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## **June Newsletter**

#### Friends—

Building energy codes are vital to cutting energy costs for households and businesses, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting resilient, healthy communities. That's why ACEEE and partners recently brought together members of the codes community from across the country to kick off the National Energy Codes Collaborative, a nationwide network empowering states and local jurisdictions to implement updated codes.

The <u>Collaborative is launching several initiatives</u>, including technical advisory groups, Energy Code Implementation Fellowships, and a program to provide timely, targeted technical assistance to the Collaborative's state and local agency members. We're looking forward to working closely with the communities, state and local agencies, and practitioners essential to driving progress in buildings in the months and years ahead.

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

Best.

Steven Nadel

**Executive Director** 

# **Efficiency Update**

On a <u>50-45 vote</u>, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution to <u>block new furnace efficiency</u> <u>standards</u> finalized by the Department of Energy (DOE) last year. The measure will now be considered in the House of Representatives. President Biden has <u>said</u> he would veto it. The <u>standards</u> are set to require new residential furnaces to be 95% efficient beginning in late 2028.

- New York became the first state to launch its Home Energy Rebates program, following funding <u>approval by DOE</u> last week. The program is part of a nationwide 2022 Inflation Reduction Act initiative to provide \$8.8 billion in federal funding for efficiency and electrification measures in U.S. homes. Seventeen states have now applied for funding.
- Minnesota Governor Tim Walz signed into law a bill including a "clean lighting" provision
  phasing out fluorescent tubes in favor of LEDs. A similar provision passed the senate in
  Illinois and awaits the governor's signature. Illinois would become the 10th state to enact
  the policy. The Appliance Standards Awareness Project, working with coalitions in each
  state, supported the passage of these bills.

## **Our Latest Research**



Study Shows How States Can Maximize Impact of Federal Home Energy Retrofit Funds

This white paper outlines how states can maximize the impact of the funds to reduce utility bills and cut climate pollution.



Report: Electrifying U.S. Homes Can Save \$96 Billion in Energy Costs—If Done Equitably

This report models the costs and benefits of efficient electrification to low- and moderateincome households and society at large.



Programs to Promote Zero-Energy and Zero-Carbon New Homes and Buildings Are Growing

This white paper identifies 22 programs advancing zero-energy, zero-carbon, or zero-energy-ready buildings, including 14 residential and 8 commercial programs.



# Low-Income Households Spend Nearly 20% of Income on Home Energy and Auto Fuel Costs

This brief presents an analysis of combined energy burdens, expenditures on both home and transportation energy, as a share of household income.



#### FHFA Should Adopt Home Energy Codes to Cut Utility Bills, Emissions, and Foreclosure Risk

This fact sheet calls on the Federal Housing
Finance Agency to require that all newly
constructed homes purchased with mortgages
backed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac meet up-todate minimum energy codes.

See all our recent blog posts and press releases.

## **ACEEE in Action**









Scenes from the launch of the National Energy Codes Collaborative

# What We're Reading

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

- The <u>Electrify This!</u> podcast featured senior researcher Anna Johnson discussing managing the electric grid amid increased demand from industry.
- <u>Canary Media</u> quoted executive director Steve Nadel and senior researcher Lyla Fadali on ACEEE's new report on equitable electrification.
- <u>Midwest Newsroom</u> (a partnership of public radio stations in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska) quoted senior policy director Mark Kresowik on new energy efficiency requirements for homes purchased with federally backed mortgages.

### **News You Can Use**

 A <u>resource</u> from the Local Infrastructure Hub provides guidance for applying for the Environmental Protection Agency's Community Change Grants, which will support environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities. The Local Infrastructure Hub also has a <u>federal grant search tool</u> for new funding opportunities.

# **Staff Update**

New ACEEE job posting! ACEEE seeks a federal research and outreach manager.



**Alex Aquino** joins ACEEE as research analyst, buildings program. Alex previously was a policy associate with Boundary Stone Partners. He holds a bachelor's degree from George Washington University.



**Victoria Jenkins** joins ACEEE as development assistant. Victoria previously worked with NASA Wallops Flight Facility, NASA Langley Research Center, World Wildlife Fund, and Virginia Conservation Network in diverse roles including scientific research, policy analysis, and development. She holds a bachelor's degree from Christopher Newport University.



**Fikayo Omotesho** joins ACEEE as research assistant, industry program. Fikayo previously interned at Econsult Solutions as a research analyst. She holds a bachelor's degree from Drexel University.

# **Upcoming Events**



WEBINAR: Marketing and Promoting Electrification Using Behavioral Science June 5, 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET



WEBINAR - R2E2 Playbook: A Comprehensive Guide for **Equitable Energy Retrofits in Affordable Housing** | June 26, 2 p.m. ET







December 3, Washington, DC (Save the date)

#### <u>Support ACEEE today with a tax-deductible contribution!</u>

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