



May Newsletter

Hello, friend —

We hope this newsletter finds you safe and healthy. While the definition of “normal” has changed in recent weeks, we remain committed to building a clean energy future. As we shelter in place, our new research shows how energy efficiency programs can make homes healthier and more comfortable. We also look at fuel-switching policies and trends in U.S. energy use. Our work is all about impact, as our 2019 annual report and video demonstrate.

On conferences, we’re considering virtual options for our Hot Water Forum in July and our Summer Study Buildings in August, but we’re postponing our Finance Forum until next May. We’re also hiring, so check out our job listings at the end of this newsletter.

As always, please keep us informed about your endeavors.

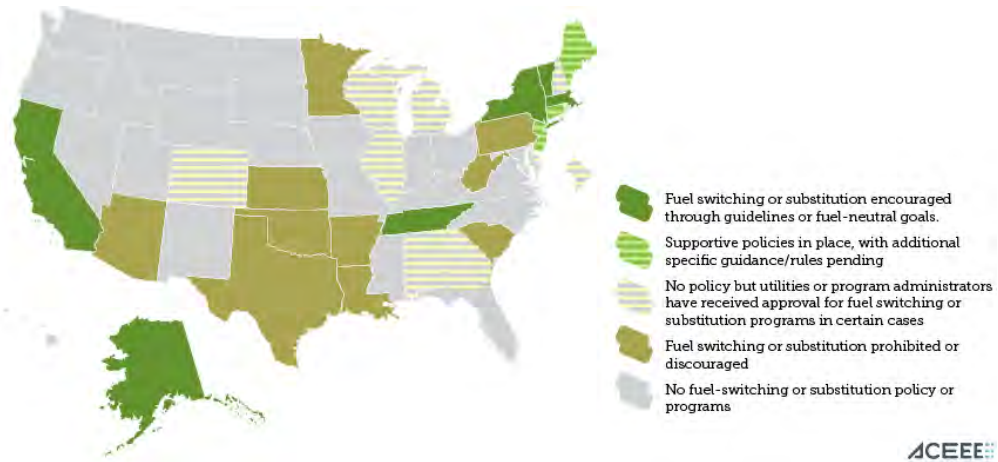
Best,

Steven Nadel
Executive Director

Research Spotlight:

States consider fuel switching

By Weston Berg



While energy efficiency policies have typically considered fuels in isolation, states are increasingly looking toward electrification of space and water heating to meet ambitious emissions goals. In our new brief, which assesses state legislation and utility rulemaking, we find that fuel-switching policies are generally in their infancy across much of the United States. The most significant advancements are occurring in California and among states in the Northeast; these states have prioritized goals to reduce use of fossil fuels in home heating.

Highlights



[2019 Annual Report](#)

In 2019, our bold actions had impact. We helped spur the passage of state laws requiring energy-efficient appliances and advanced other efficiency efforts in New Jersey, New York, and Virginia. We mobilized support for robust efficiency gains in new model building codes, provided analysis used in legal challenges to the federal rollback of fuel economy standards, and shaped bipartisan energy-saving legislation on Capitol Hill.

Learn more about our efforts, guided by a commitment to cut emissions and help address climate change, in our [2019 Annual Report](#).



[Efficiency & health: Untapped potential](#)

Combining energy efficiency upgrades with healthy-home improvements has great untapped potential. [ACEEE finds](#) that nearly \$3 billion can be saved by using existing energy efficiency programs to tackle a small group of health harms: fatal falls, asthma attacks, and exposures to extreme heat and cold.





U.S. energy use

A new blog series explores the latest data on U.S. energy use, including findings that [U.S. energy consumption](#) and [electricity sales](#) have barely changed over the past 15 years despite significant economic growth that preceded the COVID-19 pandemic, and that [U.S. per-capita energy use has been almost flat for a decade](#). We'll soon look at U.S. fuel economy and industrial emissions.



Earth Day and COVID-19

Much has been accomplished since 1970 in terms of making our air and water cleaner while keeping our [energy use in check](#). However, the climate crisis shows that we still have much greater work ahead. The COVID-19 pandemic offers clues on how we can rebuild our economy and also address climate change. Listen to our Earth Day Webinar [here](#).



COVID-19 sparks relief effort from efficiency industry

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all of us, hurting some much more than others. In a sliver of good news, utilities, private companies, and other groups are reaching out to help.



[New building code cuts carbon](#)

If adopted by U.S. states and cities, a newly finalized 2021 model building code could cut building energy use at least 10%, reduce emissions, and help address climate change.

ACEEE in the news

- Utilities Program Manager Rachel Gold is a guest on the [latest episode](#) of the Grid Geeks podcast, *The Unsung Hero: Energy Efficiency*.
- The [South Florida Sun-Sentinel](#) cited ACEEE's report saying that 135,000 efficiency jobs could be created in the state.
- [T&D World](#), reporting on the potential of efficiency work post-pandemic, cited our *2020 Utility Scorecard*.
- [E&E Climatewire](#) cited ACEEE's High Energy Burden report.
- ACEEE data on COVID-19 job impacts was cited in [Utility Dive](#), the [Portland Press-Herald](#), [Consumer Reports](#), the [Oregonian](#), [Colorado Politics](#), and the [Seattle Times](#)
- Our *State Scorecard* was mentioned by the commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources in an op-ed in [MetroWest Daily News](#), and in [Jersey's Best](#).
- Executive director Steve Nadel was cited on the [Energy Gang](#) podcast.
- [Australian News Daily Bulletin](#) cited ACEEE's *International Scorecard.Efficiency*.

Upcoming Events



[Hot Water Forum](#)

July 20-22, 2020

At this annual forum, we will explore the smartest, most cost-effective technologies, programs, and policies to improve the efficiency of hot water.



[2021 Finance Forum](#)

May 2021, White Plains, NY **(new dates)**

This forum will explore cutting-edge initiatives to finance projects that save energy, reduce costs, and create jobs.



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

August 17-21, 2020

Our biennial SSB will explore energy-efficient building, market transformation, smart grid, utilities, resilient communities, energy behavior, equity issues, and U.S. policy.

Community News

Upcoming NEEP Webinars:

Join NEEP for two upcoming webinars: [Protocols for Advanced M&V: Helping You See Clearly](#) and the [Building Decarbonization Policy Framework Webinar Series](#).



Staff Spotlight

We are pleased to welcome **Mike Specian** as our new utilities program manager. Prior to joining ACEEE, Mike was an AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow in the U.S. Department of Energy's Building Technologies Office. Mike holds a Ph.D. in physics from Johns Hopkins University.



Peter Huether joins us as our new senior research analyst for transportation. He earned a master's degree in public policy and management from Carnegie Mellon University.





We're Hiring!

ACEEE is looking for a new **Senior Director for Research** to oversee research in [a range of topic areas](#) including buildings, industry, transportation, behavior, health, and more. Visit [our website](#) to learn more and apply.

ACEEE seeks a **Federal Policy Manager** to lead our outreach activities and help define the organization's strategic direction. The manager acts as the primary liaison with Congress and with other federal policy stakeholders. Visit [our website](#) to learn more and apply.

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

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