Check out our annual report

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June Newsletter

Hello Friends-

I am pleased to share ACEEE's <u>2022 Annual Report</u>, published today. From securing key investments in energy efficiency and electrification in the landmark Inflation Reduction Act to collaborating with local communities to increase energy equity, ACEEE made remarkable progress in 2022. Check out the report to learn about recent accomplishments across the organization.

Our <u>2023 Industry Summer Study</u> is just a few weeks away. We are pleased to announce that Patrick Bloom, vice president, government relations, at Cleveland Cliffs, and Dr. John Holladay, vice president, government programs, at LanzaTech, will join us at the July 12 plenary session to discuss the steps industry needs to take to decarbonize the production of goods and materials and how government can help spur industrial decarbonization. We hope to see you next month in Detroit!

Thank you, as always, for your interest in our work.

Best.

Steven Nadel

Executive Director

Efficiency Update

Vermont's Affordable Heat Act became law last month following the legislature's override
of Governor Phil Scott's veto. The law establishes a clean heat standard and directs the
Public Utility Commission to design a program through which companies that use fossil

fuels will buy or earn a certain number of tradeable "clean heat credits" based on their carbon emissions. Companies can earn credits by helping customers weatherize, install a heat pump, or make other "clean heating" improvements.

- Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed legislation that will create or extend tax credits for a
 variety of clean energy technologies, including electric vehicles, e-bikes, electric heat
 pumps, and industrial decarbonization technologies. For example, the law increases the
 state tax credit for light-duty electric vehicles to \$5,000, with an additional \$2,500
 available for vehicles with a retail price of \$35,000 or less. The tax credit for mediumand heavy-duty electric vehicles will increase to \$12,000 through 2025.
- Minnesota Governor Tim Walz recently signed legislation to strengthen the state's energy codes for commercial buildings and speed the process of implementing them. The law requires the code to achieve an 80% or greater reduction in annual net energy consumption by 2036 compared to a 2004 model code baseline. Under this legislation, utilities may offer code support programs and claim energy savings from such programs, subject to approval by the commissioner of commerce. Other enacted climate-related legislation will require that highway expansion proposals be evaluated for consistency with the state's climate goals.
- Texas's legislature ended its regular biennial session this week, letting two efficiency-related bills die despite the approval of both by the Texas Senate. One bill would have ramped up energy-saving targets for utility programs to 1% yearly savings, and the other would have encouraged residential demand response programs. Instead, the legislature opted for extensive subsidies for gas-fired power plants, allocating \$5 billion for low-interest loans for new power plants and authorizing payments of up to \$1 billion per year for generators to be available during times of grid stress.

Our Latest Research



<u>Leading Energy Efficiency Programs Model</u>
<u>Strategies to Benefit Underserved</u>
<u>Communities</u>

Our latest report identifies promising strategies to help utilities design programs to be more equitable and increase participation among underserved communities.



Building Performance Standards Expand as Key Strategy to Reduce Emissions from Existing Buildings

A growing number of jurisdictions are enacting policies that require buildings to reduce energy use or emissions over time. This report examines building performance standards in 18 jurisdictions.



Most States Don't Ensure Utility Energy Efficiency Programs Benefit Underserved Households

Our report finds that only three states have energy savings targets among low-income households or households representing historically marginalized groups.



New Texas Power Plants Would Cost More than Cutting Energy Waste in Buildings

Texas policymakers could tackle spiking summer and winter power demands while reducing—not raising—overall costs to households and businesses, our recent report finds.



<u>States Can Boost Sustainable Indoor</u> <u>Agriculture with Energy-Saving Policies</u>

Two policy briefs from ACEEE and the Resource Innovation Institute recommend policy measures to encourage efficiency, cut costs, and reduce climate pollution while accommodating growth in the controlled environment agriculture sector.

See all our recent blog posts and press releases.

ACEEE in Action



Behavior and human dimensions program director Reuven Sussman discussed opportunities for NGOs to harness individual action on climate change at a recent <u>National Academies seminar</u>.

What We're Reading

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

- Senior fellow Jennifer Amann joined the <u>Energy in 30</u> podcast to discuss the role of energy efficiency in supporting sustainable indoor agriculture.
- The <u>Huffington Post</u> quoted federal policy director Lowell Ungar on proposed efficiency rules for federally supported homes.
- <u>Utility Dive</u> quoted ACEEE on the importance of Inflation Reduction Act rebates for insulation, air sealing, heat pumps.

News You Can Use

Resources that may be helpful to community-based organizations and others in the energy efficiency sector:

• The U.S. Department of Energy recently announced its Renew America's Nonprofits grant program. This program will support energy efficiency projects in buildings owned and used by nonprofits through a model where 5 to 15 prime recipients will aggregate a portfolio of subrecipients. Community-based organizations and other nonprofits can check out the program webpage to access informational webinars and join a "Teaming"

<u>List</u>" to start building partnerships and relationships with potential partner organizations and applicants.

We're Hiring

ACEEE is seeking an industry program director.

Upcoming Events





July 11-13, Detroit

October 16-18, Philadelphia



To contribute community news items, please email Mary Robert Carter.

Save energy, save the planet, support ACEEE today with a tax-deductible contribution!

To contribute news, please email mcarter@aceee.org.

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