

# **Leveraging Community Benefit Frameworks: Empowering Communities to Benefit from Federally Funded Energy Projects**

**May 16, 2024 – May 17, 2024**

**National Academy of Sciences Building**

**Room 120**

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# Workshop Statement of Task

# Empowering Justice 40 Communities: A Workshop on Leveraging Community Benefit Agreements to Support the Department of Energy's Mandate to Serve Disadvantaged Communities

**Statement of Task:** An ad hoc planning committee of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine will organize and host a two-day workshop to gather stakeholder input on implementing community benefit agreements in federally-funded energy infrastructure projects as they relate to the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Justice 40 initiative. The participants will:

- Review the status of community benefits determination, guidance, and tools developed by DOE, the Council on Environmental Quality, and other agencies relevant to Justice 40;
- Discuss the alignment, gaps, and areas of conflict across current and proposed approaches to community benefit formulation;
- Learn from historically disadvantaged and host communities about successful engagement models and how to formulate community benefits;
- Describe and discuss existing and proposed methods for measuring, reporting, and evaluating community benefits under Justice 40 and contributions from relevant academic scholarship that could inform the development of community benefits, particularly in assessing non-monetary contributions;
- Highlight community benefit agreements developed by state and local governments and the private sector that can serve as national models for Justice 40 programs; and
- Discuss steps that could improve formulation and delivery of Justice 40 goals in energy and infrastructure projects.

The Academies will issue a proceedings-in-brief from the workshop.

# Workshop Planning Committee Biographies

## Planning Committee Member Biographies



**Dr. Devashree Saha** is the Director of the U.S. Clean Energy Economy program. In this role, she supports policymakers and other stakeholders to ensure policies and strategies to advance the clean energy transition are fair and inclusive, with a focus on decent jobs, skills, economic development, equity, and putting people and communities at the center of the transition. Prior to joining WRI, Devashree led the Council of State Government's (CSG) energy and environmental policy work where she was responsible for directing research and providing policy analysis and technical assistance to state legislators and executive branch officials. Before joining CSG, Devashree worked at the Brookings Institution where her research focused on a wide array of clean energy topics, including examining clean energy innovation trends at the U.S. sub-national level, identifying promising clean energy financing mechanisms, and estimating the employment size, nature, and spatial geography of the U.S. clean economy. Earlier in her career, she worked for the National Governors Association, providing governors and their staff with data and guidance on best practices affecting the energy sector. Devashree holds a Ph.D. in Public Policy from the University of Texas at Austin and a master's degree in political science from Purdue University.



**Marcel Akhame** is an Associate with Breakthrough Energy's (BE) U.S. Policy and Advocacy team. He is a member of USPA's Strategic Initiatives program, where he primarily focuses on work related to communities, a just transition, and regional and state engagement. Prior to joining BE, Marcel was a Congressional Fellow with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. As a Congressional Fellow, he worked with the office of Congressman A. Donald McEachin and the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources where he supported numerous environmental justice, energy, and climate legislative and advocacy actions through research, writing, outreach, and engagement. Before that, Marcel served as a Program Analyst at the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Water (OW). While at the EPA, he managed a \$120 million grant program and supported OW in defining the benefits and methodology of the Pilot Programs within the initial rollout of the Justice40 initiative. Marcel holds a Master of Public Policy degree from American University, and a B.A. in Political Science from the University of North Texas.



**Dr. Louise Bedsworth** is the Executive Director at the Center for Law, Energy, and the Environment (CLEE) at the University of California, Berkeley where she also serves as a Senior Advisor to the California China Climate Institute. Before joining CLEE, Louise spent nearly a decade working for the State of California, most recently as the Executive Director of the Strategic Growth Council, a Cabinet-level State institution that brings together multiple agencies and departments to support sustainable communities emphasizing strong economies, social equity, and environmental stewardship. While with the State, Louise also served as the Deputy Director of the Office of Planning and Research in Governor Jerry Brown's office. Louise received a Science in Public Science Award from the California Council on Science and Technology in 2020. Louise received a B.S. in Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and an M.S. in Environmental Engineering and a Ph.D. in Energy and Resources, both from the University of California at Berkeley. She is a member of the Board on Energy and Environmental Systems at the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine.



**Dr. Margaret Cook** is the Deputy Director of Climate Equity & Resilience at the Houston Advanced Research Center. In this role, she develops and manages HARC's Climate Equity & Community Resilience initiative and supports community engagement and community benefits priorities within HARC projects. Her research interests include interconnections between water, energy, and climate science and policy, prioritizing equity and community resilience in this work. She is also passionate about making science accessible to the public. She has led multiple HARC projects throughout the Gulf Coast and Central Texas focused on energy, water, and climate equity issues such as reducing energy burden, increasing access to solar in low-income communities, and planning for climate impacts. Dr. Cook earned her Doctorate in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin Cockrell School of Engineering with a certificate in Engineering Education in 2018. She earned dual master's degrees in public Affairs and Environmental and Water Resources Engineering, and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.



**Dr. Daniel Rossi-Keen** is the Executive Director of RiverWise, a community and economic development nonprofit organization in Beaver County, PA. Prior to founding RiverWise in 2018, Daniel served in numerous academic and community capacities in Ohio, Florida, and Pennsylvania. Daniel's research and applied expertise concern the role that hope plays in the health and vitality of a community. As a community and economic development intermediary working with nearly 100 different organizations, RiverWise acts as an ongoing site of applied inquiry. Daniel has served on or led the boards of over 30 local, regional, and state-wide nonprofit organizations. He has recently co-architected and launched the Justice 40 Opportunity Navigator, a multi-county initiative in southwest Pennsylvania that collaborates with federally designated environmental justice communities to fund and implement projects that improve their health and climate resilience. He has co-produced community-based documentary storytelling about both the petrochemical industry and the East Palestine train derailment. Daniel has published and presented his research widely in numerous domestic and

international outlets. He holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in Rhetoric and Culture and an M.A. in Philosophy, all from Ohio University. Daniel also earned an M.A. in Theological Studies from Reformed Theological Seminary and a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Grove City College.



