



July Newsletter

Kate,

I'm pleased to share ACEEE's [2025 annual report](#), published today. It tells the story of our research, coalitions, and advocacy to deliver lasting relief as families struggle with rising utility bills. Check it out to learn about our recent achievements and what's ahead.

We're continuing to expand our work in key areas, including through a new initiative launched last month focusing on the chemicals sector. The [Chemical Catalyst Collaborative](#), a partnership of five organizations, aims to reduce toxic pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from chemical manufacturing. Starting with an initial focus on plastic production in the U.S. Gulf South, the Collaborative will help build momentum for needed solutions, including energy efficiency, through research and events.

Our latest research highlights the importance of harnessing energy efficiency to bring energy affordability to families who most need it. Check out our new [report](#) to learn about the share of efficiency program investments reaching low-income households today and how states can better serve these households.

Jennifer Layke
Executive Director



Efficiency Update

- **DOE proposes roadblocks for standards.** A [proposed rule](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy would add a [series of time-consuming steps and restrictions](#) to the agency's already lengthy standard-setting process for updating efficiency standards for appliances and equipment. The hurdles could frustrate or block efforts by future administrations to update standards.
- **Efficiency cuts rebuffed in Massachusetts.** The Massachusetts Senate [passed](#) an energy affordability bill that maintains funding for Mass Save, the state's robust utility-administered energy efficiency program. The bill rejected a \$1 billion cut to the program that was included in a House-passed bill. The House and Senate need to move their competing bills into a conference committee by July 31.
- **Vermont backstops federal standards.** Vermont governor Phil Scott signed into law a bipartisan [bill](#) that directs state regulators to adopt energy and water efficiency standards mirroring existing federal standards. This would protect consumers and businesses from [potential federal rollbacks](#). Vermont is the second state, after Virginia, to enact such provisions this year.
- **Mixed news in Rhode Island.** The Rhode Island legislature recently passed, and Governor McKee [signed](#), a budget rejecting the governor's proposal to cut efficiency programs by about a quarter. Separately, Governor McKee [vetoed](#) a bill that would have required large buildings to report their energy use.

Our Latest Research



[Efficiency Programs Reaching More Low-Income Families, but Progress Inadequate as Energy Bills Rise](#)

Our latest analysis shows that utility efficiency programs are underserving the households most in need of relief from increased costs.



[Congress Can Cut Freight Costs and Consumer Prices by Addressing Key Issues in the BUILD America 250 Act](#)

This memo highlights ACEEE's recommendations to Congress to support freight efficiency in a major transportation bill.

[More Savings Ahead: How Updating National Efficiency](#)



Standards Would Reduce Costs in Every State

This report from the Appliance Standards Awareness Project estimates the potential state-by-state impacts from the next round of updated standards for appliances and equipment.

See all our recent [blog posts](#) and [press releases](#).

ACEEE in Action



ACEEE executive director Jennifer Layke moderated a panel discussion on business leadership on energy efficiency at the International Energy Agency's Global Conference on Energy Efficiency. (photo via IEA)

ACEEE in the News

A few of our favorite media highlights from the past month:

- A [Washington Post](#) story on electric utility shutoffs in Oklahoma cited ACEEE on the state's low ranking on energy efficiency in buildings.
- [Facilities Dive](#) quoted ASAP executive director Andrew deLaski in a story on the Supreme Court sending a lawsuit over furnace efficiency standards back to an appellate court.

- [Canary Media](#) quoted utilities program manager Mike Specian on lost energy savings in Ohio after the termination of efficiency programs.

Staff Update

New job posting! ACEEE seeks an [executive and engagement assistant](#).

Upcoming Events



August 2–7
Pacific Grove, CA

At ACEEE's [Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings](#), we'll explore clean energy solutions that lower utility bills, build resilience, and help the grid meet rising electricity demand.

Join fellow experts for 130 sessions on the latest efficiency research, then keep the conversation going outdoors. Between sessions, you'll find informal discussions on the lawn, chats over lunch, kayaking and tide pooling on the Pacific, and evening bonfires on the beach.

[Support ACEEE today with a tax-deductible contribution](#)

ACEEE is proud to earn a four-star rating from Charity Navigator. This is the highest possible rating, reflecting that our foundation, corporate, and donor funds are used responsibly and efficiently.

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