



Internship on ExxonMobil Trucking and Offshore Platform Restart and Plains All-American Pipeline Replacement Projects

About EDC: The Environmental Defense Center (EDC) is a non-profit, public interest law firm that has worked to protect and restore California's environment and natural resources for more than 40 years. EDC's work focuses primarily within San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties, including the northern Channel Islands and the ocean waters seaward of this region's shores. Our mission is to protect and enhance the local environment through education, advocacy, and legal action. Program areas include protecting the Santa Barbara Channel, ensuring clean water, preserving open space and wildlife, and working on climate and energy issues. (See www.EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org)

General Purpose of the Internship: This internship is created for a student who is interested in pursuing a career in environmental law or advocacy. The intern will work directly under the supervision of the Chief Counsel or Senior Attorney on EDC's work educating the public and decision-makers regarding the impacts of a proposal by ExxonMobil Corporation to restart offshore oil platforms that have been shut down since the 2015 Refugio Oil Spill, and to transport crude oil via trucks, along dangerous highways and in sensitive environments. The intern will also support EDC's work concerning the proposal by Plains All-American to construct a pipeline to replace the one that ruptured in 2015, with the same purpose of restarting the offshore oil platforms and transporting crude oil. EDC represents clients concerned about the dangers of transporting crude oil (to water quality, wildlife and habitats, air quality, and local communities), resumption of offshore oil production, and climate change impacts.

Internship Objectives: This project will focus on research to help strengthen our arguments regarding the County of Santa Barbara's environmental and administrative review processes for these projects. This information will be synthesized and used to ensure full disclosure of potential impacts from both projects. With the help of EDC staff, the intern will:

- Conduct research regarding recent oil tanker truck accidents (updating a former intern's research on prior events) and summarize each event with key facts.
- Conduct research regarding new scientific studies and reports on climate change (updating a prior intern's research) and summarize each study and report.
- Conduct research to support the argument that renewable energy projects can serve as an alternative to fossil fuels in the transportation sector, including research regarding state targets for electrical vehicles and charging stations as well as recent commitments by car manufacturers.
- Help review and analyze documents related to the impacts of the Plains All-American Pipeline project.
- Help draft comments that can be incorporated into EDC's formal comments on environmental review documents for the projects.
- Develop educational and outreach materials.
- Conduct outreach to the UCSB community, including student and environmental organizations, and encourage participation in the County's hearing processes.

- Depending on the timing, the intern may have the opportunity to attend and testify at public hearings.

Skills:

Required skills:

- Strong research and analytical skills
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work well independently and with supervision

Time Commitment: Internship requires a minimum commitment of ten hours per week for Fall Quarter and Winter Quarter 2021. This internship includes a stipend, generously made available through the UCSB Associated Students Coast Fund.

COVID-19 Accommodations: We recognize in light of the current pandemic that all or part of the internship may need to be completed remotely. We will ensure regular phone calls and video conferences to provide the intern with adequate supervision and support.

If you are interested in applying, send a cover letter, resume, writing sample, school transcript, and references to Maggie Hall: Mhall@environmentaldefensecenter.org by July 19, 2021. We will be reviewing applications on a rolling basis and hope to fill this position quickly.

EDC is proud to be an equal opportunity employer and is committed to cultivating a diverse and inclusive work culture. We believe that a diverse workforce improves our ability to assist our clients; enhances intellectual engagement; inspires innovation and creativity; and promotes skills like critical thinking and problem-solving. EDC is dedicated to hiring a diverse team of qualified individuals with respect to gender identity (including gender expression), race, sexual orientation, family status, religion, ethnicity, age, physical abilities, and other factors. EDC will also make reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities.

