



October 2020 Newsletter

Hello Friends —

Happy fall! This week at ACEE, we're celebrating the release of the [2020 City Clean Energy Scorecard](#) on Tuesday, October 6, and our favorite fall holiday—[Energy Efficiency Day](#)—on October 7th.

We ended the summer by releasing research on energy burdens, the efficiency workforce's skills gap, and efficiency's role in boosting North Carolina's economy. We also want to [welcome two new senior directors](#), Nora Wang Esram and Laura Ross, to ACEEE's executive team and thank their long-serving predecessors, Neal Elliott and Maggie Molina. Neal remains at ACEEE as a part-time director emeritus.

Please keep us posted on your endeavors.

Best,

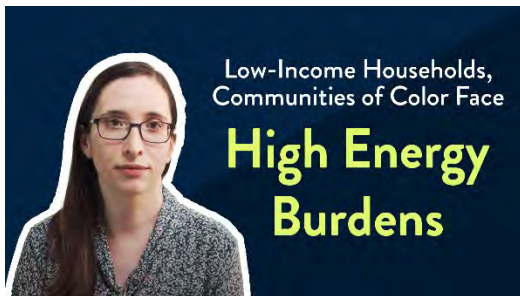
Steven Nadel
Executive Director

Highlights



[Get Ready for Energy Efficiency Day](#)

October 7—just a few days away—marks the annual nationwide campaign to celebrate the multiple benefits of energy efficiency.



[Energy Burden Report](#)

Low-income households, as well as Black, Hispanic, and Native American households, spend a much larger share of their income on energy bills, straining budgets and putting them at heightened risk of utility shutoffs during the COVID-19 pandemic and recession, according to our [new analysis](#).



Lead author Ariel Dreihobl discussed the findings in [testimony](#) before the U.S. House Energy & Commerce Committee. The report received broad media coverage, including an op-ed in [US News](#) and stories in [The Hill](#), [Smart Energy News](#), [E&E Daily](#), [Grist](#), [Smart Cities Dive/Utility Dive](#)), and, [Public News Service](#)



How Energy Efficiency Can Help Rebuild North Carolina's Economy

Our report reveals how energy efficiency can help North Carolina's economy recover from the COVID-19 pandemic while protecting ratepayers and making progress toward the state's climate goals.

Lead author Rachel Gold discussed the findings during this [episode](#) of the "Squeaky Clean Energy Podcast," hosted by the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association. The report was also cited in an op-ed in the [Fayetteville Observer](#) by NC Conservatives for Clean Energy.



High Performance Buildings & the EE Workforce

ACEEE's new report identifies the precise skills that education and training programs should prioritize to ensure that the workforce can meet current and future demands.



House-Passed Energy Bill Includes Significant Measures to Improve Efficiency

The energy innovation bill passed by the U.S. House in late September would make key strides to improve energy efficiency.



Focus on Zero Energy-Buildings

Our new topic brief identified and examined 20 programs that encourage or assist the construction of zero-energy and zero-energy-ready buildings across the United States and British Columbia.



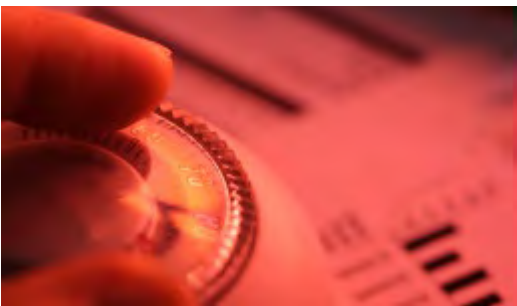
Job and Climate Impacts from Federal Efficiency Investments

Our new white paper modeled 17 proposed energy programs and tax incentives to create jobs while decreasing greenhouse gas emissions.



[Strengthening Trailer Fuel Standards Is Critical for Reducing Emissions](#)

Maintaining the strong current trailer energy efficiency standards is critical to reducing GHG emissions and fuel consumption. It's also vital to enabling a future for electric trucks.



[Trump administration moves closer to ensuring many furnaces, water heaters keep wasting gas](#)

Inefficient furnaces, boilers and water heaters should soon be a relic of the past—but will they?

