JoAnne J. Blank

Senior Associate; Senior Scientist/Project Manager





JoAnne serves as a Senior Scientist and Project Manager in the Energy Market Sector, specializing in feasibility, permitting and compliance of power and renewable energy projects across the United States. She has been involved in the design, assessment, and permitting of hundreds of wind and solar energy, battery storage, natural gas, and electrical transmission projects.

Her project and management experience includes federal, state, and local permitting, feasibility analyses, expert witness testimony, project siting, shadow/flicker analyses, sound studies, environmental permitting, NEPA documents (EA and EIS), CPCN and CA applications, FAA permits, decommissioning plans, Phase I site assessments, erosion control plans, geospatial information analysis and management, and postconstruction compliance.

JoAnne leads the Renewable Energy Decommissioning Plan Team that has developed assessment methods for future decommissioning of wind, solar, and battery storage projects, based on multiple input sources, construction cost estimating software, and research.

EDUCATION

Master of Science Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 2000

Master of Science Environmental Monitoring, University of Wisconsin - Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, Madison, Wisconsin, 2000

Bachelor of Science Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 1996

Photovoltaics – Design and Siting, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay, Wisconsin, 2010

FERC Environmental Compliance Seminar, 2014

FERC Regulatory Overview and Guidance Seminar, 2014

PROJECT EXPERIENCE Wind, Solar and Other Renewable Energy

Shadow Flicker and Acoustic Assessments – Wind and Solar Energy (Project and/or Task Manager) Extensive experience in the management, modelling, and analysis of potential shadow flicker and sound impacts at wind and solar sites in the U.S. Assisted clients in analyzing and designing proposed renewable energy sites to demonstrate regulatory compliance and obtain permits to construct.

Projects include:

Illinois (11+ projects); Iowa (25+); Michigan (8+); Wisconsin (18+); Ohio (6+); West Virginia (3+); Nebraska (2+); New York (3+); Indiana (2+); South Dakota (2+); Kansas; Kentucky; Wyoming; and Missouri.

Decommissioning Plans – Renewable Energy (Solar, Wind and Battery Storage), U.S

Leads the decommissioning plan team and has managed the assessment and preparation of more than **250 decommissioning plans** for solar, wind, and battery energy storage projects. Scope includes describing triggering mechanisms, deconstruction methods and costs, potential revenues from salvaged equipment and land reclamation activities. Support has included presentations and testimony at local, regional, and state-level permit hearings.

Projects located throughout the U.S., including but not limited to the states of Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Maryland, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, Colorado, New Mexico, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and California.

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Riverbend Wind Shadow Flicker Study, Sanilac County, Michigan (Project Manager)

Provided shadow flicker analyses and regulatory support for development and permitting of a proposed 300 MW wind project. Support included presentations and testimony at local permitting hearings.

Red Rock Wind Energy, Dickenson and Emmet Counties, Iowa (Project Manager)

Providing shadow flicker analyses and regulatory support for development and permitting of a proposed 300 MW wind project. Support includes presentations and testimony at local permitting hearings.

Heartland Wind Energy, Gratiot County, Michigan (Project Manager)

Managed the county and town permitting and support studies for the 201-MW wind farm. Support included four township and one county permit applications, shadow flicker study, decommissioning plan, and town/county hearing expert witness testimony and support.

Point Beach Solar Energy Project, Wisconsin (Project Manager)

Managed environmental services for a large utilityscale solar plant in Wisconsin. Services include environmental field studies, historic cultural resource assessments, state CPCN permitting, road study, decommissioning plan, EMF, and additional support studies.

Two Creeks Solar Energy Project, Wisconsin (Project Manager)

Managed the environmental services for a large utility-scale solar plant in Wisconsin. Services include environmental field studies, historic cultural resource assessments, noise impact assessment, state CPCN permitting and additional support studies.

Grant County Solar Energy Project, Wisconsin (Project Manager)

Managed support services, including glint/glare, road condition and EMF studies for a large utility-scale solar plant in Wisconsin.

Crescent Wind Energy, Hilldale County, Michigan (Project Manager)

Managed the town permitting and support studies for the 166-MW wind farm. Support included three township permit applications, shadow and sound studies, decommissioning plan, and town hearing support.

Polaris Wind Energy, Gratiot County, Michigan (Project Manager)

Managed the environmental permitting and support studies for Invenergy's 168-MW wind farm. Support included Gratiot County permit application, shadow and sound studies, and decommissioning plan.

Pine River Wind Energy, Isabella and Gratiot Counties, Michigan (Project Manager)

Managed the environmental permitting and support studies for Invenergy's 161-megawatt wind farm. Support included the Pine River and Coe Township permit applications, shadow and sound modeling, and decommissioning plan.

Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy, Livingston County, Illinois (Project Manager)

Managed the environmental permitting and support studies for Invenergy's 230-megawatt wind farm. Support included the County permit application, expert witness testimony, shadow and sound models, water quality permits, cultural studies, stormwater permit, and decommissioning plan.

Apple Blossom Wind Farm, Huron County, Michigan (Task Manager)

Task manager for development of the Geronimo Wind Energy 10,000-acre, 100-megawatt Apple Blossom Wind Farm. Managed the preparation and submission of the Huron County Permit Application, sound/noise modeling, shadow flicker analysis, and decommissioning plan.