

Thursday, August 16, 2018

ACEEE Summer Study at Asilomar, California

## Why working on US Federal energy efficiency policy is more important than ever

After 573 days of the Trump administration, now seems like a good time to take stock. The Obama administration had some remarkable successes on energy efficiency. We estimated that its appliance, vehicle, and power plant standards alone should save over 10 quadrillion Btu per year by 2030, and should cumulatively save consumers over \$2.5 trillion in energy bills by 2040.

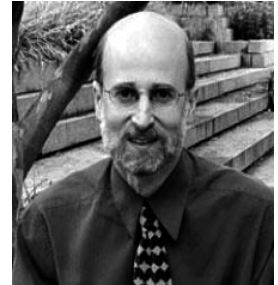
A year and a half into the Trump era, surprisingly little has changed—yet. But the administrative wheels are starting to turn, and we are pushing hard to hold onto the savings. Here are some key areas:

*Appliance standards* have been frozen in place. Due to a unique provision in the law, the Department of Energy (DOE) cannot weaken existing standards. But they also have not proposed a single update and have now missed a dozen legal deadlines. And DOE may try to reverse one of the biggest-saving rules

ever—a definition that applied 2020 light bulb standards to a wider range of commonly used bulbs. That would be taken to court.

ENERGY STAR® is still plugging away despite a White House attempt to end it and a House Republican attempt to gut it. Congress seems set to pass level funding for the second year in a row, and the draft bill that would have harmed the program has not been seen in months.

*Vehicle standards* are under attack. The Department of Transportation and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently proposed to roll back the fuel economy and emissions standards for cars and light trucks for 2021–2025, and to block California and other states from setting higher standards. They have been chopping away at the standards for heavy trucks as

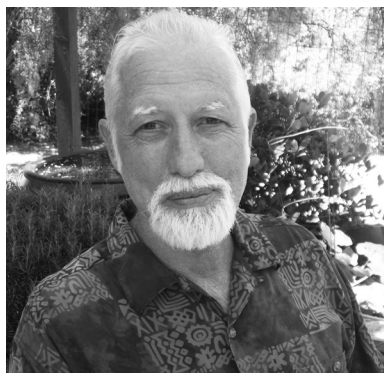


**Lowell Ungar,**  
ACEEE's senior  
policy advisor

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## Two Friends of Summer Study

Steve Greenberg and Danny Parker have been attending the ACEEE Summer Study separately & together since the 1980s. You may know Steve as the Berkeley Lab facilities engineer who delivers the Grapevine by bicycle every morning. The conference serves as a regular punctuation for their long friendship. Over the years, the duo's attendance has begun to develop its own rituals. Danny arrives to the Bay Area from Florida, and the two carpool down in Steve's electric vehicle, which is 16 years old and whose glove box contains a scribbled notebook documenting the details of every single electric charge the vehicle has ever received. They are both incessant empiricists who revel in the



collection and interpretation of data.

On the way to Asilomar they stop at a family member's house for a good meal, good conversation, and the inevitable postprandial nap. The EV gets a good charge too, and soon they're back on the road headed together to yet another Summer Study.

Watching the two friends interact, their respect and affection for each other is apparent. "I ask Steve for help with technical problems all the time," says Danny. "This guy's handy and he can actually do things. If I were stranded on a desert island, Steve is the one person I would want with me." Both Danny and Steve were members of Art Rosenfeld's "corral" from the early years of energy efficiency and among the young researchers Art would delegate his curiosity



Continued on page 3

## More Important Than Ever, continued

well, with multiple court cases even though there is not even a draft rule.

The Clean Power Plan also is under attack. EPA last year proposed repealing the rule on greenhouse gas emissions from existing power plants. They are considering proposing a much weaker rule that would only seek modest efficiency improvements at the plants. Meanwhile, this standard too is blocked by a court stay.

Funding for federal efficiency programs is still strong. Although the administration proposed drastic cuts to DOE, EPA, and other efficiency programs, Congress actually increased funding when they finally passed a bill in March. We're working to keep funding similar next year.

Other than appropriations and two small technical correction bills, Congress has passed almost nothing on energy efficiency; it has neither killed regulations nor made progress on proposals that have been around for years. But political prognosticators suggest a better-than-even chance that Democrats will have a slim majority in the House in 2019 and a small chance they will retake the Senate as well. If so, the new majority will seek to introduce legislation that addresses climate change while saving consumers money and building a strong economy.

We at ACEEE are thinking about how to help all lawmakers do that through energy efficiency. How can the federal government spur energy savings in existing homes, smart buildings and smart grids, and resilient infrastructure investments? If you have new ideas for effective federal energy efficiency policy, please talk with me.