**Dr. Natasha Udu-gama** serves as Director of Community Science Advancement and Sustainability with AGU Thriving Earth Exchange. In this role, she is advancing the practice and sustained use of community science globally. Natasha has been part of AGU's Thriving Earth Exchange team since 2014 and has contributed over 10 years of disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, community engagement, and partnership experience to the development of AGU's community science approach in her 9 years at AGU. Since 2023, she has served on the Board of Directors of the Open Environmental Data Project (OEDP) and has served as an advisor in various capacities for the Union of Concerned Scientists, an NSF EAGER project on Equity and Co-Production with GMU and others. Her Ph.D. in Environment and Geography specializing in multi-sector partnerships for effective and sustainable community-owned early warning systems is from Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia.



**Vangela M. Wade** is president and CEO of the Mississippi Center for Justice (MCJ), a nonprofit, public interest law firm with a 20-year record of fighting for equity in housing, voting rights, healthcare, and other issues. Under Wade's leadership, MCJ launched projects focused on heirs' property, education, and civic engagement. The organization has championed Medicaid expansion; represented the only abortion clinic in Mississippi in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, the Supreme Court case that overturned Roe v. Wade; and pioneered work in fair housing that led Mississippi to rewrite its eviction laws. Wade's previous professional positions include serving as: a law clerk with the Mississippi Court of Appeal; Special Prosecutor for the Madison/Rankin County District Attorney's Office; corporate employment law attorney with local and national employment law firms; adjunct law professor at the University of Mississippi School of Law; and diversity and fair employment practices consultant for corporations, government, and nonprofits. Wade has received numerous honors throughout her career, including: an appointment to the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Planning Committee for Empowering Justice 40 Communities; Magnolia Bar Association's Legal Services Award; Metro Jackson Black Women Lawyers Association Attorney of the Year; Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law Edwin D. Wolf Award; National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division 50th Anniversary Impact Award; and Black Voices for Black Justice honoree. Wade holds a Bachelor of Arts from Mississippi State University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law.

# Workshop Agenda

# Leveraging Community Benefit Frameworks: Empowering Communities to Benefit from Federally Funded Energy Projects Agenda

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

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**Purpose**

- Better understand the goals of the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Community Benefit Plan (CBP) process and what has been learned from its implementation
- Discuss the various types of community agreements, including community benefits agreements, and elevate the challenges and benefits associated with each
- Hear from communities, scholars, and developers about successful engagement models and the tools needed for meaningful negotiation that can inform various community benefits programs and policies

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**8:00 AM<sup>1</sup> BREAKFAST**

**9:00 AM Welcoming Remarks and Introductions**

Kasia Kornecki, *National Academies' Board on Energy and Environmental Systems*  
David Monsma & Marilu Hastings, *Mitchell Foundation*  
Devashree Saha, *World Resources Institute, Workshop Committee Chair*

**9:30 AM DOE's CBP Process – Implementation and Improvement**

This session will hear from various DOE offices about their approach to CBPs and what feedback they have received thus far. A moderated panel discussion will touch on why the CBP process was developed and what barriers have been experienced. A Q&A session will follow.

**Moderator:** Daniel Rossi-Keen, *Riverwise*

**Speakers:**

Elizabeth Perera, *DOE Loan Program Office*  
James Strange, *DOE Office of Energy Justice Policy*  
Jill Capotosto, *DOE Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations*  
Kate Gordon, *University of California - Berkeley*  
Kate Ringness, *DOE Office of Energy Jobs*

**11:00 AM Perspectives, Part 1**

This session will look at the CBP process from the perspective of community-based organizations and non-profits. A moderated discussion will elevate recommendations for how success can be achieved during the engagement and negotiation processes. A Q&A session will follow.

**Moderator:** Margaret Cook, *Houston Advanced Research Center*

**Speakers:**

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<sup>1</sup> All times are in ET

# Leveraging Community Benefit Frameworks: Empowering Communities to Benefit from Federally Funded Energy Projects

Amanda Woodrum, *Reimagine Appalachia*  
Elizabeth Kocs, *GTI Energy*  
Jane Kleeb, *Bold Alliance*  
Jennifer Hadaya, *Air Alliance Houston*

## 12:00 PM **Spotlight Story: Montana's Black Butte Copper Project**

Sandfire Resources' Black Butte Copper project is the first copper mine in Montana that's been permitted in over 40 years. The project faced divided opinions amongst local communities due to proximity to the Smith River, but a community benefits agreement was ultimately reached. This spotlight will tell the story of the negotiation of this CBA from the perspective of both the developer and a community member.

**Moderator:** Mark Haggerty, *Center for American Progress*

Speakers:

Jackson Rose, *Montana State University*  
Nancy Schlep, *Sandfire Resources America*

## 12:30 PM **LUNCH**

## 1:00 PM **DOE's Community Benefit Planning Game Overview – Lunch Presentation**

## 1:30 PM **Frameworks for Delivering Community Benefits**

This session will highlight the different results of negotiations, including project labor agreements, community workforce agreements, good neighbor agreements, and community benefits agreements. A moderated discussion will hear from scholars, legal experts, and community and labor representatives about the differences of these frameworks and the intersections between various agreements. A Q&A session will follow.

**Moderator:** Marcel Akhame, *Breakthrough Energy*

Speakers:

Hadia Sheerazi, *Rocky Mountain Institute*  
Jay Mehta, *Jobs to Move America*  
Julian Gross, *Law Office of Julian Gross*  
Madeline Schomburg, *Energy Futures Initiative*

## 2:30 PM **Build a Community Benefits Plan Activity**

During this session, in-person members of the audience will be invited to work in small groups to develop a community benefits plan for an imaginary community. This activity was developed by the DOE's Office of Energy Justice and Equity and will be facilitated with their support.

## 3:30 PM **Lessons Learned from Decades of Community Benefits Negotiation**

This session will invite the audience to share their experiences with and involvement in various community benefits processes. A moderated fishbowl discussion will ask invited speakers to talk about the lessons they have learned from their experiences that they believe can inform DOE's CBP process and help other community groups and organizations through negotiations with developers. A discussion session will follow with audience members encouraged to share their thoughts and experiences.

