

See our latest publications and upcoming events

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February Newsletter

Hello Friends—

I hope your new year is off to a productive—and healthy—start. To safeguard our community in uncertain times, we have decided to host next month's [2022 Hot Water Forum](#) in a virtual rather than hybrid format. We hope to see you in person for our [Finance Forum](#) in May and for the [Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings](#) in August.

This week, we have shared two reports that are vital to our work: our [State Energy Efficiency Scorecard: 2021 Progress Report](#) and [Building Electrification: Programs and Best Practices](#).

Stay tuned and please keep us posted on your endeavors.

Best,

Steven Nadel
Executive Director

Highlights

ACEEE [recently selected five local governments](#) to receive no-cost technical assistance as part of our Energy Equity for Renters Initiative, which focuses on tackling the challenge of reducing energy waste in rental housing. The Bay Area Regional Energy Network; Cambridge, MA; Duluth, MN; Portland, OR; and Tacoma, WA, will work with ACEEE to develop initiatives that will improve rental home energy performance while preserving or expanding housing affordability.



Scorecard Update: Electrification Revs Up as States Advance Climate Action

States accelerated clean energy efforts last year, partly with ambitious new laws to decarbonize their economies with an increasing emphasis on electrification, according to our new report.



Programs to Electrify Buildings Are Heating Up, Nationwide Report Shows

Across the United States, as a new ACEEE report shows, cities, states, utilities, and nonprofits are increasing efforts to electrify the buildings sector, where the burning of fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and other uses accounts for 13% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.



Energy Efficiency Stands at Crossroads in Arizona, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire

Utility regulators and lawmakers will soon make decisions that will have major implications for these states' climate efforts.



Biden Must Boost Climate Impact of Truck and Bus Standards by Leveraging EV Momentum

The Environmental Protection Agency will soon propose changes to heavy-duty vehicle standards, presenting a major opportunity to reduce emissions from trucks and buses.

Cities' Clean-Energy Equity Efforts Are Mixed, but



Leaders Point the Way Forward

Most cities are not doing enough to advance equity as part of their efforts to combat climate change, but cities such as Minneapolis and Chicago have started to take important steps and can serve as models for peers.

ACEEE in the News

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

- The [Washington Post](#) quoted Lowell Ungar in a story on pending federal standards for manufactured homes.
- A [New York Times](#) story on continued sales of inefficient light bulbs cited the Appliance Standards Awareness Project.
- ACEEE's energy burden research was cited in a [Gizmodo](#) article on potential links between the major apartment fire in the Bronx and inefficient buildings.

Upcoming Events



2022 Hot Water Forum VIRTUAL

March 21–23

As climate efforts intensify, the 14th Hot Water Forum will offer a singular look at how water systems can save money while reducing harmful pathogens and greenhouse gas emissions.

2022 Energy Efficiency Finance Forum

May 23–25, White Plains, NY

How do we finance a rapid scaling of deep building retrofits and other energy-saving initiatives? The 14th Energy Efficiency Finance Forum will explore how financing can help dramatically reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. It will be a hybrid event with in-person and virtual offerings.





[2022 Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings](#)

August 22–26, Pacific Grove, CA

Come join professionals from around the world to discuss the science and policies that equitably advance efficiency in our built environment and reduce climate impacts.

Community News

On January 21, President Biden announced the [National Building Performance Standards Coalition](#), a group of 33 state and local governments committed to exploring equitable building retrofit policies by Earth Day 2024. The Institute for Market Transformation and Climate Innovation are leading discussions on a multi-organizational network to support coalition commitments. For more information, contact Ryan Freed at ryan.freed@imt.org.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Manufacturing Office issued a [request for information](#) to gather input on industrial priorities for decarbonization, including emerging technologies that could be demonstrated or adopted by the industrial sector. The deadline to submit responses is February 28.

[With Building Efficiency Retrofits, You Really Can Have It All](#)

Meeting climate goals requires multiple solutions. Making buildings more energy efficient comes with the fewest tradeoffs: In a recent analysis of decarbonization strategies, building retrofits scored highest on five jobs and economic metrics. [Read E4TheFuture's full blog post.](#)

[White Paper: How COVID-19 Changed Household Electricity Consumption](#)

A recent white paper from the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance details the Northwest End Use Load Research (EULR) project's origins and methodology, along with some of the most interesting pandemic-related findings on household electricity consumption. Read the complete white paper [here](#).

Staff Spotlight

Edward Yim joins ACEEE as director of our utilities program. He previously served as energy policy advisor at the District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment, where he led the development of energy decarbonization and resilience plans. Edward holds a JD from Villanova University and a bachelor of architecture from Virginia Tech.




Annika Brindel joins us as our national affordable housing retrofit director. Annika previously led the National Housing Trust's energy affordability and multifamily efficiency work in the Midwest and the Alliance to Save Energy's engagement of municipally owned electric utilities. She earned a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University.



We're hiring! ACEEE seeks a [senior director for policy](#), a [research program assistant](#), and a [conference and communications assistant](#). Visit our website to learn more and apply.

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