**Lowell Ungar**, ACEEE's Senior Policy Advisor

### SPECIAL EVENT RATES!

Summer Study attendees receive a special **\$100 registration discount** for the **Behavior, Energy & Climate Change conference** (October, Washington, DC), which is the premier international event on how human behavior and decision-making can spur the transition to an energy-efficient, low-carbon future. To register, go to the BECC website [beccoconference.org](http://beccoconference.org) and choose the "SS" registration rate and enter code "Sustainable." This offer ends Thursday, August 16.

SSB attendees can also take advantage of **early-bird rates** this week to register for two new exciting ACEEE events: the Rural Energy Conference (October, Atlanta) and the **Conference on Health, Environment and Energy** (early December, New Orleans.) You can register on ACEEE's conference website [aceee.org/conferences](http://aceee.org/conferences).

## Schedule Updates/Room Changes

- Panel 8: Capturing Savings through Behavior: Science and Practice has moved to the **Dolphin** meeting room for Thursday and Friday sessions.
- Panel 13: Energy Efficiency and Equity: Addressing the Underserved has moved to **Heather** meeting room for Thursday and Friday sessions.

### Claim your complimentary copy!

Do you know which Summer Study panel leader is an associate editor of this well-regarded international journal? Now in its 10th year of publication, Energy Efficiency is published eight times a year, so you can stay current even when Summer School is not in session! Swing by the literature table at **Surf and Sand** to pick up your own complimentary copy.

### Summer School panel leader publishes book

Larry Brackney and his colleagues at NREL have just published their book, *Modeling Building Energy with OpenStudio: A Practical Guide for Students and Professionals*. Check out the Display Copy (please don't take!) at the literature table at **Surf and Sand**. Congratulations to Larry, Amir and the rest of the gang at NREL.

### Technology, behavior, and policy

It's a technology problem! No it's a behavior problem! No it's a policy problem! Maybe it's all of these and more. And, even more complicated—maybe it's all of these at once. There's a new book series from Springer that tackles sustainable energy policy from just this integrated point of view. Check out the literature table in Surf and Sand for more information.



### Come Surf the Ride Board!

Are you looking for a ride after Summer Study?  
Can you offer someone else a ride?

Please visit the Ride Board  
in **Surf and Sand**

# INFORMAL SESSIONS 2-4 pm

## Standardizing Data Exchange Schemas for Municipal Energy Benchmarking, Auditing, and Retrocommissioning Programs

Harry Bergmann, US Department of Energy

ROOM: Scripps

## Room for All: An Idea Exchange on Multifamily Building Systems

Kelly Cunningham, Pacific Gas & Electric; Rahul Athalye, Energy Solutions

ROOM: Marlin

## Energy Democracy: A Movement to Empower Communities to Advance Equity

Adam Hasz, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

ROOM: Dolphin

## US/China Collaboration on Buildings Energy Efficiency

Adam Hinge, Sustainable Energy Partnerships

ROOM: Acacia

## Inclusive Financing: Nuts & Bolts for Practitioners

Holmes Hummel, Clean Energy Works

ROOM: Chapel

## Residential New Construction: Stretch Codes? Zero Net? Other?

Cameron Kinney, ERS

ROOM: Triton

## Likelihood to Convert – Driving Savings through Embedded Research and Evaluation

Teresa R. Lutz, Michaels Energy

ROOM: Heather

## Saving the Grid from Zero Energy Buildings: The GridOptimal Initiative (sub-title: Rating Buildings' Grid Citizenship)

Alexi Miller, New Buildings Institute

ROOM: Fred Farr Forum

## Mobilizing for Next Year's 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) Campaign

Harry Misuriello, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

ROOM: Evergreen

## Communicating about Connected Thermostats

Leo Rainer, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

ROOM: Kiln

## Equity and Energy Efficiency: A Reflection on the Week and the Next Steps (Please join us to reflect on ACEEE's Summer Study's first-ever track on Equity and Energy Efficiency – Panel 13)

Lauren Ross, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

ROOM: Oak Shelter

## We have R40-60 Walls/Roofs – Why are Windows Stuck at R3 and How Can We Change That?

Stephen Selkowitz, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

ROOM: Toyon

## “Alexa, How Much Energy Am I Using?” Understanding Voice Assistants and their Role for Energy Efficiency

Jordana Temlock, Bidgely; Samantha Caputo, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, and Mike Li, US Department of Energy

ROOM: Nautilus

## Danny & Steve, continued

to. Danny credits Art's prescient advice to look into the potential savings of reflective roofing materials as key to jump starting his own career in energy efficiency.

In his Champions of Energy Efficiency award acceptance speech on Tuesday night, Danny offered encouragement to those just entering our industry. Asked to give advice to those beginning their own paths Steve offered, “People make mistakes. Smart people learn from their mistakes. Really smart people learn from other people's mistakes.”

### ACEEE is hiring!

We are seeking a **senior economist** to lead our jobs and economic analyses. The ideal candidate has a Ph.D. or ABD with interest in policy.

We are also looking for a **communications manager** with strategic savvy and excellent writing/editing skills.