**Moderator:** Natasha Udu-gama, *AGU Thriving Earth Exchange*

Speakers:

Bonnie Ram, *Ram Consultancy*  
Jackson Rose, *Montana State University*

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Meghan Wilson, *Michigan State University*  
Romany Webb, *Columbia University Sabin Center*

**5:00 PM      Closing Remarks**  
Devashree Saha, *World Resource Institute, Workshop Committee Chair*

**5:15 PM      ADJOURN DAY 1**

**5:15 PM      RECEPTION**

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**FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024**

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**Purpose**

- Hear from communities and developers about the tools needed for meaningful engagement, the challenges encountered during engagement efforts, and the barriers experienced during CBP application processes
- Discuss methods for developing the foundations of proactive community resources and engagement and coalition-building to better support community benefits frameworks

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**8:00 AM      BREAKFAST**

**9:00 AM      Highlights from Day 1**

Devashree Saha, *World Resource Institute, Workshop Committee Chair*

**9:30 AM      Perspectives, Part 2**

This session will directly hear from representatives of community-based organizations who will share their perspectives on the challenges encountered during community engagement efforts and while negotiating with developers. A moderated discussion will highlight factors and conditions that enable community groups to reach successful outcomes. A Q&A session with the audience will follow.

**Moderator:** Annie Contractor, *Rural Organizing*

Speakers:

Meagan Niebler, *Fair Shake Environmental Legal Services*

Oleta Fitzgerald, *Southern Rural Black Women's Initiative*

Rebekah Gorbea, *Tennessee 4 All*

Scott Douglas, *Greater Birmingham Ministries*

Theo Pride, *Detroit People's Platform*

**10:45 AM      Perspectives, Part 3**

This session will hear from the private sector on their experiences with the DOE's CBP application process and with community engagement. A moderated panel discussion will highlight the successes and gaps of the CBP process and elevate opportunities to address challenges of implementation. A Q&A session with the audience will follow.

**Moderator:** Devashree Saha, *World Resources Institute*

Speakers:

Kim Medford, *Entek*

Mark Haggerty, *Center for American Progress*

Todd Malan, *Talon Metals*

**12:00 PM      LUNCH**

Leveraging Community Benefit Frameworks:  
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**1:00 PM Building Proactive and Long-term Capacity for Communities**

This session will discuss how community benefits frameworks can support the development of enduring community coalitions, build power in place, and extend capacity to deliver community benefits. A moderated panel discussion will elevate practices for developing strong community infrastructure to support negotiation and ensure enforcement and accountability. A Q&A session with the audience will follow.

**Moderator:** Louise Bedsworth, *University of California - Berkeley*

Speakers:

Ann Rogan, *Edge Collaborative*

John Hall, *Houston Advanced Research Center*

Matthew Tejada, *Natural Resources Defense Council*

Wendolyn Holland, *The Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy*

**2:30 PM Workshop Themes Discussion**

**3:00 PM ADJOURN WORKSHOP**

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# Workshop Speaker Biographies

## Workshop Speaker Biographies



### **Amanda Woodrum, ReImagine Appalachia**

Amanda Woodrum is the Co-Director of ReImagine Appalachia, a four-state coalition of diverse stakeholder groups working together to find common ground and create a 21st century sustainable, equitable Appalachia and maximize the benefits to the region's communities from the federal climate infrastructure package. She has a master's degree in economics and law degree from the University of Akron in Ohio. Over the past 15 years or so, she has conducted research, advocacy and coalition building at the intersection of climate, energy, health, labor, and anti-poverty policy. After living in New York City and experiencing 9/11, she returned to Ohio determined to make the state and the region the kind of place she wanted to live.



### **Ann Rogan, Edge Collaborative**

Ann Rogan's work over the last two decades has centered on reimagining the role of economic development and climate opportunities in emerging markets - whether that's in rural India or inland California. She currently leads Edge Collaborative - a civic incubator whose mission is to invest into community ventures that build a more participatory, inclusive economy. There, she oversees a diverse portfolio across workforce, climate, and community wealth. Most recently, she served as a senior advisor in local government in Stockton, CA with FUSE Corps. During her 3 years at City Hall, she led a small team that built new capabilities inside the city and community - setting Stockton, CA on a course to marshal \$60M+ in public sector investments focused on climate. For the past several years, Ann's work on community benefits and climate has centered on the accessibility of electric vehicles within low-income communities, and a wide range of carbon management considerations in the northern Central Valley of California. She's held a variety of roles across the nonprofit, private and public sectors – previously, having co-founded two companies – in renewables and 3D printing. In 2016, she served on the Government of Estonia's e-Residency Advisory Group to advance digital entrepreneurship. Ann earned a BA from McGill University in International Development and English Literature.



### **Annie Contractor, Rural Organizing Education Fund**

Annie Contractor is the Policy Director at Rural Organizing Education Fund. Annie's expertise focuses on bringing people into all levels of government decision-making. Her policy work includes establishing a wrap-around services support unit in Colorado's COVID-19 response through the public health infrastructure of the state, tactics for welcoming immigrants in a sanctuary city, and more recently, getting the Recompete Pilot Program passed and implemented with rural inclusion. With Rural Organizing, Annie is bridging the gap between community organizing and community development by resourcing rural civic leaders with tools, strategies, coaching, connection to experts, and a peer network to support inclusive community engagement and powerful civic participation. Annie grew up in rural Wyoming, served as a US Peace Corps Volunteer in Zambia, hand-built a log cabin in Appalachia, farmed lettuce in

Hawai'i, and amplified activists in Brazil. As a regional planner and social scientist, Annie has designed and led four social justice research projects on three continents that have impacted food security, environmental justice, housing justice, and low-income mothers' access to quality jobs. Annie enjoys running slowly and playing the same three songs on the guitar.



### **Bonnie Ram, Ram Consultancy**

Bonnie Ram is an independent consultant and Director of Strategic Partnerships at the Center for Research in Wind (CReW), University of Delaware. Her current focus is on the potential for coastal community benefit agreements with offshore wind projects and designing knowledge exchanges with local citizens and students in the Mid-Atlantic region. Her research focuses on the clean energy transition, regulatory compliance, public perception of environmental risks, benefits and uncertainties, and strategies for robust engagement. Bonnie has worked with a variety of organizations across Europe, Southeast Asia, and Southern Africa. Serving as a corporate officer at two national consulting firms for twenty years, she worked on a variety of projects from nuclear waste management to engagement strategies for wind programs. For ten years, Ram was a strategic advisor to the DOE's Wind Technology Office and NREL and co-authored several national reports, including *20% Wind Energy by 2030*. Bonnie was a Senior Researcher to the Danish Technical University (Wind) and successfully created a new social science department. Bonnie publishes in peer reviewed journals, most recently a Special Issue in *Risk Analysis*. Also, she is an author of the environmental and stakeholder chapter of *Wind Engineering Explained Theory, Design and Application* (Third Edition).



