



Platform

Job Description

Job title:	Energy Policy Campaigner
Job purpose:	To influence UK and EU government policy on external energy.
Hours:	28 hours per week, flexible by arrangement
Salary:	£28,000 pa, <i>pro rata</i> adjusted according to need, in line with Platform's Social Justice Waging System. See Terms & Conditions, below.
Location:	Based in our London office
Responsible to:	Project Development and Management Group

Platform

Platform brings together human rights campaigners, educators, environmentalists, artists and community activists. This vital mix enables us to create innovative projects driven by the need for social and ecological justice. Our methods are inter-disciplinary, combining the power of art with the tangible goals of campaigning, the rigor of in-depth research with the vision to promote an alternative future. For more detail, please see the 'background' section below.

The Carbon Web

Platform's Carbon Web project seeks to undermine and ultimately break the links between UK oil companies and the institutions that surround and support them; including banks, investors, government departments and cultural institutions. The Energy Policy Campaign is a crucial part of the overall Carbon Web programme and focuses on the links between the UK and EU government and the major UK oil companies.

About the Energy Policy Campaign

Our dependence on crude oil is overwhelming. In the first quarter of 2011 alone, Europe imported 896 million barrels of oil. Global politics is being largely determined by the security of oil supply and oil company profits. Anything that gets in the way of the continuous flow of energy resources or adversely affects company profits is considered a threat to "energy security". Governments are putting oil interests first and writing off sustainable energy alternatives. Such policies lock us into dependence on fossil fuels, and further undermine our commitments to human rights and addressing climate change.

Policy decisions taken in London and Brussels are having a devastating impact on local communities and countries overseas. Despite this, the development and implementation of UK and EU external energy policy takes place in secret, and largely escapes public and political debate. Through its campaign, Platform proposes an alternative, where policy decisions are transparent and made accountable to the public, prioritise human rights and play a constructive role in the necessary transition to a low carbon economy.

Previous achievements:

The campaign has generated a wide range of impacts, a selection of which are listed below:

1. Together with the Iraqi oil workers union, Platform targeted energy agreements and legislation in Iraq, releasing the path-breaking report, '[Crude Designs](#)'. This helped prevent the wholesale privatization of Iraqi oil and improved democratic oversight of the sector, despite considerable pressure from the US and UK military occupation.
2. Platform revealed how the UK and its companies pursued oil interests at the expense of human rights in Central Asia and the Middle East and North Africa, up to and beyond the Arab Spring. Our research exposed how UK oil interests in [Libya](#) strengthened Gaddafi, as well as the regimes in [Egypt](#) and [Oman](#).
3. Addressing the environmental impacts of external energy policy, Platform created momentum for a policy shift away from risky [deepwater drilling](#) following BP's Gulf of Mexico disaster. We used online actions, media coverage and coordinated NGO responses to G20, EU and UK consultations.
4. Platform co-ordinated a pioneering report analysing the use and abuse of the term "[energy security](#)", and a participatory workshop to develop a more progressive language around energy issues amongst major NGOs.

Future campaigning:

As Energy Policy Campaigner you will be focused on decision-makers in London and Brussels, within UK and EU government and their close relationship with the oil industry. The role will involve finding ways to exert political leverage over the government and media work to re-frame debates around UK and EU external energy policy. Campaigning and lobbying at the UK and EU level will also be involved. You will form an integral part of a wider team working on the Energy Policy Campaign. In the short term, the campaign will initially comprise of two main themes:

- 1) Intervening on Britain's support for undemocratic Middle East/North Africa regimes in context of Arab uprisings. Britain has supported repressive "allies" in the region for decades, prioritising oil interests over respect for human rights. Democracy movements in Egypt, Tunisia, Oman, Algeria and elsewhere faced repression aided by Britain. The Energy Policy Campaigner will seek to make timely interventions to shape UK and EU policy in the region.
- 2) Challenging the British Navy's deployment of significant military force in the Indian Ocean and other areas following an increase in piracy attacks on oil tankers. Oil corporations are demanding the rapid commissioning of new Type 26 frigates (warships). This is a potential subsidy of billions of pounds to the oil industry at a time of steep public cuts. The Energy Policy Campaigner will challenge oil company lobbying and government policy on this issue.

