

## Chris Cone



Since 2015, Chris has provided consultant services to the clean energy industry. Recent projects include *State of Solar Energy in Sonoma County: Paths to Accelerate Adoption* and the 2016 white paper, *Data-Driven Path to Economic and Environmental Sustainability: A Roadmap for Community Choice Innovation*, in partnership with the North Bay Clean Energy Forum.

In July 2015, Chris founded the Negawatt Market Project is a research initiative to develop strategies for a “metered grid capacity” commodity market that can deliver scalable investment in distributed energy resource (DER) retrofits to meet or exceed California’s proactive greenhouse gas reduction goals. The ongoing Project explores how technological innovation, data access, and climate policy together set the stage for a new model that takes full advantage of the economic, environmental, and social equity benefits of distributed energy resources.

Previously, Chris served as policy manager for Efficiency First California, a 501(c)6 trade association for the home performance industry, where she led statewide advocacy campaigns for market-based building efficiency solutions working with the California residential efficiency program working group, issue-based industry coalitions, and software calibration advisory group and in meetings with government, utility, and industry partners. As policy manager, Chris facilitated monthly collaboration forums for utility, program, and industry stakeholders in the residential energy efficiency sector to identify market barriers and actionable solutions to increase homeowner participation in rebate programs. While with Efficiency First California, she also led the program implementation team for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Home Performance Program, the most successful residential rebate program in California.

As energy efficiency implementation manager for the Center for Climate Protection, Chris participated on implementation teams for Energy Upgrade California® — Home Upgrade retrofit program and two U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Better Buildings programs including the award-winning Windsor Efficiency PAYS® water and energy efficiency program. In addition, she was co-author for Public Interest Energy Research report POR-08-038 describing data analysis and modeling performed to establish renewable energy portfolios for the Sonoma County Renewable-Based Energy Secure Community (RESCO) project.

As an independent consultant, Chris authored the *2010 Sonoma County Solar Implementation Plan* to increase local renewable energy generation and energy efficiency retrofits under a DOE Solar America Cities grant; launched a successful initiative to establish a countywide residential efficiency program securing \$419,000 in local Energy Efficient Community Block Grant and contributing to the procurement of \$10.75 million in ARRA funds that were used to establish the statewide Energy Upgrade California® — Home Upgrade program; and designed and launched an early whole-house program prototype called the Green Energy Loan program, which provided home audits for efficiency, water, and renewable generation options and local home equity financing.