

Newsletter from ACEEE

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May 2021 Newsletter

Hello Friends—

With another Earth Day come and gone, our challenge now is to keep up the focus on climate that we saw in April all year round.

One way we are doing this at ACEEE is through our new [Climate-Forward Efficiency](#) initiative. Our goal is to scale up utility energy efficiency programs and shift their attention toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions—not just reducing energy use. [Sign up](#) to get involved or receive periodic updates.

We also recently released our 2020 Annual Report and accompanying video. You can read about our 2020 progress on the new [Our Impact webpage](#).

Want to know how financing can drive our clean energy future? We hope you'll join us later this month for the virtual [Energy Efficiency Finance Forum](#), which will feature a senior Biden administration official and dozens of other experts.

Please keep us posted on your endeavors.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Nadel".

Steven Nadel
Executive Director

Get Involved in Climate-Forward Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency has a successful track record of reducing energy consumption and saving money, but utilities have yet to harness its full potential to reduce emissions and mitigate climate change. ACEEE's newest initiative, Climate-Forward Efficiency, will conduct research into why and how utilities can shift their practices to maximize greenhouse gas reductions from their portfolios. To learn more, check out our recent [blog post](#) on the topic and consider [joining the Climate-Forward Efficiency initiative](#).

Highlights



2020 Annual Report

In a difficult year, ACEEE cultivated new ideas to tackle short- and long-term challenges. We helped shape the most significant federal energy legislation in years and contributed to energy-saving targets in Michigan, New Jersey, New York, and Virginia. We wove our commitment to addressing climate change and building a vibrant, equitable economy throughout our work.



Utilities Can Lessen Winter Power Outage Risk by Investing in Home Efficiency

A large-scale shift toward electric-powered heating is set to raise wintertime power demand. Our research shows that utilities can cost effectively reduce spikes and ensure reliability by investing in energy-saving measures in homes.



Few States and Utilities Ensure Equity in EV Charging Investments

As more utilities invest ratepayer funds to support and expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure, few states and power companies ensure equitable distribution of these funds, our new study finds.



Biden's Plan Needs These Bold Measures to Better Tackle the Climate Crisis

As the details of Biden's proposed jobs and infrastructure plan are developed, we recommend that the administration and Congress include several key programs to save energy and money while reducing emissions.



DOE Proposes to Undo Trump-Era Roadblocks for Updating Appliance Standards

The Biden administration announced a proposed rule that, if finalized, could help update energy-saving standards for dozens of types of appliances and equipment, such as refrigerators and furnaces.



Earth Day at ACEEE: Staff Roundtable

For Earth Day, we asked staff members what drew them to energy policy, what efficiency means to them, and how they've changed their own energy use since starting work at ACEEE.

ACEEE in the News

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

- The [NPR “Life Kit”](#) podcast featured ACEEE’s Rohini Srivastava speaking about reducing energy use at home.
- [Canary Media](#), [Utility Dive](#), and [RTO Insider](#) reported on ACEEE’s winter peaks and constraints report.
- ACEEE’s white paper on siting EV supply equipment with equity in mind was covered by [Gizmodo](#), [E&E Energywire](#), and [Politico](#).
- An [Energy Gang](#) podcast episode focusing on heat pumps cited ACEEE research.

Upcoming Events



[Energy Efficiency Finance Forum VIRTUAL](#)

May 25–26

Want to know how financing can drive a clean energy future? Join us for the 13th Energy Efficiency Finance Forum to explore cutting-edge initiatives and major opportunities to finance projects that save energy, reduce costs, and create jobs.



[2021 Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Industry VIRTUAL](#)

July 13–15

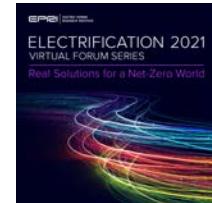
Our 14th biennial conference will offer a provocative and dynamic discussion of industry on the brink of transformation. Join us as we explore an exciting mix of topics on low-carbon industrial products, processes, and policies.

Community News

The [New York Clean Transportation Prizes](#) program, launched April 20, seeks proposals for its [Clean Neighborhoods Challenge](#), [Electric Mobility Challenge](#), and [Electric Truck & Bus Challenge](#). With \$85 million in grants to offer, the goal is to find innovative solutions to overcome transportation challenges and boost clean transportation in disadvantaged communities.

Upcoming Events:

[**Electrification 2021 Virtual Forum Series – May 17–20, June 7–10, June 28–30**](#) | Registration for the Electric Power Research Institute's Electrification 2021 Virtual Forum series is now live! Each of the three forums ("Building to Zero," "Frontiers of e-Mobility" and "A Net-Zero Energy System for All") will enhance communication, collaboration, and education in key electrification areas. Check the conference website for full agendas.



[**Buildings, Health & Efficiency: How Lighting Controls Bring It All Together – May 19**](#) | What role will integrated lighting controls play in the future of commercial buildings? What implications would wide adoption have for our health? Get answers to these questions and more on Wednesday, May 19, at 10 a.m. PDT during a free, virtual event to discuss how Luminaire Level Lighting Controls have the potential to change the future of buildings and health. Register today.

[**Non-Pipe Alternatives Webinar – May 20**](#) | You've heard of non-wires alternatives, but have you heard of non-pipes alternatives? With increasing winter peaks and constraints and local decarbonization policies, gas line extensions are facing more scrutiny, prompting planning efforts to avoid new gas infrastructure through demand-side measures. Hear from experts at National Grid, MyHEAT, and ACEEE about the landscape of these non-pipe alternatives and an example of a non-pipes alternative in action in upstate New York.

We're Hiring!

ACEEE seeks a [Federal Policy Senior Research Analyst](#) and a [Buildings Program Director](#). Visit our website to learn more and apply.

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