

Ryan M Yonk is an Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Economics and Finance at Utah State University. His books include *Green V. Green* (with Randy Simmons and Brian Steed), *Direct Democracy in the United States* (with Shauna Reilly), *Nature Unbound: Bureaucracy vs. the Environment* (with Randy Simmons and Ken Sim), and a forthcoming book *Reality of American Energy* (with Jordan Lofthouse and Megan Hansen). Dr. Yonk is the author of numerous academic journal articles and policy reports focused on the intersection of public policy, economics, and politics with particular interest in questions around energy and environmental policy.

In his work he emphasizes the importance of understanding public policy using the tools of the public choice economist and political scientist. This work along with a strong interest in energy and environmental policy comprises much of his current research agenda. At the core his research explores how energy and environmental policy can be better crafted to achieve greater individual autonomy and prosperity.

Dr. Yonk received his Ph.D. in political science from the Georgia State University in 2011. He was previously an assistant professor of political science at Southern Utah University, where he was also the director of the Institute for Policy Analysis. Also at Utah State University, he is the research director of the Institute of Political Economy.