

Who we are:

The Department of Environment and Conservation exists to enhance the quality of life for citizens of Tennessee and to be stewards of our natural environment.

Our Department is committed to providing a cleaner, safer environment that goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity and increased quality of life in Tennessee. We deliver on our mission through managing regulatory programs that maintain standards for air, water and soil quality while providing assistance to businesses and communities in areas ranging from recreation to waste management. We manage the state park system and programs to inventory, interpret and protect Tennessee's rich natural, historical, and archaeological heritage.

TDEC's Office of General Counsel has approximately 30 team members who support TDEC's mission through the Talent, Dedication, Engagement, and Character of its staff who provide exceptional services as partners and facilitators to both internal and external clients and stakeholders. OGC staff exhibit:

Talent – knowledge, experience and intellectual attainment, creativity and skill in negotiation, investigation and problem solving;

Dedication – hard work and persistence;

Engagement – communication and involvement with programs to provide better services; and

Character – ethical behavior and a high value placed on serving the public and fairness in interactions.



Senior Environmental Counsel Office of General Counsel (OGC) Annual Salary Range: \$69,588 – \$125,232

TDEC's Office of General Counsel (OGC) has a welcoming and collaborative culture focused on development and fostering success among its staff. OGC seeks to add an attorney to its growing team of 18 attorneys. This is an exciting opportunity for experienced attorneys looking to join a mission-driven team focused on delivering quality work in accordance with the highest ethical standards while enjoying work life balance. If you love a new challenge each day and want to feel like you are making a difference in Tennessee, this could be the career move for you.

TDEC attorneys are presently working remotely and TDEC anticipates continuing to offer some of this flexibility going forward. The position is expected to be based in Knoxville. The position may also be based in Nashville with travel to Knoxville.

The attorney will help lay the foundation of Tennessee's new surface coal mining and reclamation program. Experience applying the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA), including experience handling financial assurance and bankruptcy issues, is preferred. This opportunity requires a Tennessee law license (or a license from another state and the ability to secure a Tennessee license within 12 months). Preferred candidates will have a minimum of five years of experience in the practice of law. To apply for this position please email your resume and cover letter to TDEC.Careers@tn.gov

Highlighted Responsibilities:

- Provide legal advice to TDEC's surface coal mining program on enforcement matters, permitting, and public participation.
- Assist clients with interpretation of state and federal law and prepare written legal analyses.
- Assist clients with developing rules, guidance, and policies.
- Review and analyze the effects of proposed state and federal legislation.
- Handle administrative appeals and work with the Tennessee Attorney General's Office on referred cases.
- When needed, handle special projects quickly and efficiently.
- Provide support and advice to others within OGC.
- Present enforcement orders, rules, and other legal documents to TDEC leadership for signature and approval.

Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's Workplace Discrimination and Harassment policy, the State is firmly committed to the principle of fair and equal employment opportunities for its citizens and strives to protect the rights and opportunities of all people to seek, obtain, and hold employment without being subjected to illegal discrimination and harassment in the workplace. It is the State's policy to provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment of an individual because of that person's race, color, national origin, age (40 and over), sex, pregnancy, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status or any other category protected by state and/or federal civil rights laws.