



# KENTUCKY RESOURCES COUNCIL

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## Now Hiring: Legal Fellow (Grant Funded for 3 Years)

### About the Kentucky Resources Council (KRC):

KRC is a public-interest environmental law and advocacy organization that works to protect Kentucky's natural resources, fight for environmental health and justice, and teach citizens to be effective environmental stewards. We believe everyone has a right to clean air, clean water, and land free of pollution; that nature should be protected from abuse; and a healthy environment is essential for a sound economy. Since the organization was founded in 1984, KRC has been at the center of most significant energy and environmental issues facing the Commonwealth. From helping to end the scourge of strip mining under the notorious "broad form" mineral deed, to protecting some of our most treasured lands from development and strip mining, to helping empower thousands of individuals seeking to protect their lands, health, and communities, KRC has remained steadfast in its work to protect our built and natural communities from pollution and environmental damage.

In January 2023, KRC is launching a new program, *Good Trouble: a Proposal for Coordinated Strategies and Actions in Pursuit of Environmental Health and Justice in Kentucky*. Working with allied organizations and supported by technical and legal experts, we are designing a comprehensive environmental permit review training program for citizens and attorneys. This initiative will advance environmental protection, health, and justice across the Commonwealth by combining meaningful citizen participation, science-backed information and analysis, and technical and legal expertise to ensure that Kentucky's environmental decisions are protective of public health and the environment. This project will, for the first time, provide the resources here in Kentucky to empower the public to participate in the permitting processes in the robust and consistent manner envisioned by our nation's environmental laws.

### Job Description:

The **Good Trouble Legal Fellow** will assist KRC's Executive Director, the Good Trouble Project Manager, and senior legal staff in designing and executing a comprehensive environmental permit review training program for citizens, community groups, and attorneys. The Legal Fellow will also provide legal support for citizen permit review, draft comments on proposed permits and environmental decisions, and attend public hearings. This is a 3-year fellowship position.

**Essential Duties:**

- Work collaboratively to develop the permit review training modules, guidance documents, and templates for the Good Trouble program
- Compile legal and technical information on regulatory programs and governmental processes that pertain to the permitting of pollution or changes in air, land, or water resources, or impact environmental quality, health, and justice
- Work with legal and technical experts to develop training modules, guidance documents, and templates for the Good Trouble program
- Assist with tracking proposed permits, certifications, and authorizations, using data management systems
- Write, submit, and manage responses to open records requests
- Assist citizens in, and prepare as needed, public comments on select proposed permits
- Train citizens on how to effectively participate in public hearings; attend select public hearings
- Process, respond to, and track requests for legal and technical assistance for the Good Trouble program
- During Years Two and Three, provide legal support for citizen permit review, assist in reviewing complex or deficient permits, and co-counsel on administrative and judicial cases

**Candidate Qualifications and Attributes:**

- A collaborative team player with strong research, writing, and analytic skills
- Commitment to environmental protection, health, equity, and justice
- Some understanding of regulatory programs and governmental processes that pertain to the permitting of pollution
- Self-motivated and strong work ethic
- Travel is expected to attend hearings and meet with community groups across Kentucky. Must possess a valid state driver's license
- Law degree and license to practice law in Kentucky or registered for 2023 bar exam

**Compensation:** Salary commensurate with experience and years of practice (range provided upon offer of an interview). Benefits include a monthly contribution to a Health Reimbursement Account, a retirement plan with employer match, two weeks sick leave, and four weeks paid vacation.

**Location:** KRC maintains a virtual office, but the legal fellow must be located in/near Kentucky, as the position will require some travel to hearings, court appearances, and events across Kentucky.

**To Apply:** Please send a cover letter, resume, and three references to [careers@kyrc.org](mailto:careers@kyrc.org).

\*KRC is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, veteran status, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law.