

Engaging the Public in a Just and Equitable Energy Transition: A Webinar Series

Public Responses and Engagement with Distributed Energy Infrastructure

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Public Agenda

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine committee on “[Accelerating Decarbonization in the United States: Technology, Policy, and Societal Dimensions](#)” has been tasked to assess a wide spectrum of technological, policy, and social dimensions of decarbonizing the U.S. economy. This four-part webinar series seeks to better understand what we know and what we need to know to build public support for an equitable and just clean energy transition at individual and community levels. The webinar series will focus on and answer critical questions:

1. What knowledge can be leveraged to improve engaging with the public in a just energy transition?
2. What principles, frameworks, strategies, and/or policies are or should be leveraged or implemented for public engagement in the just energy transition?
3. What are examples of public engagement failures and successes that we can learn from?
4. What kind of investment should be made for public engagement in the just transition decision-making processes?
5. How can we accelerate change in the energy sector by unlocking social decision-making, social mobilization, social engagement, social will, institutional and governance collaboration?

Part Two of this webinar series explores the experiences of different communities and organizations with efforts to accelerate distributed renewable energy technologies through different approaches to engaging the public in its various forms. Speakers will describe challenges and opportunities facing efforts to organize community solar projects, advocate for distributed solar programs and policies, accelerate rooftop solar adoption in low-income communities, and advance solar energy as a tool for indigenous sovereignty.

TUESDAY JUNE 28, 2022

11:30 AM ET Welcome and Purpose

11:35 AM ET Engaging the Public in the Adoption of Distributed Technologies
Panel:

*Varun Rai, University of Texas at Austin
Gabe Chan, University of Minnesota
Emily Schapira, Philadelphia Energy Authority
Cheri Smith, Indigenized Energy Initiative*

12:15 PM ET Panel Discussion and Q&A from Committee Members
Moderator: Clark Miller, Arizona State University

1:25 PM ET Wrap-up

1:30 PM ET Adjourn