Three more themes will form longer term priorities:

- 3) EU Energy Corridors: developing and implementing a strategy to challenge the EU's major infrastructure projects designed to increase long-term dependence on oil and gas.

- 4) Corporate accountability in Nigeria: increasing the political pressure to challenge corporate and government policies in the Niger Delta region.
- 5) Protecting the Arctic: weakening the UK and EU's support for oil drilling in the Arctic.

Main functions and responsibilities of the role

The successful candidate will be an energetic campaigner eager to change government policy on global oil and gas resources. You should be able to plan and conduct public campaigns, including generating media, organizing events and strategic interventions. The role will involve re-framing debates and communicating complex issues to key audiences through social media, research-based reports and lobbying. The role will also involve investigative activities such as making Freedom of Information Act requests to monitor government activity and oil industry lobbying.

The Energy Policy Campaigner will be responsible for managing their project budget and for continued fundraising, including reporting to funders and meeting project outcomes. All Platform projects are responsible for their own continued fundraising. Engagement with other Platform projects, and fulfillment of Platform's internal reporting procedures is also expected. After the probation period, you will be invited to actively participate in organisational management.

Person specification

Skills, qualities and experience

Essential:

- 2 years experience of campaigning
- Strong communicator (written, verbal, new media) and ability to develop powerful key messages that influence change
- Motivation to challenge UK and EU policy
- Ability to engage with and influence decision-makers
- Ability to identify strategic points of intervention within the British government
- Experience of generating media coverage and mobilising public pressure
- Time-management skills and flexibility to respond to opportunities and challenges
- Strong commitment to working on human rights and environmental justice
- Excellent team player able to co-ordinate the activity of six other campaigners
- Computer literate – PC or Mac. Familiarity with Office applications.

Desirable:

- Experience of working with Parliament and the mechanisms of Parliamentary scrutiny and/or EU equivalent
- Familiarity with the processes and actors that create UK and EU external energy policy
- Familiarity with EU external energy issues
- Ability to use the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other investigative methods to monitor UK government activity, policy formulation and oil industry lobbying
- A record of achievement in political and/or human rights campaigning
- Proven capacity to fundraise from trusts and foundations, individual donors and other sources
- Languages: understanding of Arabic would be an advantage
- Familiarity with oil affected regions
- A creative and innovative approach to developing campaigns
- A background in or experience of the arts.

Further background on Platform:

Platform is a leading charity working for social and environmental justice. Our methods are interdisciplinary, combining the power of art with the tangible goals of campaigning, the rigor of in-depth research with the vision to promote an alternative future.

The arts are a central part of Platform's work. This allows us to be consistently innovative and creative in our campaigns. Platform's cultural profile enables the work to reach a wide and diverse audience. Our unique blend of arts, environment, activism and education is also central to our diversified fundraising strategy.

Our work delivers results. Working with Iraqi colleagues, we succeeded in stopping an oil law that would have given companies like BP and Shell long-term control over Iraq's oil, in spite of intense pressure from US and UK occupation forces. Our finance campaign has forced the Royal Bank of Scotland to stop denying climate change, and to recognise its responsibility for its lending decisions. Our critique of the oil companies' development of Canada's tar sands, the world's dirtiest fuel, has led to pension funds with billions of pounds of investments going to BP and Shell demanding answers. Our front-page exposé of BP's 'environmental time bomb' pipeline in Turkey led to construction being delayed for a year whilst inadequate engineering was fixed. We are internationally recognised for our analysis, ideas, methods and impacts.

Platform's aims:

- **Climate change:** Dangerous levels of climate change should be prevented, through transforming the energy economy, slowing fossil fuel extraction and shifting financial, cultural and institutional norms. The costs of energy transition should fall most heavily on those who benefit from current energy use.
- **Resource justice:** the costs and benefits of natural resource extraction should be fairly distributed and control over those resources democratised. Governments and other actors should be prevented from participating in resource wars.
- **Human rights of affected communities:** The human rights of those affected by oil extraction or by climate change should be respected and protected.
- **Responsibility:** Those responsible for driving climate change and human rights violations associated with oil extraction should be held to account – including companies, the British government and individuals working within them.
- **Building movements:** There should be strong and active social movements in the global North and South, working in coalition and solidarity, against the politics of self-interest.
- **Changing our culture:** British thought, policy, and culture should be focused on a future based on environmental sustainability and social justice. Racism, prejudice and exclusion must be challenged and stopped.

