

## **Sydney Welter** **Regional Markets Policy Advisor, Clean Energy**



Sydney Welter is a regional markets policy advisor at Western Resource Advocates (WRA). She focuses on the expansion of wholesale electricity markets in the western U.S. to improve access to clean energy sources. She is also working toward the development of a regional greenhouse gas accounting framework. Welter's work engages with stakeholders throughout the organization's seven-state region and four additional Western states.

Welter came to WRA in 2021 having worked in environmental and energy causes at both the national and international level. Most recently she worked for 360 Campaign Consulting on transportation electrification and clean power advocacy on behalf of EDF Action and the Climate Action Campaign. Her extensive international work at Care About Climate included work on international climate policy and Paris Agreement implementation, including leading organizational delegations to the UN climate negotiations.

She's seen a lot in her career, and she never tires of watching the energy industry transform for the better. But she wanted to pursue more regional work where she would be able to implement changes with tangible benefits. Working with diverse stakeholders, including states, tribal nations, nonprofit groups, and regulatory agencies, Welter loves to convince even the skeptics that clean energy is beneficial for all.

Welter has always loved the outdoors. Growing up in the Midwest she had ample opportunity to develop a love of the natural world. And in college, when she recognized the pressing nature of the climate crisis, she opted to pursue an education in environmental science.

Since then, she's watched in awe at the speed at which things are moving in the industry and it inspires her to do more. While some thought that a greenhouse gas accounting project in eleven Western states would be a hard sell, Welter has seen immediate buy-in from states, utilities, and other groups. Projects like this are bringing together diverse groups to ensure that people living in the West have access to clean air, clean water, and power. The nexus of many diverging interests is what drives her.

Welter holds a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Earth Sciences, with minors in Art History and Political Science, from Washington University in St. Louis. She lives in Colorado where she enjoys running, hiking, skiing and paddleboarding. She also frequents art museums and galleries and plays with her roommates' newly adopted puppy.

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