered the nation's largest community solar program (at the time) as part of a two-person team, coordinating efforts between utility personnel and solar developers to pursue 900 projects worth over $500 million in total
- o Built program efficiencies by improving documentation and through continuous enhancement of the project development process and customer relationship management platform
- o Oversaw the customer subscription process and aided marketing efforts to launch a Wisconsin solar program
- o Compiled program participation data to expand outreach and report to the Public Utilities Commission
- o Acted as a primary contact for inquiries about renewable energy programs, meeting with community organizations and presenting at events and industry working groups

SPS COMMERCE   Minneapolis, MN
Marketing Data Analyst Intern   June 2015 – November 2015
- o Evaluated website lead generation and mapped customer journeys to customize messaging and marketing campaign content
- o Researched customer and partner industries and presented recommendations on key marketing opportunities

Education

Columbia University   New York, NY
M.P.A., Environmental Science and Policy   2021

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities   Minneapolis, MN
B.S.B., Marketing   2016
B.A., History

Citizenship

United States