### **Elizabeth Kocs, GTI Energy**

As Senior Manager at GTI Energy's Low Carbon Energy Solutions, Dr. Elizabeth Kocs manages key initiatives to support community benefits and impacts of integrated energy networks and the broader hydrogen and low carbon energy ecosystem. She serves as the subject matter expert overseeing the development of environmental, energy and climate justice including development of metrics to measure Justice 4.0. Elizabeth has 30 years of experience developing and managing environmental projects and leading stakeholder engagement and community participation for applied research, planning, and policy initiatives locally, regionally, and globally. Prior to her current role, Elizabeth served as Director of Partnerships and Strategy at UIC Energy Initiative, where she led strategic energy, sustainability, transportation electrification, and environmental and climate justice programs. She has received the Chicago Area Clean Cities (CACC) Community Leadership Award for her work in transportation electrification, and the COP26 Climate Challenge Cup for the climate justice research project.



### **Elizabeth Perera, Department of Energy's Loan Program Office**

Elizabeth "Liz" Martin Perera serves the Department of Energy Loan Program Office, as a Senior Advisor with the Community, Jobs and Justice Team. In this role, Liz works with loan applicant companies to develop Community Benefit Plans (CBPs) for LPO projects. These CBPs detail a project's community and labor engagement, quality jobs, J40 and how the project will advance equity. Before coming to the Department of Energy, Liz served as Climate Policy Director with the National Sierra Club in Washington, DC. There she led the Club's

efforts to pass the most transformational climate and infrastructure law in US history, the Inflation Reduction Act and she worked on climate, environmental and energy policy at the state level. She also has expertise on resilience/adaptation issues and environmental, labor and economic justice issues. Liz has also held climate policy leadership positions with the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). She has also worked for ICF Consulting where she supported the US Environmental Protection Agency and the UN Environment Program. With UCS she authored a report series called Climate Change and Your Health documenting increases in heat waves, ozone pollution, and storm intensity in warming world. She holds a Masters of Environmental Management from the Yale School of the Environment and a Masters of Public Health from the University of New York's School of Public Health.



### **Hadia Sheerazi, Rocky Mountain Institute**

Hadia Sheerazi is a Manager in RMI's Climate-Aligned Industries Program, co-leading community engagement and equity-centered workstreams to accelerate the decarbonization of the highest emitting industrial sectors, with a focus on clean hydrogen hubs, CDR, shipping, steel, aluminum and waste-methane. She conducts capacity-building workshops for cleantech project developers, state and federal policymakers, and regulators, and leads thought leadership on best practices for inclusive, two-way engagement to derisk projects and provides guidance on the design and implementation of responsive community benefit plans (CBPs) to remediate the impacts of historic underinvestment, environmental injustice, and decades of legacy pollution in low-income, BIPOC, frontline and fence-line communities. Hadia is a contributing author on the NYC Panel on Climate Change (NPCC), which helps inform the city's multi-hazard adaptation and resilience strategy to protect vulnerable and low-income communities. She has cross-sectoral experience in climate, energy policy and sustainability in the public, private, NGOs, community-based organizations (CBOs), intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), and academic sectors. Hadia has been internationally recognized for her research and contributions to climate action, equity, sustainability, women's empowerment, and inclusive adaptation by the UN Development Programme, UN Women's Empower Women initiative, the White House Council on Women and Girls, Hydrogen Economist, and the Financial Times.



### **Jackson Rose, Montana State University**

Jackson Rose is a faculty member at Montana State University, where he also co-leads the Geospatial Core Facility. A resource geographer by training, Jackson's scholarly research looks at rural communities that host large-scale underground mining projects, with a focus on non-regulatory agreements between community organizations and international mining companies. Prior to transitioning to Montana State University, Jackson worked for two years in White Sulphur Springs, Montana, where he served as Executive Director of the Meagher County Stewardship Council, a grassroots group negotiating a community benefits agreement around an impending copper mine. Jackson currently sits on the Council's Board of Directors as the group works to finalize a CBA.



### **James Strange, Department of Energy's Office of Energy Justice and Policy**

James Strange specializes in energy law and policy and has worked across state lines with public and private entities to build capacity for equitable access to clean energy for over a decade. Before arriving at the U.S. Department of Energy, James was general counsel for a non-profit organization that oversees the nation's largest solar, storage, and transportation electrification programs. James is currently serving as a Senior Policy Advisor for the United States Department of Energy, Office of Energy Justice and Equity, and is Director of the DOE committee tasked with the implementation of community benefits plans across DOE funding and programs.



### **Jane Fleming Kleeb, Bold Alliance**

Jane Fleming Kleeb is an experienced grassroots organizer, author, manager, political strategist, and nonprofit entrepreneur. In her work, Jane protects property rights while building an engaged base of citizens who care about the land and water. For her years of work in rural communities, Jane was named a Climate Breakthrough awardee in 2023, the highest honor in the climate change field. Jane is setting out to create a new project called Energy Builders that works with rural communities to change the economic model of large-scale clean energy projects to benefit the people who live on the land that is creating America's next 100 years of energy. In 2010, she founded Bold Nebraska, which later became the Bold Alliance, a network of "small but mighty" coalitions in rural states working to protect the land and water with a focus on land justice and energy freedom with projects from the Pipeline Fighters Hub to the Easement Action Teams. Bringing urban and rural folks together through meaningful and creative actions has been Jane's goal throughout her career. She was a driving force behind Reject and Protect, where 12 tipis were placed on DC's National Mall and where the Cowboy and Indian Alliance rode horses through the streets of DC. The Ponca Corn Harvest that not only helped stop the Keystone XL pipeline but brought some land justice to the Ponca people. Jane also hosted Nebraska's largest advocacy concert, Harvest the Hope, with Willie Nelson and Neil Young. Since 2016, Jane has served in a volunteer capacity as Chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party. She also serves on the Executive Committees of the Democratic National Committee and the Association of State Democratic Committees.



