

Plus, meet more new ACEEE staff

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January Newsletter

Friends—

I want to start on a more serious note this month. Lost amid the headlines about the recent deadly blizzard in Buffalo and beyond is a story of energy and our homes. Most of those who died were found outdoors. But among the tragic loss of life were nine individuals—of thousands who had their heat go out—who perished in the cold indoors, [according](#) to local authorities.

We certainly don't yet know all the details. But we know that a well-sealed and -insulated home is a more resilient one. And I want us to work toward a world where this would not have happened, one where everyone has a home, and that home has been built or weatherized to protect its residents from deadly cold temperatures even if the heat should fail.

Let's redouble our efforts to make that a reality.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Steve'.

Steven Nadel
Executive Director

Efficiency Update

- As the largest building owner in the nation, the federal government has proposed to implement a 2007 law requiring ambitious new standards to [eliminate onsite](#) climate pollution in all its new construction and major renovations. The White House has paired that plan with a [building performance standard](#) targeting efficiency and decarbonization retrofits for 30% of all federal building space by 2030.

- The [New York Climate Action Council](#) and [Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs](#) raised the bar for equitable state plans to reduce climate pollution and increase efficiency—prioritizing those most overburdened and underserved. New York aims to help one to two million households transition to clean heating and cooling options such as heat pumps by 2030 and to see approximately three million zero-emission vehicles on the roads by 2030.
- [Washington](#), [Oregon](#), and [Vermont](#) became the latest states to require that all new passenger vehicle cars sold be zero emissions by 2035, all finalizing requirements in December. Half a dozen states now have these rules.
- On the heels of last month's update that the Massachusetts Clean Heat Commission recommended rates to help reduce electrification costs, the Maine Public Utilities Commission [finalized exactly that approach for utilities](#) in the state. The new rates could [save customers hundreds of dollars a year](#).

Our Latest Research

[New Report Showcases the Far-Reaching Benefits of Energy Efficiency](#)



The *2023 Energy Efficiency Impact Report* from the Alliance to Save Energy, ACEEE, and the Business Council for Sustainable Energy quantifies the powerful impact of energy efficiency across key sectors of the American economy and demonstrates how efficiency investments reduce carbon emissions, lower energy bills, and improve public health.

[Guidebook Shows How States Can Tackle Industrial Emissions](#)



A new guidebook surveys challenges to industrial decarbonization, highlights more than 100 efforts underway in several leading states, and presents a set of options for states seeking to expand or accelerate their efforts in this emerging but significant policy space.

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

ACEEE in Action



Scenes from ACEEE's Energy Efficiency Policy Forum and the launch of the 2023 Energy Efficiency Impact Report

What We're Reading

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

- [Yahoo! News](#) quoted senior transportation researcher Avi Mersky explaining that automakers are canceling out efficiency progress by selling more large vehicles.
- Sagarika Subramanian, senior research analyst, discussed the findings of the recent *State Scorecard* on the [Squeaky Clean Energy Podcast](#).
- [MarketWatch](#), [E&E News](#), and [Utility Dive](#) quoted Steve Nadel welcoming the Biden administration's plan to electrify and reduce emissions from federal buildings.

News You Can Use

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

- The National League of Cities is hosting a set of [Grant Application Bootcamps](#) for underserved local governments that are planning to apply for various federal grant programs, including energy efficiency, transportation efficiency, and clean power funding. The applications are closed for January, but cities should sign up for updates for future bootcamps in 2023 because they fill up fast.
- The Department of Energy (DOE) recently published the [Notice of Intent](#) for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Formula Program, which includes the announcement of the more than 2,700 state, local, and Tribal governments that are eligible for funding, as well as their allocation amounts. In addition, DOE intends to publish the EECBG Program Administrative and Legal Requirements Document in January, which will open the door for eligible entities to apply for formula funding. DOE also recently released a [Request for Information](#) for the EECGB Competitive Program, which sets aside more than \$8 million for competitive grants for local governments, including Indian tribes, that were not eligible for a direct formula allocation from DOE.

Staff Update

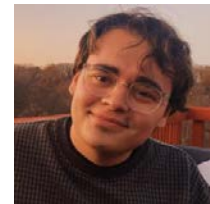
Hector Arbuckle joins ACEEE as executive and engagement assistant. Hector previously interned at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, studying the effects of land use on nitrogen pollution flowing into the Chesapeake Bay. He earned a bachelor's degree from Iowa State University.



Emily Garfunkel joins us as zero-energy and -carbon buildings analyst. Emily previously worked as a climate and energy research analyst at the World Benchmarking Alliance. She earned a bachelor's degree from Columbia University.



Paul Mooney joins us as buildings & affordable housing finance analyst. Paul previously worked as a research analyst with S&P Global, covering the global liquid natural gas market, and as a research assistant with TBD Economics. They hold a bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware.



We're hiring! ACEEE seeks a [Residential Retrofits for Energy Equity manager](#).

Upcoming Events



January 19–20, Virtual



March 7–9, San Diego



July 11–13, Detroit



October 16–18, Philadelphia

Community News

The **Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance** (NEEA) [announced](#) the selection of a new executive director, Becca Yates. Yates succeeds Susan Stratton, who retires after leading the organization for 11 years. Yates has served multiple roles in her 15-year tenure at NEEA, most recently serving on the executive leadership team overseeing corporate strategy, stakeholder relations, communications, and program marketing teams.

The **Southwest Energy Efficiency Alliance** and the **Beneficial Electrification League of Colorado** recently launched a [New Homes section](#) on their website Loveelectric.org. The portal helps educate buyers of new homes about the benefits of healthy, efficient, and electric new homes and provides resources, including lists of developments with these types of homes for sale and architects and builders who can help build a custom all-electric home.

E4TheFuture's sixth annual [Energy Efficiency Jobs in America](#) report breaks down the country's 2.16 million energy efficiency jobs by state, sector, technology, firm size, and more.

Environment America Research & Policy Center and **U.S. PIRG Education Fund** have created a [Clean Energy Home Toolkit](#) with guides and resources for weatherizing your home, cutting energy bills, buying an electric car, and information on the rebates and incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act. They'll be updating the toolkit periodically with new resources.

[Register](#) today to join the **Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance** for the region's premier efficiency event. The [2023 Midwest Energy Solutions Conference](#) (January 31–February 2) will

reunite the industry's top innovators and decision-makers in the heart of Chicago for three days of inspiring talks, unparalleled networking, and insightful panels.

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