



October Update

Friends—

Happy [Energy Efficiency Day](#)! It's a perfect time to spread the word about the benefits of efficiency, including that it saves money, cuts pollution, and creates good jobs.

Cutting energy waste at scale requires shifting people's attitudes and behaviors. We are looking forward to exploring winning strategies at the [Behavior, Energy & Climate Change](#) conference (which ACEEE co-convenes) in Sacramento next month. Dr. Lisa Patel of the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health is set to deliver the keynote address on using health-based messages to catalyze climate action.

We're excited to hear from Colorado Governor Jared Polis, Doug Scott of the Illinois Commerce Commission, and other leaders at our [Energy Efficiency as a Resource](#) conference next week as we discuss meeting the challenges of growing electricity demand.

As you've likely seen, ACEEE has announced my successor: [Jennifer Layke](#). Jennifer's leadership and expertise, demonstrated over her three decades in the energy sector make her an excellent choice for the organization as it embarks on its next chapter. I've known her for many years and think she will do an outstanding job. She will begin November 6.

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

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve". The signature is stylized with a large, loopy "S" and a cursive "t" and "e".

ACEEE in Action



Andrew deLaski, executive director of the Appliance Standards Awareness Project, which is housed at ACEEE, provided testimony on the benefits of efficiency standards at a recent [U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce hearing](#) about bills that would roll many back or block future standards.

Efficiency Update

- ACEEE filed [comments](#) with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency opposing its proposed repeal of greenhouse gas emissions standards for cars and trucks.
- The Arizona Corporation Commission recently [voted](#) to repeal the state's energy efficiency requirements for electric utilities. At a time of rising electricity demand, the decision eliminates a key tool for helping the state avoid costly new power plants. The utilities APS and TEP have stated they will continue their efficiency programs. Still, there will no longer be reporting requirements on program outcomes, nor assurance that these or other programs will continue long term.
- Vermont Governor Phil Scott issued an [executive order](#) declaring that builders can construct homes to a 2020 energy code, rather than to the current 2024 code. The [newer code](#)—developed by the state's Department of Public Service and approved by a legislative committee—saves homeowners money each year, delivering energy bill reductions that exceed incremental mortgage costs. A recent [multi-stakeholder plan](#) seeks to help the state improve code compliance.
- Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey recently [announced](#) a plan to speed up housing construction by streamlining the environmental review for qualifying projects. To qualify, housing development projects must meet several criteria, including meeting density requirements and energy efficiency standards set out in the state's stretch code. The proposal is open for public comment.

- New York utilities recently set new [weatherization requirements](#) for their maximum incentive heat pump programs. Starting in March 2026, homes that have successfully participated in a weatherization program or received a qualifying assessment will be eligible for significantly higher incentives to install a heat pump. The change will help ensure that homes are ready for heat pumps before installation and help manage future costs to the electric grid.

Our Latest Research



How Cities, Corporations, and Service Providers Can Leverage Demand-Side Measures for Emissions Reductions

This report demonstrates that demand-side management is the key to an affordable, efficient decarbonization strategy.



Contracts for Difference to Spur Clean and Competitive Industry: Options for Federal Policymakers

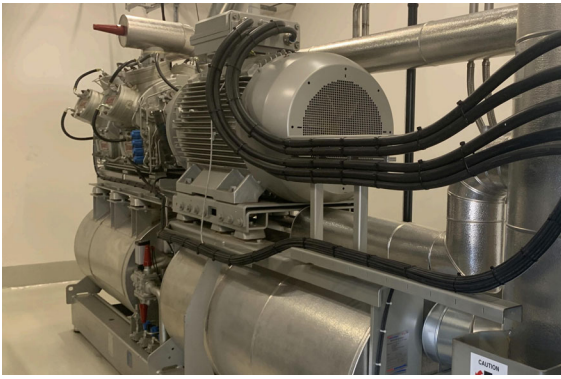
This report examines a promising policy tool to enhance innovation and promote low-carbon American manufacturing.



Shared Charging Hubs for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicles

This brief examines the role of shared charging hubs in expanding charging options for electric medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

Effective State and Utility Programs to Accelerate



Industrial Electrification

This brief highlights best practices from existing state and utility programs that support the deployment of industrial heat pumps.

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

What We're Reading

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

- Industry program director Richard Hart appeared on the [Volts](#) podcast to speak about decarbonizing low-temperature industrial heat with heat pumps and thermal storage.
- Design and architecture magazine [Dwell](#) quoted buildings program director Matt Malinowski in a story on home energy audits.
- The [Washington Examiner](#) quoted federal policy director Lowell Ungar on the utility cost savings that soon-to-expire energy efficiency tax credits have been delivering.

Staff Update

ACEEE on the road: Executive director Steve Nadel will give a keynote talk in Taipei on October 15, discussing understanding and addressing energy burdens at the Taiwan Fund for Children and Families.

Upcoming Events



October 7–9, Denver

[Learn more](#)



November 2–5, Sacramento

[Learn more](#)



March 24–26, 2026, Phoenix,
AZ

Accepting presentation submissions
through October 15

[Learn more](#)

August 2–7, 2026, Pacific
Grove, CA

Accepting presentation submissions
through October 10

[Learn more](#)

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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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