### **Jay Mehta, Jobs to Move America**

Jay Mehta leads Jobs to Move America's (JMA) Community Benefits Agreement Resource Center (CBARC). He began his work with JMA in December 2019 as the Senior Researcher for New Jersey and most recently served as Northeast Director, overseeing JMA's programs in New York and New Jersey. He has 20 years of domestic and international research, campaign, and election-related experience. Jay previously worked for the UNITE HERE Union, where he was successful in raising standards, organizing opportunities, and developing key community and political stakeholder relationships for hotel, airport and casino workers throughout North America. Following his time with the union, Jay also served as an issue and opposition researcher for the Working Families Party and directly prior to joining JMA, worked as an independent research and creative consultant. Jay received his bachelor's in philosophy and religion from Flagler College ('02) in St. Augustine, Florida and a Masters in Diplomacy, Law and Global Change from Coventry University in England ('03).



### **Jennifer Hadayia, Air Alliance Houston**

Jennifer (“Jen”) Hadayia, MPA (pronounced Huh-die-yuh) is the Executive Director of Air Alliance Houston, the longest running advocacy non-profit singularly focused on the public health impacts of air pollution in Houston/Harris County. She has worked for over 25 years in public health and health equity with state and county health departments and non-profit organizations in five states and the District of Columbia. Jen was born and raised in Houston and is a proud resident of Houston’s Near Northside, where she lives with her husband and a variety of rescue pets, including a 35-year-old box turtle. Jen holds an MPA from Columbia University and a BA from Yale University.



### **Jill Capotosto, Department of Energy’s Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations**

Jill Capotosto serves as an Energy Justice Liaison in the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED). In this role, she supports OCED’s efforts related to Justice40 and Community Benefits Plans. Prior to joining the civil service, Jill worked with nonprofits, humanitarian organizations, and academic institutions to advance environmental and social justice domestically and abroad. Jill holds a Master of Environmental Management and a Master of Arts in Global Affairs from Yale University.



### **John Hall, Houston Advanced Research Center**

John Hall is the President and CEO of the Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC), a nonprofit research hub providing independent analysis on energy, air, water, resilience, and climate equity. HARC’s research activities support the implementation of policies and technologies that promote sustainability based on scientific principles, and the organization works to identify and implement scalable solutions to Texas’ extensive climate resilience and climate equity challenges. Mr. Hall has been a thought leader and practitioner regarding the impacts of energy on air quality, the environment, communities, and climate for the past thirty years. Prior to joining HARC, he chaired the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), the predecessor agency to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). He left a lasting mark on TCEQ by implementing the Mickey Leland Environmental Internship Program. He also held leadership roles at the Environmental Defense Fund, focusing on clean energy efforts in ten of the largest states in the U.S. and vehicle electrification initiatives in Texas.



### **Julian Gross, Law Office of Julian Gross**

Julian Gross is one of the nation’s principal experts on community benefits in land use development and public infrastructure. For over 25 years, Mr. Gross has represented public entities and nonprofit advocates in contract negotiations, legislative and administrative drafting, and policy development aimed at improving land use development and public infrastructure, and advancing racial and economic equity. He has negotiated dozens of community benefits agreements (CBAs), initiating and refining a groundbreaking contractual approach to resolution of challenging urban development issues. He has taught, published, and spoken widely on the subject of land use and community benefits, with a focus on public and private negotiation

strategies. Mr. Gross has also drafted numerous local hiring and contracting policies, and has worked on living wage policies, disadvantaged-business policies, and many other community economic development initiatives. He represents public entities and nonprofit affordable housing developers in negotiation of project labor agreements and community workforce agreements that advance multiple policy goals.



### **Kate Gordon, University of California – Berkeley Haas School of Business**

Kate Gordon has spent the past two decades working at the intersection of climate change, energy policy, and equitable economic development. Most recently, Gordon served as Senior Advisor to U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, where she led a variety of place-based initiatives to help drive a more sustainable and resilient energy transition, including creating the agency's "Community Benefits Plan" requirement for funding applicants. Gordon continues to serve on the Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board (SEAB). Prior to her time in the Biden-Harris administration, Gordon served for several years in California state government as the Director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and Senior Climate Policy Advisor to Governor Gavin Newsom. In this role, Gordon launched or led several initiatives to better integrate climate and economic development strategy across the state. Before entering public service, Gordon served in senior leadership positions at several nonpartisan think tanks including the Henry M. Paulson Institute, the Center for the Next Generation, the Center for American Progress, and the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University. Gordon got her start on energy and climate issues working at the national Apollo Alliance, where she ultimately served as co-Executive Director until the merger with the Blue-Green Alliance in 2011. Gordon earned a J.D. and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from the University of California-Berkeley, and an undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University.



### **Kate Ringness, Department of Energy's Office of Energy Jobs**

Kate Ringness, Chief Strategist in the Office of Policy at the Department of Energy, works on Secretarial priorities and other Department-wide issues, including developing a clean energy workforce industrial strategy, creating, and supporting quality jobs in clean energy, and implementing community benefit plans through the Department's financial awards. Prior to joining the Department of Energy, Kate's experience in policy, law, and finance informed her work designing multifaceted energy efficiency and clean energy solutions for communities of all sizes and demographics. She also has worked extensively developing state-based roadmaps for economic development in clean energy industries. Kate earned J.D. and LL.M. degrees from Duke University and an MPP from UC Berkeley.



### **Kimberly Medford, Entek**

Kimberly Medford joined ENTEK in 2012 as ENTEK's VP & General Counsel. During her tenure, she has led the company's legal, HR and EH&S departments. She has been part of ENTEK's executive management team since joining the company. In both her role as VP & General Counsel and now as President of ENTEK Manufacturing, she is deeply engaged in ENTEK's growth through mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, financing, and development of new production facilities. Kim is directly involved with community development and major customer and supplier relationships across the ENTEK family of companies.

Recently, she has served on the outreach team responsible for gaining federal and state support for ENTEK's new lithium plant. Prior to joining ENTEK, she represented the company as outside counsel where her practice focused on M&A and finance work with an emphasis in representing Native American businesses. Kim is a native Oregonian and chose to stay in Oregon for her education, graduating from Willamette University and Willamette University College of Law.



