

# Green Neighbor Challenge

## Volunteer(s) Wanted - Web Developer (React/Javascript)

**Organization:** The Green Neighbor Challenge is building a web-tool and social media campaign aimed at helping millions of homes find and sign up for green energy programs. We aim to become a gateway for residents to find energy democracy tools, resources, and organizations. We are an all-volunteer team, passionate about creating groundbreaking public tools for environmental organizing. We work in coalition with many organizations and networks, and are also a fiscally sponsored project of the Power Shift Network (501c3) with the aims of becoming our own non-profit organization in the future. To learn more, visit [GreenNeighborChallenge.com](http://GreenNeighborChallenge.com).



**Position:** We are looking for another team member (or two) excited to use coding skills in the development of new tools for energy policy advocacy and organizing. You'll be joining a team of about 8-10 volunteers, which includes our main web-developer, David, who will help get you up to speed. The tools we are working to design and develop for our energy democracy toolkit include:

### Green Pricing Program Finder - Near Beta-Testing

This is our flagship tool, built on the first national database of green pricing programs, enabling users to find and sign up for green energy programs through their utility or grid operator. This tool is undergoing its last few upgrades and we expect to start national beta-testing in August with UCS.

### Energy & Efficiency Rebate/Incentive Finder - In Research/Design

Building on the longstanding public Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency (DSIRE), we are working to design a user-friendly front-end to help residents find and understand incentives/programs for saving energy and money. One of our current volunteers, Ankur, is working to map and filter the existing data, and design a new user experience (with far less jargon).

### State Energy Policy Letter Builder - In Research/Re-Design

While our Green Pricing and Incentive finders will help drive demand for existing residential programs, we need to both expand the options residents have AND help residents to push for systemic multi-sector change, particularly at the state level. This interactive letter builder 'grades' states on a suite of essential energy policies, and engages residents in a self-educating advocacy adventure. A working prototype exists, but requires a streamlined rebuild with new features. We have two volunteers doing policy research preparing all the copy for the user experience.

### Grassroots Organization Finder - In Ideation/Partnership

Energy Democracy requires us to go beyond individual actions, and build power for change in community. One of the biggest barriers to grassroots organizing is just finding a group to join. This tool would fix that. We are in early stage scoping talks with the Earth Hero App team and the Power

Shift Network about how to develop AND maintain such a tool/dataset. The development is being housed in the Earth Hero App for now, but are working towards an open-source solution.

### Local Energy Advocacy Power Mapping/Resource Finder - In Ideation

Supported by the policies of our State Letter Builder, and based off a local action guide designed by our volunteer, Jessy, we aim to create an interactive module to help activists/grassroots orgs create a “power map” of their local energy system to understand where leverage exists, and connect them to relevant model strategies and the pre-existing organizations and resources that exist to support such strategies, much like a digital librarian for energy democracy. This is still early in the idea stage, but the redesign of our state letter builder is to prepare for this local tool.

Many of these ideas originated in conversation with movement partners, and we hope this will only be the beginning. Indeed, as we work towards a coordinated launch of our green pricing finder this Fall, we expect our ability to grant-fund and self-fund our operations will increase dramatically with public exposure and demonstrated impact. Charting out a path for continued development strengthens this case substantially for potential donors, as do our continued collaborations.

**Impact:** If just 2% of households signed up for green energy, we’d collectively generate ~\$968 million in health benefits from reduced emissions and prevent as much carbon from being released as a forest the size of Maine could sequester each year. Learn more about our [potential impacts](#).

### **Team Expectations:**

- Work is remote and highly flexible. Regular/semi-regular attendance at weekly team zoom meetings is strongly encouraged to maintain camaraderie/awareness on the team.
- Roughly 2-8 hours a week is expected, and availability can fluctuate, but a base level of commitment is necessary to maintain continuity and momentum.
- Learning and experimentation is celebrated, and we try to tailor projects to your interests, so that your volunteering experience is mutually beneficial.
- We encourage team members to get to know one another, and are happy to support folks in building their own network in the environmental space through our coalition contacts.

### **Qualifications**

- A strong desire to empower grassroots efforts for health and environmental justice.
- Familiarity coding with Javascript and/or React.js necessary to build on existing code.
- Experience/interest in front-end development is helpful/preferred, but not required.
- Curiosity and willingness to learn; ability to approach work collaboratively and creatively.

### **How to Apply:**

Please email [GreenNeighborChallenge@gmail.com](mailto:GreenNeighborChallenge@gmail.com) your Resume and/or LinkedIn, and a short description about why you’re interested in getting involved. We’ll set up a meet and greet from there to dive deeper into the projects that we have and see what suits your interests from there.

