Panel 11: Resilient, Sustainable Communities

This panel will focus on the understanding of resilient and sustainable communities in the building efficiency industry. This means addressing both potential synergies and conflicts between efficiency and resilience, and describing methods for achieving the benefits of buildings and communities that are both efficient and resilient.

We will attempt to answer questions through research, field-demonstration, and/or case studies, including:

- Which building technologies and operations methods can contribute to both efficient and resilient performance?
- How can high performance building features be leveraged, changed, or optimized to also deliver resilience benefits?
- Which sustainable and resilient features are best managed at an individual-building level, versus at a larger community scale?
- When is it best to design community-scale sustainability and resilience strategies (e.g., micro-grids, community storage, district thermal power), including in both new and existing communities?

Presentations will cover outcomes that include:

- Quantification of efficiency and resilience benefits offered by specific technologies;
- Identification of efficient and resilient strategy integration in disaster planning and disaster recovery efforts;
- Identification of best-value efficient and resilient technology investments based on building types, geographies, and potential building- or community-level threats (e.g., threats to building structures, energy supply, and/or cybersecurity); and/or,
- Valuation of resilience benefits from distributed energy resources (e.g., site-generation, power storage, micro-grids) at individual building and community scales.