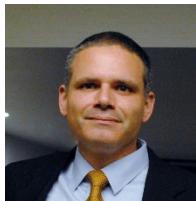
### **Madeline Schomburg, Energy Futures Initiative**

Dr. Madeline Schomburg's research focuses on energy justice, examining access and inclusion in policy processes, and decision-making. Recently, she has focused on the use of community benefits plans as a mechanism to facilitate community engagement in clean energy project development. Her latest project examined community perspectives on the community engagement practices employed in the Department of Energy's hydrogen hub program. Her scholarship has appeared in Energy Research & Social Science and Economics of Energy & Environmental Policy. As an assistant professor of environmental policy at Colorado State University, Schomburg collaborated with scholars from numerous institutions and with community partners to advance social science research in energy and the environment. At Colorado State University, she also served on the steering committee of the Center for Environmental Justice where she helped create new programs in environmental justice and built partnerships with grassroots environmental justice organizations. Schomburg completed her doctorate in ecology at the University of California, Davis, and her Bachelor of Arts in economics and environmental studies at Connecticut College.



### **Mark Haggerty, Center for American Progress**

Mark Haggerty is a senior fellow on the Energy and Environment team at American Progress. With a reputation as a nonpartisan expert committed to practical solutions, Haggerty is engaged in efforts to develop a comprehensive national policy that aligns climate, energy, and public lands conservation goals with rural communities' economic success. He has served on local boards and planning commissions, provided expert advice to state legislatures, and testified to Congress at the invitation of both Democrats and Republicans. Mark lives in Bozeman, Montana, where he co-owns millions of acres of public lands and waters with his family and friends.



### **Matthew Tejada, Natural Resources Defense Council**

Matthew S. Tejada is Senior Vice President for Environmental Health at the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), a position he assumed in December 2023. As SVP for Environmental Health, Matthew leads NRDC's environmental health portfolio and programs that focus on air, water, toxics, and climate adaptation, amongst other issues. Under Matthew's leadership, the Environmental Health program centers NRDC's mission and work to ensure coordination and collaboration across the organization's activities to consistently focus and achieve meaningful progress on improving environmental health across the United States and internationally with a priority on advancing protection for those most overburdened and vulnerable to an unhealthy environment and the impacts of a changing climate. Prior to joining NRDC, Matthew served as the first ever Deputy Assistant Administrator (DAA) for Environmental Justice within EPA's national program office for Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR).

Matthew joined EPA in March of 2013 as a career senior executive and director of the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ), a position he held until the reorganization of OEJ into OEJECR in September of 2022. As DAA, Matthew provided leadership for EPA's EJ portfolio, including the integration of EJ throughout all of EPA's policies, programs, and activities, coordination, and alignment of EJ priorities with external civil rights compliance priorities. Matthew's portfolio also included leading EJ efforts with other federal agencies, states, Tribes, local governments, and other stakeholders such as academia and private sector institutions. Before his career at EPA, Matthew spent over five years as executive director of the environmental justice advocacy Air Alliance Houston in the Houston and Texas Gulf Coast area. Matthew received his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Oxford where he was a member of St. Antony's College and a BA in English from the University of Texas at Austin, then served two years in the Peace Corps in Bulgaria.



### **Meagan Niebler, Fair Shake Environmental Legal Services**

Meagan Niebler, MPH (she/her) works as the Community Democracy Program Manager with Fair Shake Environmental Legal Services and is passionate about being a resource for environmental justice communities to find levers they can pull to move their vision into action. For the past two years, Meagan has been supporting EJ communities in OH, PA, and WV during community benefits processes, including: facilitating community engagement and community education, providing technical assistance to coalitions, and creating tools and templates in support of proactive and reactive Community Benefit Coalitions, Community Benefit Agreements, Community Benefit Ordinances, and Community Benefit Plans. The work of changing the shape of the decision-making table is something that has motivated her throughout her career, including previous work as a birth Doula supporting pregnant and parenting teens and Latinx families; developing, implementing, and evaluating family sexuality education programs, including the evidence-based Linking Families and Teens (LiFT); and directing strength-based public health education and programs.



### **Meghan Wilson, Michigan State University**

Meghan Wilson, an Assistant Professor at Michigan State University and a Detroit native, is an advocate for energy and environmental justice, within communities grappling with financial crisis. Drawing from her experiences in navigating financial restructuring within institutions such as the City of Detroit and Detroit Public Schools, Meghan emerges as a catalyst for change, seamlessly integrating economic development with environmental and energy equity. Her collaborations extend beyond conventional boundaries, including partnerships with utilities to develop community benefits programs, ensuring that marginalized communities have a voice in shaping their energy future. With a Ph.D. in Political Science from Brown University, Meghan's expertise spans public finance, urban development, race and ethnic politics, and state and local government. Through her scholarship and advocacy, she continues to inspire meaningful change, driving forward the imperative for energy justice and environmental equity in every facet of society.



### **Nancy Schlep, Sandfire Resources America**

Nancy Schlepp is the VP Communications & Government Relations and a Corporate Officer of Sandfire Resources America, a publicly traded company. Nancy has 25 plus years of worldwide business experience in corporate affairs, government relations, international trade, communications, public policy, and human resources. Previous positions include the Executive Director of the Montana Taxpayers Association and National Affairs Director for the Montana Farm Bureau Federation. Nancy is certified as a gracious space facilitator for working on critical issues effectively from the Center for Ethical Leadership in Seattle and is an alumna of Leadership Montana. Currently, Nancy is Chair of the Montana Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, serves on the Executive Boards for the Montana Chamber of Commerce and the Montana Taxpayers Association, and sits on the boards of the Montana Mining Association, REAL Montana, the Montana Non-Profit Association, and the Meagher County Community Foundation. Nancy has also served as a Meagher County Commissioner, was on the steering committee creating Women Leading Montana, and in March 2024 Co-Chaired the MT Chamber's Inaugural, "Blazing Trails: Montana Women in Business Summit," in Bozeman, MT. Nancy grew up in Ringling, Montana where her and her husband own and operate the family cattle ranch with their 3 children Sarah (26), Ethan (21) and Dawson (17). Their most recent endeavor is purchasing the iconic Ringling Church with some friends which they have restored to an event and wedding venue. Nancy holds a Bachelor of Science from Montana State University.