[Residential Remote Energy Assessments Report: Looking for Programs](#)

ACEEE is seeking to learn more about residential remote energy assessment programs and how program administrators and utilities have adapted to COVID-19. If pre-assessment interviews are held, we would like to know how that occurs (e.g., video, photos), whether steps are taken after the assessment and whether free or discounted energy-efficient products or upgrades are offered. If you run a remote assessment program, please let us know [here](#) by **October 23, 2020**. Thanks!

ACEEE in the News

[Greentech Media](#) and [Guidehouse Insights](#) reported on ACEEE's report on **home energy scores in real estate listings**.

[Politico](#) quoted **utilities program director Rachel Gold**.

An [E&E Energywire](#) article on the Ohio energy bill quoted senior fellow Marty Kushler on decoupling.

The [Wisconsin State Journal](#) quoted utilities, state, and local policy program fellow Dan York on the state's public service commission's calling to increase funding for efficiency programs.

An op-ed in the [Port Charlotte Sun](#) (Florida) cited the state's modest score in ACEEE's *2019 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*. [Energy News Network](#) cited New Hampshire's ranking in that scorecard and in another story, [Energy News Network](#) cited Massachusetts' top ranking.

Upcoming Events



[Energy Efficiency and Climate Policy Forum](#)

December 3, 2020

Join the Energy Efficiency and Climate Policy Forum to discuss key steps and policies that will help the United States slash carbon emissions and meet climate goals.



[2020 Conference on Behavior, Energy, and 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.

ACEEE Webinars

[2020 City Clean Energy Scorecard](#)

Oct 6, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET | Join us to learn and discuss the findings of the 100-city scorecard, the most comprehensive national report tracking city progress toward climate goals.

Community News

[Energy Efficiency in the Time of COVID-19: How It Supports Recovery](#)

Oct 7, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET | Energy efficiency can help put people back to work, drive economic recovery, reduce pollution, and alleviate the energy burdens of those most affected by the COVID-19 recession.



Upcoming events from the U.S. Green Buildings Council

[October 1: Greenbuild Resilience Summit](#): Learn the newest research and technology around resilience-enhancing designs, technologies, materials and methods.

[October 7-8: USGBC's second Equity Summit](#): Discover how green building can play a bigger role in promoting equitable solutions. Registration is free.



Join the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance at its annual Codes Conference to discuss the advancement of energy codes in the region and best practices for raising compliance. This year's conference is a free, live virtual event, taking place October 20-22. [Register now!](#)



NBI's [2020 Getting to Zero Building List](#) features pioneering zero-energy projects. These trailblazers demonstrate that getting to zero-energy design and operation is feasible in every climate, market sector, size, and building type across the United States and Canada.

[Webinar: Untapped Potential of Networked Lighting Controls to Reduce Building Energy Consumption](#). A new study reveals that expanding use of these controls can save energy in the commercial and industrial sectors. Join the webinar on October 15, co-hosted by [Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance](#) and the [DesignLights Consortium](#).



NEEP Workshop: [ASHP and VRF Market Transformation](#)

Join NEEP, to explore approaches for scaling up market adoption of air source heat pumps and variable refrigerant flow systems while ensuring high levels of customer satisfaction.

Staff Spotlight

ACEEE is pleased to announce that our own **Dr. Lauren Ross**, who previously directed the local policy team, is advancing to senior director of policy. She will oversee local, state, and federal policy and cross-cutting efforts to promote equity.



Dr. Nora Wang Esram will join ACEEE as our new senior director of research. She joins us from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, where she served as a chief engineer and team lead.



After 27 years of dedicated service at ACEEE, **Dr. Neal Elliott** is transitioning from senior director of research to part-time director emeritus. He will continue to work on industrial decarbonization and other issues. We thank him for his leadership and commitment to energy efficiency.








We're Hiring!

ACEEE is seeking to fill open positions for [Web and Visual Media Manager](#), [Research Analyst \(Local Policy Program\)](#), and [State Policy Associate \(ASAP\)](#).

[Save energy, save the planet, support ACEEE today with a tax-deductible contribution!](#)

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