

Check out our upcoming events and latest research

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## February Newsletter

Friends—

To decarbonize our buildings, we will need to accelerate a transformation that's afoot in space and water heating. So I hope you'll join ACEEE next month in San Diego for the [2023 Hot Water Forum and our inaugural Hot Air Forum](#). We'll be looking at the latest opportunities to slash energy use and climate pollution while saving consumers money with new technology in this space—and strategizing how to take advantage of new federal funding opportunities.

Last month, ACEEE and partner organizations cohosted the inaugural Residential Retrofits for Energy Equity (R2E2) Summit. The event kicked off the [R2E2 initiative](#), which will provide deep technical assistance to state, local, and tribal governments and community-based organizations (CBOs) to jumpstart energy upgrades for single-family and multifamily affordable housing, especially in frontline communities.

More than 1,100 participants joined us to learn from our 18 amazing speakers, including 6 representatives from CBOs working at the intersections of housing, energy, and racial justice. Thank you to our lively and engaged participants who shared resources, made connections, and inspired us all with their passion for this vital work.

Best,

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

Steven Nadel  
Executive Director

## Efficiency Update

- The federal government has issued a series of announcements about upcoming funding for programs that can support efficiency upgrades. The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a Request for Information on the [Home Efficiency and Electrification Rebate Programs](#), seeking input on best practices to support market demand for improvements to housing energy performance; responses are due March 3. DOE also published a Notice of Intent to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement on the [Advanced Industrial Facilities Deployment program](#) to fund projects that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions at industrial facilities. Finally, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced a [\\$2.7 billion investment](#) to help rural cooperatives and utilities make changes to improve the efficiency, reliability, and affordability of rural energy.
- DOE has in recent months proposed updated standards for products including [light bulbs](#), [distribution transformers](#), and [consumer conventional cooking products](#). With the clock ticking on President Biden's first term, the administration must ensure [timely reviews](#) of standards to complete its rulemaking agenda.

## Our Latest Research



### [Study Identifies States with Best Opportunities to Cut Costs and Emissions by Updating Building Codes Using Federal Climate Funds](#)

Our analysis identifies the states best positioned to take advantage of federal funding by analyzing several factors in each state, including energy savings achievable for new buildings under a stronger code, the pace of new building construction, and greenhouse gas emissions from buildings.

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

## ACEEE in Action



*Scenes from the R2E2 Summit last month, which kicked off the multi-partner initiative to scale up energy-saving retrofits in affordable housing in communities across the United States.*

## What We're Reading

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

- The [Washington Post](#)'s inaugural "Climate Coach" column quoted senior fellow Jennifer Amann and ASAP executive director Andrew deLaski.
- ACEEE's policy brief on states that would benefit most from updating building energy codes (using new federal funds) was featured in [Governing](#), [Canary Media](#), and [S&P Global](#).
- An [Atlantic](#) article warning of the risks of oversizing electric cars cited ACEEE.

## News You Can Use

*Resources that may be helpful to CBOs and others in the energy efficiency sector:*

- The Environmental Protection Agency recently [announced](#) the availability of \$100 million for environmental justice grants, the largest amount of such funding ever offered by the agency. An estimated \$30 million is available for CBOs for projects to address environmental or public health issues in their communities. An estimated \$70 million is available for states, local governments, and tribes with CBO partners and remote tribes with limited access to CBO partners to improve environmental or public health in communities disproportionately burned by environmental harms.
- [Stor4Build](#), a new consortium on energy storage for buildings launched by three national labs last fall, seeks members from CBOs to help shape the direction of its efforts

and ensure that all voices are heard. Funding is available to support participation. Interested individuals can email [Stor4Build@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Stor4Build@ee.doe.gov).

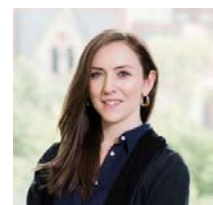
- DOE's [Buildings Upgrade Prize](#), announced last month, will award more than \$22 million in cash prizes and technical assistance to teams across the United States to scale up equitable energy efficiency and electrification in buildings. Winning “Equity-Centered Innovation” teams will receive \$400,000 in cash to support upgrades to low- and moderate-income homes and other buildings. An Application Support Prize of \$5,000 and up to 10 hours of technical support is available to help first-time applicants for Building Technologies Office funding and/or CBOs prepare to submit a full application. ACEEE and its R2E2 partners are pleased to support the Buildings Upgrade prize by providing training and technical assistance to applicants and awardees in the “Equity-Centered Innovation” pathway.
- The Energy Equity Project is [seeking applicants](#) from grassroots organizations, public-sector agencies, and nonprofits to participate in cohorts focused on learning the ins and outs of applying energy equity in their work. The [application](#) deadline is March 3.

## Staff Update

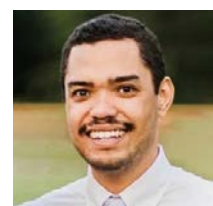
**Michael Johnson** joins ASAP as an advocacy associate. Michael previously worked for the environmental justice organization PUSH Buffalo as a sustainability campaign coordinator, leading campaigns implementing New York Climate legislation and advocating for electrification and weatherization. He holds master's and bachelor's degrees from the University at Buffalo.



**Grace Lewallen** joins ACEEE as a research analyst with our behavior and human dimensions program. Grace previously worked at two environmental behavior change nonprofits, Rare and Root Solutions, supporting research on consumer valuations of carbon-neutral labeling and developing behavioral science training for environmental practitioners. She holds a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree from Clemson University.



**Josh McClenney** joins the ASAP team as a state policy associate. Josh previously worked as an organizer and advocate for Appalachian Voices, focusing on making democratic reforms to North Carolina's energy system. Josh holds a master's degree from Appalachian State University and a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**We're hiring!** ACEEE seeks an [industry program director](#); [manager, Residential Retrofits for Energy Equity](#); [development manager, corporate relations](#); [state utility policy analyst/researcher](#); and [research assistant, industrial program](#).

## Upcoming Events



**March 7–9, San Diego**

**July 11–13, Detroit**



**October 16–18, Philadelphia**

## Community News

The **South-central Partnership for Energy Efficiency as a Resource**, in partnership with the Texas State Energy Conservation Office, has launched a Texas Energy Focus Group to assess public-sector energy needs. [Apply now](#) and provide insight into issues such as energy equity, resilience, and sustainability to produce an understanding of what cities and local governments find essential for efficiency and energy strategies and programs.

The **Consortium for Energy Efficiency** (CEE) [announced](#) a new executive director, John Taylor. Taylor served as deputy director since 2015 and has 20 years of experience with CEE. He succeeds Ed Wisniewski, who served in the role since 2011.

Registration is open for [Efficiency Exchange 2023](#). This year's conference will be hybrid, with the in-person event held in Portland, Oregon, on May 2–3. Hosted by the **Bonneville Power Administration**, the **Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance**, and the **Northwest Power and Conservation Council**, Efficiency Exchange is the premier networking and learning conference for energy efficiency professionals from across the Northwest.

**E4TheFuture** and **E2** published an updated [Energy Efficiency Jobs in America report](#) with county- and metropolitan area-level statistics.

The **Building Performance Association** has released the agenda for its [2023 National Home Performance Conference & Trade Show](#), which will be held April 17–20 in Seattle. This conference brings together thousands of home performance professionals for four days of learning, networking, and business growth. Sign up today and save \$100 with early-registration pricing.

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



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