### **Oleta Fitzgerald, Children's Defense Fund**

Oleta Garrett Fitzgerald has devoted her life to the pursuit of justice and equality. As Director of the Children's Defense Fund's Southern Regional Office, Oleta has placed special emphasis on education, including early childhood education, children's healthcare access, and breaking the insidious cradle to prison pipeline pattern, which is all too prevalent in communities of color. Oleta is the Regional Administrator for the Southern Rural Black

Women's Initiative for Economic & Social Justice (SRBWI). SRBWI operates in 77 counties across the Black Belts of Alabama, Southwest Georgia and the Mississippi Delta with a network of over 2,500 Black women and young women. She is also the principal for an innovative project, the Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids (SPARK) Initiative, which has operated in more than 12 Mississippi school districts. Oleta's distinguished public service career began long before she assumed her position at Children's Defense Fund. In 1993, Oleta became President Clinton's appointee as White House Liaison and Executive Assistant to Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy. Later, she was named the Department's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs where, among other things, she worked on tribal governmental issues and coordinated the Administration's long-term recovery of Midwestern states affected by The Great Flood of 1993. Ms. Fitzgerald serves on the boards of the Southern Rural Black Women's Initiative For Economic and Social Justice, and NEA Foundation; advisory boards for the Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center at Alcorn State University, Southern Black Farmer Community Led Fund, Excel by 5, and is a member of the International Women's Forum. Ms. Fitzgerald received the Bachelor of Science degree from Tougaloo College, Master of Arts in Rural Development from Antioch University (Midwest) with additional studies at the University of California at Davis; and honorary membership to Pi Alpha Alpha, the National Honor Society for Public Affairs & Administration from Mississippi State

University. She contributed to the Covenant with Black America introduced by Tavis Smiley, and numerous news stories by the New York Times, Huffington Post, the BBC, The Guardian, National Public Radio, Commercial Appeal and NBC National and local affiliates as well as other broadcast and print media.



### **Rebekah Gorbea, Tennessee For All**

Rebekah Gorbea is the Statewide Coordinator For Tennessee For All. Tennessee For All is a statewide coalition representing 20 partner organizations and thousands of members across the state from labor unions, faith organizations and community organizations. There is a wave of new energy industries coming to the South including Ford's Blue Oval City Project, an electric vehicle plant in West Tennessee. Tennessee For All alongside local residents are organizing from the bottom up to win a Community Benefits Agreement with Ford that covers affordable housing, environmental protections, and workforce development. The current task at hand is to win a CBA but the strategy is to build a base of organized membership across rural Tennessee to win gains in good union jobs, strong public schools and making sure that our state is working for all of us not just the wealthy few.



### **Romany Webb, Columbia Law School**

Romany Webb is Deputy Director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law. Romany also holds appointments as a Research Scholar at Columbia Law School, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Climate at the Columbia Climate School, and Senior Advisor on Climate Science at the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism. Romany's research focuses on two primary areas: (1) energy and (2) negative emissions technologies. Romany's energy-related research explores how legal and policy tools can be used to minimize the climate impacts of energy development as well the impacts of climate change on energy infrastructure. Romany also researches legal issues associated with the development and deployment of negative emissions technologies on land and in the ocean. Between 2020 and 2023, Romany served as a vice chair and then co-chair of the Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Ecosystems Committee of the American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources. Romany also served on the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Committee on Ocean Carbon Dioxide Removal and Sequestration from 2020 to 2022. In 2024, she was appointed to the Pool of Experts of the United Nations Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment and invited to be a contributing author of the Third UN World Ocean Assessment. She also serves on a number of other advisory boards, councils, and committees. Romany also completed a fellowship with the Kay Bailey Hutchison Center for Energy, Law, and Business at the University of Texas at Austin, where she researched energy policy. Romany received an LL.M., with a certificate of specialization in environmental law, from the University of California, Berkeley in 2013. She also holds an LL.B., awarded with first class honors, from the University of New South Wales (Australia).



### **Scott Douglas, Greater Birmingham Ministries**

Scott Douglas attended the University of Tennessee in Knoxville where he co-founded the University of Tennessee Black Student Union. Following an aircraft assembly job in Nashville, Scott moved to Birmingham in 1976 where he was a reporter for the Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and Social Justice (SOC). From 1984-1989, he served as Executive Director of SOC. From 1989-1992, He was a Program Officer for the Partnership for Democracy

Foundation. After serving as an Environmental Justice Grassroots Organizer for the Sierra Club, he became Executive Director of Greater Birmingham Ministries (GBM); an interfaith, multi-racial organization providing food and clothing to families while assisting low-income families empower their communities through community organizing. GBM's priorities today include expanding voting rights for people of color in Alabama. He's a former board member of the Equal Justice Initiative and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and currently serves on the boards of the Highlander Research & Education Center and Jobs to Move America. When JMA established their first southern office in Alabama, he joined the negotiating team for establishing a Community Benefits Agreement with New Flyer, Inc., a Canadian based builder of battery-powered buses. GBM joined the Alabama NAACP as community representatives in JMA's broad-based strategy of a united labor and community approach to resisting corporations coming to the South in pursuit of historic "southern discounts" that allowed the short-changing workers while endangering their communities. He's written articles on economic and racial justice for Southern Exposure, Howard Law Journal, the National Newspaper Publishers Association and Dissent Magazine.



### **Theo Pride, Detroit People's Platform**

Theo Pride, Ph.D. is a community organizer with Detroit People's Platform, a social justice organization committed to building power for majority Black Detroit. His work focuses on equitable development and strategies to build and implement inclusive, collectively owned, solidarity economies in marginalized communities of color. He leads the Detroit Budget Justice Coalition which seeks to win annually a municipal budget that invests in low income, Black neighborhoods and one designed through participatory decision-making by residents. Theo brings his unique experience as a teacher/researcher of Black liberation movements and its impact on revolutionary politics and social change to inform his organizing work.



### **Todd Malan, Talon Metals**

Todd Malan is Chief External Affairs Officer & Head of Climate Strategy at Talon Metals, a publicly traded mineral resource company focused on discovery and development of high-grade nickel deposits in the Lake Superior region of the United States. Malan has responsibility for the company's interaction with governments, tribal sovereign governments, media, investors, off-take partners and communities. Malan leads Talon's climate innovation activities including carbon capture and storage via new approaches to carbon mineralization, reducing operational emissions at sites, clean energy sourcing and customer partnerships. Malan previously led the Corporate Relations team for global mining and metals leader Rio Tinto in the Americas region and globally for the Rio Tinto Aluminum product group. Before joining the mining and metals sector, Malan was a Managing Director at Goldman Sachs. He is a graduate of the University of Washington in Seattle and studied at Birkbeck College at the University of London as a Hansard Scholar.



