



Amy Parker on embracing career detours and thriving in energy and climate tech

Deloitte is proud to introduce the next profile in our series featuring women in the energy industry in conjunction with the Women's Energy Network (WEN). By highlighting the stories of women in energy, we hope to help facilitate meaningful conversations, create connections, and showcase the myriad of opportunities for women to enter and thrive in the energy industry.



Amy Parker, an Audit & Assurance partner with Deloitte & Touche LLP for 21 years, hails from Montana and began her career journey after graduating from the University of Montana. Initially hired by Arthur Andersen, Amy had to pivot quickly when the organization dissolved just three weeks before her start date. This unexpected turn led her to Deloitte, where she started in the Denver office, thus beginning her career in the energy industry with a midstream oil and gas client.

Amy Parker
Audit & Assurance partner
Deloitte Consulting LLP

From power and utilities to energy and climate tech

Throughout Amy's career at Deloitte, she has had the opportunity to move around serving clients across various roles and locations, including Denver, Miami, Dallas, Charlotte, Houston, New Orleans, and San Francisco. She has served numerous power and utilities clients, developing a deep appreciation for the industry and the people within it. These experiences have enriched her network both internally and externally, which has been a significant motivator for her.

Currently, Amy leads Deloitte's Audit & Assurance energy and climate tech practice for the West Coast. This role has allowed her to bridge the gap between established utilities and innovative startups, fostering collaboration and driving advancements in the climate tech ecosystem and integration with the growth and speed to power as a result of the artificial intelligence boom. She admits the role was intimidating at first having no prior experience working with startups, but she has grown to love it. Taking her experience working with large-scale utilities to the energy startup community, working to build an ecosystem in the climate tech space, has been energizing to Amy.

"Being in the marketplace, getting to meet venture capitalists that are putting money into the startups in energy and climate tech, getting to meet founders who blow me away with their ideas and background—it's very humbling and exciting to sit and talk with someone who just invented an amazing technology that supports climate change and see what the future possibilities are for this industry."

Growth through change

Reflecting on her career, Amy acknowledges that the challenges and unexpected changes she faced have shaped her path and helped her find her passion, and she has thrived because of it. From not starting her career with Arthur Andersen as planned, to times during her career when she considered moving into new industry roles, or being asked by the organization to relocate to serve different clients (and new industries), each experience has contributed to her growth.

Amy shared one of the most rewarding moments in her career, which came from unexpectedly losing a client. She recounted the experience, from committing to relocate closer to serve an audit client, to the client's acquisition a short while later, and ultimately having to stop serving as the client's auditor due to independence reasons resulting from the acquisition. However, due to Amy's strong professional relationship with the account, Deloitte retained the entity as a client for non-attest services. Being able to collaborate across the industry has been important in building trust and strengthening the professional relationships. She shared that the collaborative nature of the utilities industry, both within Deloitte and among clients, has been a rewarding aspect of her career.

Building a support network

Amy emphasizes the importance of finding mentors and building a supportive network. She shares the value of having a group of supportive female peers who provide each other advice and encouragement throughout their respective careers. For women entering the energy industry, Amy advises being open to learning and opportunities, and finding mentors and their own group who can help guide them.

Amy also acknowledged that she has had numerous mentors throughout her career who have been instrumental in her journey, mentors both within and outside of Deloitte. One such mentor that Amy values the guidance of is Eileen Little, among others, who continues to be her sounding board. The support and encouragement from her mentors have been crucial in helping

her navigate her career and take on new challenges. She encourages women to have confidence in their abilities and to seek out mentors of any gender.

Amy primarily credits her supportive husband for encouraging her to step out of her comfort zone and embrace new opportunities. She said that thanks to his support and a flexible work environment, she can manage her career with her family life as a mom of four.

Future of energy

When asked about her thoughts on the current state of the energy market and what the future may hold, Amy shared her belief that the energy industry, particularly utilities, is undergoing tremendous change. The demand for electricity and the challenges utilities face are historic. She believes that the industry needs a wide variety of ideas and collaboration to address these challenges and innovate for the future. Amy is excited about the potential for technological advancements and the role of startups in driving this change.

Amy believes that diversity of thought and experience is crucial for the industry's future, and women can play a vital role in that. She thinks that equal representation for women in the energy industry will be evident when the question of gender representation is no longer asked. She envisions a future where diversity is the norm.

Amy's journey in the energy industry is a testament to the power of resilience, mentorship, and embracing opportunities. Her story inspires others to find their path, build supportive networks, and contribute to the ever-evolving energy sector.

Amy Parker: The lightning round

Women in Energy

Describing herself in three words: Adaptable, spontaneous, playful

Favorite food or drink: Sushi and coffee

Favorite places to travel: Montana and Singapore

One thing on her bucket list: Traveling around the world with her family

One way she practiced self-care during the pandemic: Waking up early for personal time

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