

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:
DIRECTOR OR MANAGER, RESEARCH

August 27, 2024

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Market Surveillance Administrator (MSA) is looking to recruit a Director, Research, or a Manager, Research. The title and compensation of the position would depend on the experience and qualifications of the applicant. This will be a highly demanding position. A Director would report to the Administrator and Chief Executive Officer; a Manager would report to the Director, Market Assessment.

The MSA's research group is responsible for conducting electricity market research that is applicable to Alberta's electricity market and retail natural gas market. Recent examples of research include the measurement of the exercise of market power in Alberta's power pool, the impact of information publication on competition and market prices, the evaluation of the performance of full-load auctions used to price the electricity default rate, the consumer response to Alberta's public text message alert in January 2024, the nature of consumer switching among retail service providers, and the informational efficiency of Alberta's electricity futures market.

The successful candidate will have the following responsibilities, commensurate with their level of experience and qualifications:

- Working with MSA management, develop and enhance the MSA's research program applicable to Alberta's electricity and retail natural gas markets.
- Implement own research program and collaboratively manage a small team of MSA economists with their own research programs, including:
 - disseminating written results through contributions to the MSA's public reports, technical reports, working papers, and academic publications, and
 - presentations at academic conferences, industry events, meetings with other agencies and the Ministry of Affordability and Utilities, and MSA internal and external events.
- Develop and enhance external collaboration with similarly focused researchers and analysts, including organizing MSA symposia focused on electricity and retail natural gas-related issues.
- Develop and instruct education and training materials related to:

- tools used to assess electricity market performance and the conduct of electricity market participant conduct,
 - electricity market design, including practice (and best practice) in other jurisdictions, and
 - other matters of importance to Alberta's electricity and retail natural gas markets.
- Provide subject-matter expertise in relation to a wide range of MSA activities, including on investigation and enforcement matters, regular public reporting, the setting of corporate goals, and mentorship and training. This may be done by supporting the work of colleagues, including commenting on written materials.
 - Other duties as assigned from time to time.

While testifying experience would be a substantial asset for the successful candidate, appearing as a witness for the MSA before the Alberta Utilities Commission or other regulatory authorities is not a necessary aspect of this position.

To complete this work successfully, the successful candidates will be expected to develop and execute analytical frameworks, methodologies, and work plans that are appropriate to their assigned tasks and to present and actively seek feedback regarding the results and implications of their work. They will also be expected to assist, guide, and train others to perform complex assignments. Active project management and the ability to prioritize competing demands will be essential for success.

The annual base salary range for a Director begins at \$200,000. The annual base salary for a Manager begins at \$152,000.

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree in economics, engineering, business, or other quantitative discipline is required. A Ph.D. would be a substantial asset. Willingness and eagerness to learn is essential.
- A Director would possess at least ten years of relevant experience producing and disseminating research and analysis that applies rigorous economic frameworks to study questions related to electricity, natural gas, or financial markets, including at least five years experience related to Alberta's electricity or natural gas markets. A Manager would possess at least seven years of relevant general experience and at least five years experience in the Alberta electricity or natural gas markets.
- Exceptional written and oral communications skills are required, including the demonstrated ability to effectively present information to and receive constructive feedback from colleagues, industry professionals, and public groups through detailed written reports, oral presentations, and testimony before regulators or adjudicators.

- Demonstrated experience in project management, staff mentoring, and participation in public consultations, working groups, committees, and meetings.
- Demonstrated experience with statistical and / or data management software is required. Advanced Microsoft Office skills are essential.
- Ability to work effectively individually and on teams and under inflexible time constraints.

ABOUT THE MARKET SURVEILLANCE ADMINISTRATOR

The MSA is a public agency that protects and promotes the fair, efficient, and openly competitive operation of Alberta's electricity and retail natural gas markets. The MSA conducts surveillance of Alberta's wholesale electricity market and retail electricity and natural gas markets and undertakes enforcement activities to ensure compliance with all applicable electricity and natural gas legislation, the Alberta Reliability Standards, and the Independent System Operator's rules.

The MSA's work is carried out by a small group of highly trained economists, analysts, and legal and administrative staff. If you are looking for a challenging and collegial environment where everyone's contribution counts, the MSA welcomes you to our team. We reward our staff with competitive compensation and benefits, as well as the opportunity to continuously develop new skills and abilities.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you are interested in these roles and meet the required qualifications, please submit (i) a cover letter that demonstrates each of the qualifications outlined above and (ii) a resume or curriculum vitae, quoting the position title in the subject line, to careers@albertamsa.ca.

The MSA will begin reviewing applications after 4 p.m. MT on Tuesday, September 10, 2024.

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Successful candidates will need to undergo background checks prior to the commencement of employment, which may include eligibility to work in Canada.

Applications for these positions may be used to fill similar positions should they become available.

PRIVACY NOTICE

The personal information contained in cover letters and resumes is being collected for the purpose of determining your eligibility and qualifications for a position with the MSA. This information is collected in accordance with section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information, please contact the MSA's FOIP Coordinator, Suite 600, 440 - Second Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 0L6 or by telephone at 403-705-3181.