

Abena Boafoa Darkwah

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Economics University of Calgary 2500 University Dr. N.W Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada	<i>Phone:</i> +1 (587) 892-5435 <i>E-mail:</i> abena.darkwah@ucalgary.ca
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Public Policy, Environmental Economics, Energy Economics, Electricity Markets	
EDUCATION	University of Calgary , Calgary, Alberta Canada Ph.D. Candidate, Economics, 2021-2027 (expected) MA. Economics, 2020-2021 Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology , Kumasi, Ghana B.A., Economics, 2015-2019	
HONORS AND AWARDS	Faculty of Graduate Studies Doctoral Scholarship, University of Calgary (2024) Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (2023) Microeconomics Prize for the highest average in ECON 707 and ECON 757, awarded by the Department of Economics, University of Calgary (2022)	
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	University of Calgary , Calgary, Alberta Canada <i>Research Assistant for Professor Lucija Muehlenbachs</i> September 2024 - February 2026 Duties include co-writing a paper and consultation for the Confederacy of Treaty Six. Also, led the writing of a successful grant application. <i>Research Assistant for Associate Professor Sara Hastings-Simon</i> October 2023 - April 2025 Duties included conducting literature reviews, economic modelling, and co-writing a paper for publication. <i>Research Assistant for Professor Scott. M Taylor</i> January 2023 - June 2023 Duties included collecting and analyzing data, conducting model simulations, creating visualizations using Python, and providing support for various research projects.	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	University of Calgary , Calgary, Alberta Canada <i>Graduate Teaching Assistant</i> August, 2021 - present Duties include conducting tutorial sessions and office hours. • Macroeconomics (Econ 203), Microeconomics (Econ 201), Computer Applications in Economics (Econ 311), Environmental Economics (ECON 487), Energy Economics (ECON 427/627). <i>Guest Lecturer</i> • Environmental Economics (ECON 487) January 28, February 14, March 14 2025 • Energy Economics (ECON 427/627) October 3, 2024 Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology , Kumasi, Ghana <i>Teaching Assistant</i> August, 2019 - June 2020 Organized and led tutorial classes for final-year students taking macroeconomics and environmental economics.	

PUBLICATIONS	“Resource Revenue Sharing Agreements” with Lucija Muehlenbachs & Laurel Wheeler, Forthcoming in the <i>Canadian Public Policy/ Analyse de Politiques</i> Abstract: A growing number of First Nations across Canada are entering into agreements with provincial governments to share revenues from natural resource extraction within their traditional territories. Yet, little guidance exists on the design of these Resource Revenue-Sharing Agreements (RRSAs). In this paper, we examine publicly available RRSAs to summarize their common components. We outline the decision points involved in structuring an RSA and discuss potential benefits and drawbacks for First Nations considering entry. Darkwah, A.B., Shaffer, B. and Hastings-Simon, S., 2026. Layering incentives: The impact of local top-ups on solar adoption and welfare. <i>Energy Policy</i>, 217, p.115427. Abstract: This paper investigates the effect of a local “top-up” to an existing solar rebate program in Alberta. Specifically, we examine whether providing additional financial incentives at the local level increases adoption rates and generates meaningful public welfare benefits. Using a difference-in-difference framework, we find that the incidence of the top-up is fully passed through to consumers, resulting in a 72% increase in solar installation rates. Our welfare analysis, using the Marginal Value of Public Funds (MVPF), also reveals that the societal benefits of the top-up exceed its costs, yielding a favorable return on public investment. These findings suggest that local top-ups can be an effective tool for increasing renewable energy adoption and enhancing public welfare, offering important insights for policymakers.
PAPERS IN PREPARATION	“Market Power and the Effectiveness of Carbon Policy: A case study using Alberta’s Electricity Market.” [Job Market Paper] Abstract: I analyze the effectiveness of Canada’s first greenhouse gas pricing policy in reducing emissions in the electricity market and assess the role of market power in influencing these outcomes. I find that although increasing the stringency of the policy significantly reduced emissions, the presence of market power among large firms mitigated these benefits. Specifically, strategic behavior by firms induced gas-to-coal switching, thereby limiting the intended emissions reductions. These findings highlight market power as a factor that could impede or slow the decarbonization of the electricity sector. “Technology and Energy Use in the Formal Sector: Implications from informal competition” with John Bosco Dramani and Kwame Ansere Ofori-Mensah.
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	Climate Economics Pipeline Workshop, Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 2024. Electricity Camp in the Rockies, Banff Centre, Alberta, May 2026.
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Kaskada Carbon, Calgary, Alberta, Canada <i>Associate</i> June, 2026 - Present Consulting for clients entering the biodiversity market. Legacy Capital Savings and Loans, Accra, Ghana <i>Financial Intern</i> June, 2018 – August, 2018 Assisted customers with opening new accounts, verifying accounts, debiting and crediting accounts, and loan analysis.
COMPUTER SKILLS	• Statistical Packages: Python, Stata, R • Applications: L^AT_EX, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel