

Elliot Cohen
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Dear Faculty Search Committee,

I am currently seeking a tenure-track faculty position at the assistant professor level in energy systems engineering, mechanical engineering, environmental engineering, or environmental science with a focus on energy and sustainability.

Currently, I hold a joint appointment at Columbia University as a Postdoctoral Research Scientist in Mechanical Engineering, part-time Lecturer in Statistics, and Earth Institute Fellow at the Sustainable Engineering Lab.

Across multiple projects, I strive to produce timely, salient, forward-thinking, and most importantly, rigorous and reproducible research. I am guided by what I believe are crucial (and solvable) global sustainability challenges.

For the past 8 years I have specialized in sustainable energy systems, including renewable energy technology, energy transitions, peak-load management, demand forecasting, grid reliability, and life-cycle environmental impact assessment. My work is empirical and analytical. I work with "big data" and statistical models as powerful analytic tools, but recognize that they alone cannot ask the right questions. Asking the right questions requires experience, critical thinking and a systems perspective.

My research extends beyond peer-reviewed journal articles and onto the desks of policy-makers. Notably, I have contributed research and analysis to the World Bank (Cities and Climate Change), National Renewable Energy Laboratory (Life Cycle Assessment Harmonization Project), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation) and the Presidential Climate Action Project (Report on Addressing Climate Change Under Executive Authority).

To stay at the forefront of my field, I am committed to consistently updating and expanding my technical skill set. In just the past year, I have taught myself two new programming languages, new data analysis techniques, new data visualization tools, and joined the open-source research community on github where I share my data and analysis with the world to lower the activation energy of collaboration. All this while preparing manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication, developing curriculum for two graduate programs, teaching a large graduate course, building a 5-person research team, and directing two Masters theses at one of the nation's top universities.

I invite you to read my Statements of Research and Teaching, and complete C.V. for further details.

Sincerely,

Elliot Cohen