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Lauren Quillian is an energy industry professional and is the director of energy and environmental policy in Xcel’s strategy, planning, and external affairs department. She creates and executes on leading environmental strategies for Xcel and works collaboratively with external partners to develop robust and supportive public policy. She works on Xcel’s sustainability and ESG strategy, with a focus on developing and executing Xcel’s net-zero vision to reduce emissions for natural gas customers. She also has four years of experience working for a contractor for the U.S. Agency for International Development and has spent time abroad in Africa and Latin America. In 2009, Lauren helped the government of Equatorial Guinea set up a social needs fund to provide services to their citizens. Lauren has a master’s in public administration from Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs and a bachelor’s in foreign affairs from the University of Virginia.