



November 2020 Newsletter

Hello Friends —

As we head into the holiday season, we are thankful to our donors and other supporters who make our research and policy work possible. This past month, we were pleased to make an impact with our *2020 City Clean Energy Scorecard* and reports on commercial building electrification and diversity in the energy efficiency workforce.

We're looking forward to sharing more research and brainstorming energy-saving solutions at our post-election virtual events next month: Energy Efficiency and Climate Policy Forum and Behavior, Energy, & Climate Change Conference.

Please keep us posted on your endeavors.

Best,

Steven Nadel
Executive Director

Highlights



[2020 City Scorecard identifies clean energy leaders](#)

Leading U.S. cities are expanding their clean energy efforts to tackle climate change, but many more lag far behind, and only one-fifth have community-wide greenhouse gas reductions goals and are on track to meet them, according to the new [2020 City Clean Energy Scorecard](#).



[Electrifying heating in commercial buildings could cut their emissions 44%](#)

Our [new report](#) models the impacts of replacing gas-based heating systems in existing commercial buildings with various electric heat pump systems.



[Energy Efficiency Day](#)

This annual event to celebrate efficiency's multiple benefits reached tens of millions of people this year—its largest audience ever. It drew support from more than 8,000 individuals, 750 organizations and companies, and 44 official proclamations from the U.S. Senate, 13 states, Washington, DC, and other cities and counties. Organizers plan to build on the success of #EEDay20 for next year's event on October 6th. Mark your calendars.



EE programs and building performance standards

Our [new topic brief](#) explores how efficiency programs can best support building performance standards. It examines how city and state officials can work with regulators so that these policies achieve significant energy savings and greenhouse gas emissions reductions.



How utilities can diversify the energy efficiency workforce

Hispanic people, Black people, and women represent a smaller share of the energy efficiency workforce than the national workforce. However, programs around the country are increasingly using focused outreach and training to bring people from underrepresented groups into the energy efficiency field.



Multifamily home energy efficiency potential

Our new topic brief identifies the apartment and condo energy end uses with the greatest energy savings potential. We explore how savings opportunities vary by region and which end uses are contributing to high energy

burdens experienced by low-income, non-white, and Hispanic multifamily households.



Energy Department's dishwasher rule finds nothing to fix

A recent [dishwasher regulation](#) announced by the U.S. Department of Energy will do nothing to improve today's machines, which perform far more effectively than older models even while using less energy and water.



Arizona regulators poised to expand efficiency targets

The bipartisan Arizona Corporation Commission heralded a new era for energy efficiency in Arizona by setting new energy-saving targets that utilities must achieve through demand-side management programs.



Energy program evaluation across the United States

Our new report presents results from a national survey of state policies and practices for evaluation, measurement, and verification.



[Reducing COVID-19 risks in commercial buildings](#)

Research shows that many of the best recommendations to reduce risk can be implemented without excessive increases in energy use.



[Don't forget natural gas energy efficiency](#)

Our new report documents how utilities are continuing to provide cost-effective natural gas energy efficiency programs.

[Inclusive Energy Efficiency Workforce Development Learning Group](#)

This month, ACEEE is launching a virtual learning group on inclusive energy efficiency workforce development. The group will function as a peer-to-peer network for utility and efficiency program administrator staff to share knowledge and discuss strategies for targeting workers from historically underrepresented groups with energy efficiency training. Please email Roxana Ayala (rayala@aceee.org) for more information.

ACEEE in the News

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

Our *2020 City Clean Energy Scorecard* was featured by [U.S. News & World Report](#), [Politico](#), and [American City & County](#), and in news outlets in cities around the country including the [Boston Globe](#), [Orlando Sentinel](#), and [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#).

The [Squeaky Clean Energy Podcast](#) featured Rachel Gold outlining the findings of our recent report on energy efficiency in North Carolina.

[E&E Greenwire](#) and the [Washington Examiner](#) quoted ACEEE and ASAP criticizing DOE's new rule on dishwasher efficiency.

Upcoming Events



[Energy Efficiency and Climate Policy Forum: VIRTUAL](#)

December 3, 2020

On the heels of the pivotal 2020 election, the virtual Energy Efficiency and Climate Policy Forum will discuss key steps and policies that can help the United States slash carbon emissions and meet climate goals.

[2020 Conference on Behavior, Energy, & Climate Change: VIRTUAL](#)

December 7-10, 2020

BECC brings together social scientists, practitioners, utilities, academics, governments, businesses, and nonprofits to share and disseminate best practices and research to encourage behavior change for energy and carbon reduction. ;

Upcoming webinar (Nov. 12): [Fusing facts and feelings to motivate action on climate change](#) | Shaheen Attari of Indiana University will discuss the university's research over the past decade to address problems related to



human behavior, resource use, and climate change.

Community News

On October 27, the Institute for Market Transformation launched the [Building Innovation Hub](#), which aims to help Washington, DC's real estate community comply with the new Building Energy Performance Standards, cut building-related carbon emissions, and create local jobs.

Boston and Eversource have launched the [Boston Building Energy Retrofit Hub](#), which connects Boston building owners, facility managers, and tenants of large- and medium-size buildings to Eversource's energy efficiency services.

Upcoming Webinars:

[Energy Efficiency Home Tour webinar](#) – **November 10th at 7pm** | Join for a virtual tour of an energy efficient home and discussion on how you can reduce the energy burden in your home.

[Northeast Strategic Energy Management Collaborative 2020: Pathways Towards Integration](#) – **November 17, 2020** | Join us in discussions about the practices, policies, and processes that contribute to continued SEM success in the Northeast region.

[The DOE Building Energy Codes Program Fall Seminar Series](#) has kicked off a series of virtual seminars on residential and commercial buildings.

[Ask the Lighting Experts: Energy Savings Potential from Luminaire Level Lighting Controls and Network Lighting Controls](#) – **November 12, at 10:00 a.m. PT** | A new research study from the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance and DesignLights Consortium explores how these controls can create smart buildings with enhanced flexibility and deliver significant energy savings



Board Spotlight

ACEEE is pleased to welcome four new board members:

Robert Jackson, assistant division director of the Materials Management Division at the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy).

Harriet Tregoning, director of NUMO, the New Urban Mobility alliance, a collaborative effort aimed at harnessing tech-based disruptions in urban transportation to make cities more sustainable, livable, and just.

Danielle Sass Byrnett, director of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) Center for Partnerships & Innovation.

Vicki Kuo, Con Edison's vice president of Energy Efficiency and Distributed Resource Planning.

ACEEE would like to extend a fond farewell to our four departing board members —**Steve Morgan, Carl Blumstein, David Parekh, and Paul Young**— and thank them for their extraordinary service.



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