



# Raya Salter, Esq.

## Energy and Climate Justice Attorney

Energy law, justice and policy expert with expertise in strategic planning, advocacy and fundraising. Experienced organizer, coalition builder, educator and communicator in the US and internationally. Author, "Energy Justice, US and International Perspectives" (2018).

✉ rayacsalter@gmail.com

📞 914-826-6469

🌐 www.RayaSalter.com

🌐 linkedin.com/in/raya-salter-climate-auntie-54318a1

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Appointed Member

#### New York State Climate Action Council [🔗](#)

12/2019 - Present

New York, NY

*The Climate Action Council is creating the Scoping Plan for New York State's transition to net zero carbon emissions by 2050.*

- Working with State officials and other experts to develop New York State's Climate Scoping Plan in compliance with the nation's most just climate law, the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (appointed by New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins).

### Principal Consultant

#### Imagine Power LLC

08/2015 - Present

*Energy and Environmental Law, Justice and Policy Consultancy.*

- Provide energy law and policy advice to clients in the US and internationally with a focus on decarbonization and just transitions. A national expert on utility business models and implementation of climate and energy justice policy. Testified before Congress on Federal and State "Justice40" environmental justice law and policy.
- Specific expertise in energy justice, strategic planning, study development, campaigns and advocacy, fundraising, legislative drafting and island energy systems.
- Extensive experience developing and managing diverse coalitions and stakeholders.
- Experience in several jurisdictions, including New York, California, Illinois, Hawaii and Oceania.
- Authored successful proposal for a \$6 million dollar Bezos Earth Fund grant.

### Policy Organizer

#### NY Renews Climate Justice Coalition [🔗](#)

11/2019 - 09/2021

New York, NY

*NY Renews is a Coalition of over 350 climate and environmental justice organizations and the lead proponents of the 2019 CLCPA.*

- Organized and represented prominent environmental, climate and environmental justice advocates in NY State to implement the 2019 CLCPA. Members include Earth Justice, Environmental Advocates, The NYC Environmental Justice Alliance, UPROSE, PUSH Buffalo, AGREE, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, People's Action and 32BJ.
- Secured full representation of the environmental justice provisions of the CLCPA in the New York State Energy Plan.
- Ensured that NY State programs, including the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the Clean Energy Fund and the proposed Environmental Bond Act, contained a "Justice40" carve out for disadvantaged communities.
- Authored and amended the Climate and Community Investment Act carbon pricing legislation (introduced into both the NY Assembly and Senate); organized supporting popular education and trainings for statewide lobbying.
- Led coalition Climate Action Council related policy and organizing, including advising the Climate Justice Working Group and developing the "People's Climate Action Council" platform, a direct action coalition to fight for environmental justice at the Climate Action Council.
- Engaged in successful fundraising for the coalition resulting in several major grants.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Senior Attorney

#### The Natural Resources Defense Council

08/2013 - 08/2015

New York, New York

- Specialized in utility business model reform (represented NRDC in the "Reforming the Energy Vision" process).
- Developed and executed multi-state strategy for the Energy Efficiency for All Project (pursuant to a \$16 million grant from the JPB Foundation).
- Founding organizer of the Energy Efficiency for All Coalition in NY State.
- Developed analytical and technical studies, including a 9 state energy efficiency potential study, NYC building efficiency studies and NYC solar and battery storage studies.

### Regulatory Attorney

#### Environmental Defense Fund

08/2011 - 08/2013

New York, NY

- Developed multi-state strategy for the EDF "Smart Power" multi-state clean energy advocacy campaign (pursuant to a \$40 million grant from the Robertson Foundation).
- Led execution of the "Smart Power" strategy in New York, New Jersey, California and Illinois.

### Energy Regulatory Associate

#### Dewey & LeBoeuf

08/2008 - 07/2011

New York, NY

- Specialized in utility mergers and acquisitions, project approvals and matters related to inter and intra-state energy transmission.
- Completed a client secondment with the ConEdison Company in NYC (Regulatory Affairs).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

#### Adjunct Professor, Energy Law (08/2021 - Present)

- Cardozo School of Law, New York, NY

#### Adjunct Professor, Energy and the Environment (01/2015 - 07/2015)

- Fordham University School of Law, New York, NY

## AFFILIATIONS AND BOARD SERVICE

#### Energy & Environmental Study Institute (EESI) (2020 - Present) [↗](#)

Member, Board of Directors

#### Initiative for Climate Risk and Resilience Law (2021 - Present) [↗](#)

Member, Advisory Board (ICRRL is a project of Columbia, Vanderbilt and NYU Law Schools with the Environmental Defense Fund)

#### Our Climate (2021 - Present) [↗](#)

Member, Advisory Board (Our Climate empowers and mobilizes youth climate activists)

#### Evergreen Action (2010 - Present) [↗](#)

Member, Advisory Board

#### Member, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (09/2017 - Present) [↗](#)

Project Coordinator, Energy Transitions Programme (2019-2020)

## HONORS & AWARDS

#### Climate Hero Award

Human Impacts Institute

- Honored for New York State climate advocacy (2000).

#### Felix Fishman Award

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest

- Recognizes lawyers and advocates who demonstrate a commitment to expanding access to justice. (forthcoming, 2021).

#### New York Energy and the Environment Power 100

City and State Magazine

- Recognized as one of NY's "Power 100" (2020).

# MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Author "Energy Justice, Domestic and International Perspectives" (Edward Elgar 2018).

Experienced public speaker, TV host, author and content creator.

Host, Facing Future TV, COP 26: host regular programs on climate issues; hosted programs live from the UN Press Room at COP 26 in Glasgow, Scotland.

## PUBLICATIONS

*Book*

### **Energy Justice, US and International Perspectives** [↗](#)

*Co-Editor*

Raya Salter

2018

Edward Elgar

New Frontiers in Energy Law Series

*Handbook for Energy Justice*

### **Frameworks for Energy Justice in Action**

*Author(s)*

Raya

*Date of Publication*

2022 (forthcoming)

*Publication Type*

### **Energy Efficiency Potential in Affordable Housing**

*Natural Resources Defense Council*

Raya Salter, Contributor

2015

Nine state energy efficiency potential study.

*The Galvin Electricity Initiative*

### **International Experience with Private Sector Participation and Open Access in Power Grids: Open Access Component**

*Author(s)*

Raya Salter, Ashley Brown and Steve Levitzky

*Date of Publication*

2011

*Think NBC*

### **Hurricane season is starting. And Hawaii has more reasons than ever to worry.** [↗](#)

*Author(s)*

Raya Salter

2019

Climate change has made storms that used to be rare on the islands far more likely. Disaster planning and relief has not kept up.

*EnergyPolicy.com*

### **Tracking the Value of Smart Grid in Illinois and Beyond**

*Author(s)*

Raya Salter

2014

*Natural Gas Journal*

### **Regulatory Treatment of Nonutility Functions**

*Contributor*

Raya Salter

*Date of Publication*

2009

*The Electricity Journal*

### **Can Smart Grid Technology Fix the Disconnect Between Wholesale and Retail Pricing?**

*Author(s)*

Raya Salter and Ashley Brown

*Date of Publication*

2010

*The Galvin Electricity Initiative*

### **Smart Grid Issues in State Law and Regulation**

*Author(s)*

Raya Salter and Ashley Brown

2010

*World Bank Policy Paper*

### **International Experience with Private Sector Participation and Open Access in Power Grids: Open Access Component**

*Author(s)*

Raya Salter and Ashley Brown

2013