

David M. Turk

EXPERIENCE

Distinguished Visiting Fellow

2025-present

Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University

- Member of team providing actionable, real-world analysis and policy recommendations covering the full landscape of energy issues
- Providing thought leadership on assortment of energy topics, domestic and international
- Engaging with and supporting variety of professors, scholars, and students in their research

Deputy Secretary

2021-2025

U.S. Department of Energy

- Number two official and Chief Operating Officer for \$50 billion per year organization and 110,000 person team focused on innovation, nuclear security, and all things energy
- Implemented historic climate and clean energy legislation (Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill), including spearheading major Departmental reorganization
- Focused on broad range of clean energy technology innovation, including Energy Earthshots (geothermal, H2, long-duration storage, carbon negative) and fusion energy
- Helped guide Department efforts on Artificial Intelligence, including to quickly and affordably power AI data centers
- Coordinated and consulted with wide range of industry partners (e.g., utilities, energy incumbents, and innovators), investors, NGOs, universities, and other key stakeholders
- Helped lead Departmental coordination with the White House, other U.S. Agencies, Senate and House of Representatives, state governments, and international counterparts
- Led U.S. delegations to various G7/G20/COP/IEA/IAEA ministerials and bilateral visits (Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Czechia, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, France, Poland, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, India, UAE, South Africa, Romania, Germany)

Deputy Executive Director

2020-2021

Head of Strategic Initiatives Office

2018-2020

Acting Director of Sustainability, Technology and Outlooks

2017-2018

Head of Energy Environment Division

2016-2017

International Energy Agency

- Spearheaded launch of Clean Energy Transitions Programme, a 35+ million euro effort to leverage IEA capabilities to accelerate transitions in key economies (e.g., Indonesia, India, Brazil, Ukraine, Thailand, Vietnam, Chile, Kenya, Mauritania, Uganda, South Africa, Morocco, Egypt, Singapore)
- Coordinated with 31 IEA Members and those additional countries seeking membership
- Consulted with wide range of energy companies and investors from around the world
- Led various analytical efforts, including Tracking Clean Energy Progress, Digitalization and Energy, and the Future of Hydrogen; advised on many other reports and analyses
- Provided strategic direction and feedback to various teams across the agency
- Helped coordinate international climate change and clean energy transitions efforts
- Helped Executive Director run 350-person Agency, including heading Covid Task Force

Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Climate and Technology

2014-2016

U.S. Department of Energy, Office of International Affairs

- Spearheaded creation and launch of Mission Innovation, an effort by 20+ major countries to double their clean energy research and development funding over five years
- Led process to revamp and upgrade the Clean Energy Ministerial, a multilateral effort to accelerate clean energy policy and technology deployment for world's largest countries
- Coordinated international clean energy and climate efforts for the Department of Energy

Deputy Special Envoy for Climate Change and Counsel

2012-2014

U.S. Department of State, Office of Special Envoy for Climate Change

- Helped lead U.S. government efforts for a range of action-oriented climate partnerships
- Led U.S. efforts on the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, a multilateral effort to reduce short-lived climate pollutants, including launch of the Oil and Gas Methane Partnership
- Provided strategic guidance to Special Envoy for Climate Change on wide range of international collaborative and diplomatic efforts; prioritized U.S. climate funding

Special Assistant to the President, Senior Director for Legislative Affairs

2011-2012

National Security Council, White House

- Point for legislative outreach by National Security Advisor and other senior officials
- Coordinated interagency legislative affairs outreach by Departments of State, Defense, Treasury, Energy and Homeland Security, as well as the Intelligence Community
- Provided legislative advice to National Security Council decision-making, including in wide range of Principals and Deputies Committee meetings across various topics

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional, Global, and Functional Affairs

2010-2011

Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor

2009-2010

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs

- Spearheaded New START, frontline states (Af/Pak and Iraq) and climate change efforts
- Managed 20 Legislative Management Officers covering full range of State Dept. issues
- Coordinated preparation for high-profile hearings and meetings by Secretary Clinton
- Responsible for coordinating top-priority initiatives, including high-profile series of Af/Pak and budget hearings as well as Copenhagen climate change conference

Staff Director

2007-2009

National Security and Foreign Affairs Subcommittee

Oversight and Government Reform Committee, U.S. House of Representatives

- Responsible for oversight and investigations of U.S. national security agencies
- Supervised hearings, document requests and legislative initiatives; managed staff; and coordinated extensively with other House and Senate committees and leadership
- Conducted fact-finding trips to Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Chad, Kuwait, Qatar, Lebanon, Ethiopia, Djibouti, the Czech Republic, Kenya, Mali and Egypt

Counsel

2004-2007

Senator Joe Biden, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee

- Responsible for variety of anti-terrorism policies, Executive Branch oversight, Supreme Court nominations, constitutional law, human rights, crime policy and drafting speeches
- Drafted sweeping prisoner reentry bill; spearheaded bicameral enactment efforts
- Prepared Senator for hearings of Chief Justice Roberts, Justice Alito and AG Gonzales

Counsel and Legislative Assistant

2001-2004

Senator Kent Conrad

- Briefed Senator for votes and hearings; represented Senator in meetings
- Point person for security, judiciary, ethics, high-tech and transportation issues

Law Clerk

1999-2000

Chief Judge of U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, J. Harvie Wilkinson III

- Researched, composed and edited opinions, including international law cases
- Advised Chief Judge on circuit-related decisions as part of three-clerk team

EDUCATION

University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville, VA

J.D., 1999, *Order of the Coif*

- *Virginia Law Review*, Executive Editor
- Hardy Cross Dillard Scholar (3-year, full-tuition scholarship with \$5,000/year stipend)
- Focus on international law and foreign relations, environmental law and national security

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL

B.A. in Political Science, *summa cum laude*, 1996

B.S. in Natural Resource and Environmental Sciences, 1996

GPA: 3.96 / 4.00

- Bronze Tablet (top 3 percent of graduating class), Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi
- Focus on international relations, environmental policy and comparative political systems
- All-Campus Intramural Basketball Championship Team (1995, 1996)

PERSONAL

- Basketball, hiking, running, biking, travel, reading, and dendrology
- Lived in South America for six years during childhood: Ecuador, Chile and Brazil