

Panel 13: Putting Equity at the Center of the Clean Energy Transition

The objective of Panel 13 is to focus on efforts to transform how we approach the clean energy transition by centering racial equity. Beyond set asides for energy efficiency and renewables, this panel will explore the emergence of policies that prioritize Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities, and communities with limited incomes. As we develop energy efficiency programs and increase efforts to electrify our built environment, we must ensure that marginalized and limited wealth communities are authentically engaged as co-creators of program and policy design. This ensures that first and most impacted communities reap the benefits that best serve their needs.

This panel's content will encompass community-based strategies for energy efficiency, solar, solar plus storage, healthy homes, and comprehensive approaches to creating resilient communities, particularly those that are community driven and led. In addition, it will have a focus on community-based approaches that can enhance local energy workforce development and entrepreneurship, equitable transportation initiatives, and provide pathways to greater economic mobility.

The panel intends to go beyond the traditional ACEEE scope and share success stories and lessons learned from the impact of advocating for greater racial equity in clean energy policy and programs in under resourced communities.