Check out these and other ACEEE career opportunities in **Surf & Sand** or at [aceee.org/about/jobs](https://www.aceee.org/about/jobs).





# PANEL 14: DISPLAYS & POSTERS – MERRILL HALL

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Thursday, August 16

*Saving the Most Carbon: Removing Impediments to System-wide Emissions Reductions from Energy Efficiency Objectives*

**Susanna Hanson, Trane**

*Towards the End of the Lighting Tunnel: The End-uses that Matter*

**Charles Ampong, Navigant**

*Large-scale Daylighting Analysis for Buildings, Products, and Policy*

**Robert Gugliemetti, NREL**

*Smart Meter Data: Finding The Buried Treasure Within*

**Safdar Chaudhry, Richard Heath Associates**

*Ensuring Beneficial Electrification: A Case for Water Heating*

**David Farnsworth, Regulatory Assistance Project**

*Coupling Building Energy Models to Transportation and Real Estate Development Models*

**Ralph Muehleisen, Argonne National Laboratory**

*The Voices of Housing and Energy Policy*

**Marissa Ramirez, NRDC**

*Putting People Back into the Equation: Impacts of Cultural and Demographic Factors on Multifamily Energy Use Patterns*

**Stephanie Berkland, TRC Companies Inc.**

*Leveraging Community Engagement for Maximum Energy Efficiency Impact*

**Lauren Casentini, Resource Innovations**

*Residential End Use Verification Using Submetering*

**William McNary, US Energy Information Administration**

*Two Buildings' Research Engineers Experiences with Creating Their Own Zero Energy Houses*

**Paul Torcellini, National Renewable Energy Laboratory**

*Driving Energy Usage Reductions Through Data*

**Jeremy Nagel, Cozero Pty. Ltd.**

*Radiant Solutions: Energy Findings from the Largest Study of Commercial Buildings with Radiant Cooling and Heating Systems*

*Every Day a Little Up: Using Six Sigma Principles in Evaluation*

**Cherish Smith, Navigant Research**

*Long Term Performance of a Net Zero Energy House – Challenges of Year-to-Year Variations in Defining NZE Home*

**Anil Parekh, Natural Resources Canada**

*Radiant Cooling and Heating Systems*

**Cathy Higgins, New Buildings Institute**

*Energy Reporting*

**Bruce Nordman, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory**

*Energy Efficiency Policy and Evaluation From Across the Ponds*

**Elizabeth Titus, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships**

*Energy Efficiency Savings Up in Smoke: The Budding Impact of Indoor Agriculture and Cannabis Production*

**Alexi Miller, New Buildings Institute**

*Programs Designed for the Optimal Customer Experience: Growing Participation and Shrinking Barriers*

**Madeline Koewler, CSRA**

*Coloring Outside the Lines: A New Approach to Comparing Net Savings Techniques*

**Katherine Johnson, Johnson Consulting Group**

*Underutilized Assets: Improving Productivity in the World's Office Environments*

**Alex Herceg, Lux Research, Inc.**

*Using 50001 Ready to Develop a Strategic Energy Management Program*

**Alice Napoleon, Synapse Energy Economics Inc.**

*Break it Down Now Y'all: Using High Resolution End Use Load Metering to Identify Peak Savings Opportunities in the Northeast*

**Ryan Powanda, Navigant**

*National Certification for High Performance Building Operations Professionals*

**Larry Chang, BEST Center**

*Visualizations of Impacts from SDG&E's Peak Time Rebate and Smart Thermostat Programs*

**George Jiang, Itron, Inc.**

*Savings Opportunities in the Northeast*

**Ryan Powanda, Navigant**

*XeroHome - Your Path to a Net Zero Energy Home*

**Mudit Saxena, Vistar Energy Consulting**

*An Energy Efficiency Savings Tool (EEST) to Support State and Local Electricity and Air Quality Planning*

**Niko Dietsch, US Environmental Protection Agency**

*The Value Proposition for Demand-Responsive Commercial Lighting: II. Non-energy Benefits*

**Yao Jung Wen, Energy Solutions**

*An Approach to Model Achievable Potential of Demand Response Programs in DSM Potential Studies and IRPs- Case Studies and Lessons Learned*

**Alireza Bozorgi, ICF International, Inc.**

*Why German Policies Fail to Make Energy Efficiency Investment More Enticing for Small Private Landlords*

**Steven Maerz, Wuppertal Institute for Climate Environment Energy**

*What Can the ENERGYSTAR Database Reveal About Easy and Impactful Energy Efficiency?*

**Flore Marion, Carnegie Mellon University**

*Cooling Strategies for Buildings of Today to Meet Energy Demands of the Future*

**Tyler Felice-Jennings, State University of New York**

*Institutionalizing Energy Data Management in the Public Sector*

**Adam Guzzo, US Department of Energy**

*the grapevine*

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is published by Home Energy Magazine

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