

Check out our latest research and upcoming events

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September Newsletter

Friends—

I hope you had a restful and fun Labor Day weekend.

As we switch gears into fall, we're looking forward to our [Energy Efficiency as a Resource](#) conference next month in Philadelphia. Together, we'll strategize about enabling utility efficiency programs to achieve greater greenhouse gas reductions, improve bill affordability and health for low-income households, and embrace more electrified and grid-interactive equipment in our homes and buildings. Commissioner Christine Guhl-Sadovy of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and Vicki Kuo, vice president for customer energy solutions at Con Edison, will be our keynote speakers.

Energy Efficiency Day 2023 is coming up on October 4! More than 1,100 local governments, universities, organizations, corporations, and utilities will be spreading awareness about the benefits of energy efficiency. Your organization can join them by [signing up](#) as an Energy Efficiency Day participant.

Finally, a note of remembrance for Bill Richardson, the former U.S. Secretary of Energy, who passed away on Friday. Among his many accomplishments, in the waning days of the Clinton administration, Richardson finalized a series of major energy efficiency standards, most notably a strong standard for [central air conditioners and heat pumps](#). Amid pressure, he made a tough call—one that reduced emissions, cut spikes in energy demand, and helped reduce bills for millions of households.

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

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read 'Steve'.

Steven Nadel
Executive Director

Efficiency Update

- Colorado has adopted building performance standards requiring owners of large commercial, multifamily, and public buildings to track annual energy use and emissions and make improvements as needed to comply with 2026 and 2030 greenhouse gas reduction targets. Colorado could see an estimated \$6.4 billion in economic benefits from the new standards between 2024 and 2050.
- The North Carolina General Assembly overrode Governor Roy Cooper's veto to enact a law blocking the state Building Code Council from adopting new residential building energy codes until 2031. By freezing the state's already outdated codes in place, the law rejects an important tool for cutting households' utility bills and greenhouse gas emissions. This is a missed opportunity for North Carolina, which ranked second in [ACEEE's analysis](#) of states best positioned to take advantage of [federal funding](#) to [implement](#) updated codes.

Our Latest Research



[Utility Scorecard: Energy Efficiency Efforts Stagnating Amid Climate Crisis](#)

The *Scorecard* evaluates 53 of the largest U.S. electric utilities on their incentives and other programs for energy-saving improvements.



[With Planning, Heavy Industry Can Use Wind and Solar Power](#)

A new report identifies business practices, technologies, and collaborations that can help make industrial energy consumption more compatible with renewable power.



[States and Utilities Can Help Upgrade Manufactured Homes](#)

New briefs identify federal funding and model programs to help reduce energy bills and improve

health and safety in a key affordable housing sector.



[Indiana Should Decarbonize Steel and Aluminum Facilities to Protect Hoosier Jobs](#)

This report recommends strategies for Indiana to pivot its steel and aluminum industries to low-carbon metals to lock in its competitive advantage amid the clean energy transition.

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

ACEEE in Action



Mike Specian, lead author of our 2023 Utility Energy Efficiency Scorecard, presented on utilities' energy-saving efforts during a [webinar](#) last month.

What We're Reading

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

- The [Electrify This!](#) podcast featured Peter Huether, ACEEE senior research associate for transportation, discussing state electric vehicle policies.
- [Bloomberg Law](#) quoted ACEEE senior director for research Nora Efram on federal building construction supporting low-embodied-carbon materials.
- The *Utility Scorecard* was covered by outlets including the [Birmingham News](#), [WABE Atlanta](#), and [Utility Dive](#).

News You Can Use

Resources that may be helpful to community-based organizations and others in the energy efficiency sector:

- The Department of Energy (DOE) has released a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for the [Energy Future Grants](#), which will provide \$27 million to local, state, and tribal government-led partnership efforts to advance clean energy program innovation. Teams should ideally be 3-4 or more government partners joining together on a planning project, and they are also encouraged to partner with community-based organizations. Additional partners can include academia, think tanks, and utilities. Any organization that would like to express interest in being included in grant proposals can sign up for the Teaming Partner List to have its contact information and capabilities published and available to prospective applicants seeking partners (see page 16 of the FOA for details). Grant applications are due September 30.
- DOE's [Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas Fixed Award Grant](#) is designed to support small, community-driven clean energy projects requiring \$500,000 to \$5 million. Any individual or organization can submit their information to the [Teaming Partner List](#). Grant applications are due October 12.

We're Hiring

ACEEE is seeking a [state and utility policy director](#) and an [industry program director](#).

Upcoming Events



October 16–18, Philadelphia



November 12–15, Sacramento

Community News

Join the **Appliance Standards Awareness Project**, **National Stewardship Action Council**, **Environment America**, and the **Clean Lighting Coalition** for a [webinar](#) on October 4 to gain insights from policymakers, technical experts, and advocates on the process of enacting state laws to eliminate mercury-containing lighting from the U.S. marketplace. Featured speakers include bill sponsors Assemblymember Ash Kalra from California and Representative Nicole Lowen from Hawaii.

DOE's [Justice Week 2023](#), October 30–November 3, aims to advance equity and environmental justice in the clean energy transition and ensure climate change investments benefit the communities often left behind. Join online or in person in Washington, DC.

To contribute community news items, please email [Mary Robert Carter](#).

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

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