Organisational structure:

Platform promotes shared leadership and collaboration and our structure reflects this. We value everybody's work equally and support each other to make ambitious projects possible. As a charity, ultimate responsibility for and control of the organisation lie with the Board of Trustees. However, the role of Executive Director role is carried out by a Project Development and Management Group (PDMG). All staff are invited to join the PDMG nine months after starting a role in Platform, subject to approval of PDMG members.

PDMG members have specific responsibilities for running different aspects of the organisation, and report to Trustees and the wider organisation. Currently the four PDMG roles are Finance, Human Resources, Strategy and Programming. The Energy Policy Campaigner will be line-managed by a member of the PDMG initially; although it is anticipated that the Campaigner may become a member of the PDMG if they choose to.

What other people say about us:

"Platform is about intelligent activism that draws people in."

Officer from a major UK funder.

"Your research was very influential in our decision to sell 100% of our fossil fuel exposure last year; this significant decision amounted to well over \$100 m of redemptions, capital being pulled out of that sector. All gone!"

Managing Director of a large investment fund.

"Platform has excelled and inspired as an organisation for justice for [Ken] Saro-Wiwa, human rights, native people, wild places and the value of tireless campaigning against all odds. Well done - thank you!"

Louise, (supporter) by email.

How to apply:

Please send us:

1. Your CV
2. A Cover Letter explaining why you want this job, why you would like to join Platform, and where you saw the job advertised
3. A 1 page Supporting Statement telling us how you meet the Person Specification

Email info@platformlondon.org by 6.00pm on Monday 23 January 2012. Please use the subject heading: 'Energy Policy Campaigner'.

Or apply by post to:

Platform
7 Horselydown Lane
London
SE1 2LN
UK

If you are interested and would like to discuss the role informally, please contact Ben Amunwa on +44 (0)207 403 3738. Due to limited capacity we are unable to reply to applicants who have not been invited for interview.

Equal opportunities

Platform strives to apply equal opportunities principles both in its recruitment and in its work. We oppose all forms of unlawful or lawful discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, sexuality, marital status, religion, age or disability.

The successful candidate will be selected purely on the basis of how well they fit the person specification, as judged by their application materials and their interview performance. Unfortunately Platform is unable to arrange work permits for applicants without UK residency.

Terms & conditions

Salary:

Your salary will be determined by Platform's ground-breaking Social Justice Waging System, based on a core rate £28,000 per annum, pro rata. Under this radical scheme, not only are all staff subject to the same salary levels (regardless of position in the organisation), the levels are adjusted according to need. For example, those with substantial inherited savings are paid less than those without, and there are extra salary increases available to those with children or dependents. We believe this system constitutes a major step forward in providing equal opportunities.

For each year's employment, staff are rewarded with an increase in salary of 1% per year worked.

The details of the System are reviewed annually, with all staff encouraged to participate in the review.

Details of the System (including principles, rationale and mechanisms) are available on request, from info@platformlondon.org.

Hours of work:	28 hours (3.5 days) per week.
Contract:	Permanent (subject to 6 months' probationary period).
Holiday:	30 days per calendar year plus bank holidays (pro-rata)
Pension:	Platform will match your contributions either to its group pension scheme, or to your own ethically invested ^[1] personal pension scheme, up to a maximum of 7.5% of salary.
Place of work:	Platform office, near Tower Bridge, London. Some working from home may be possible, by negotiation.
Notice of termination:	One month from either side.
Access:	Platform's office is on the ground floor. Platform will make every reasonable adjustment to the office or to working arrangements so as to accommodate the needs of people with disabilities.

[1] Note that Platform's minimum definition of "ethical" is that the fund does not invest in the companies Platform campaigns against – specifically, FTSE 100 companies in the oil and gas or arms/defence sectors.