### **Wendolyn Holland, Tribal Clean Energy Alliance**

Wendolyn Holland serves as Senior Advisor for Policy, Tax & Government Relations at the Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy. In this role, Holland supports tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Americans in their quest for renewable energy deployment as a means to improve sovereignty and enhance sustainable economic development. She served as Senior Advisor for Commercialization in the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, a role that supported the movement of national laboratory technologies into the market. She then served as a member of the senior leadership team at Savannah River National Laboratory. In her consulting, practice, Holland advises at the nexus of finance, technology, and policy, focusing on clean energy technologies. With a particular expertise in tax strategy and policy, her projects focus on the very essence of our social and environmental problems. With the background of a historian, she models her projects for the long-range view to bend the arc of history. She is among the nation's experts on Section 48C, the Advanced Energy Manufacturing Tax Credit. Beyond 48C, Holland has supported many dozens of submissions for competitive federal funding opportunities, focused mostly but not exclusively on DOE solicitations. In this process, she has written more than 80 Community Benefits Plans, most of which include strong provisions for neighboring sovereign tribal communities. Holland received her JD and LLM in Taxation from Georgetown Law in 2017, her MBA in Finance and Strategy from Kellogg School of Management in 2001, and her BA in History and Studies in the Environment from Yale in 1991. She is a frequent lecturer on U.S. renewable energy policy and Western Americana.

# Supplemental Slides

## Workshop Goals and Guidelines

# Workshop Goals



- 1 Review the status of community benefits guidance and tools developed by DOE
- 2 Discuss the alignment, gaps, and areas of conflict across approaches to community benefit formulation
- 3 Learn from host communities about successful engagement models for community benefits
- 4 Describe and discuss methods for measuring, reporting, and evaluating community benefits
- 5 Highlight community benefit agreements that can serve as national models
- 6 Discuss steps that can improve Justice40 goals in energy and infrastructure projects

# Workshop Guidelines\*

1. Be curious, compassionate, and supportive
2. Listen to understand, not to respond
3. Be mindful of your airtime
4. Do not interrupt
5. Assume positive intent
6. Accept discomfort
7. Avoid acronyms and jargon
8. Have grace and patience

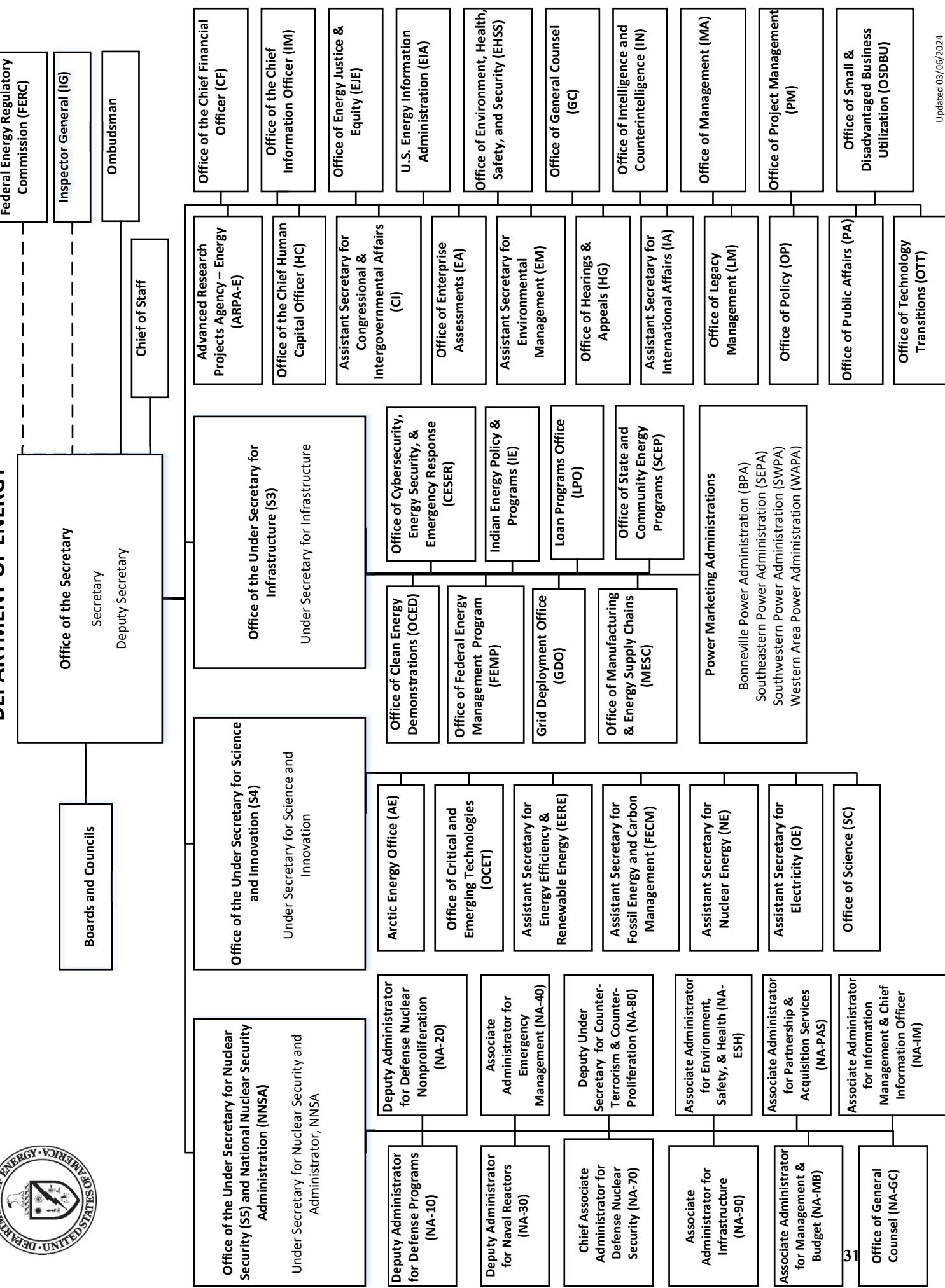
\*Modified from Georgia Tech DAC Symposium 2024



# Department of Energy Organization Chart



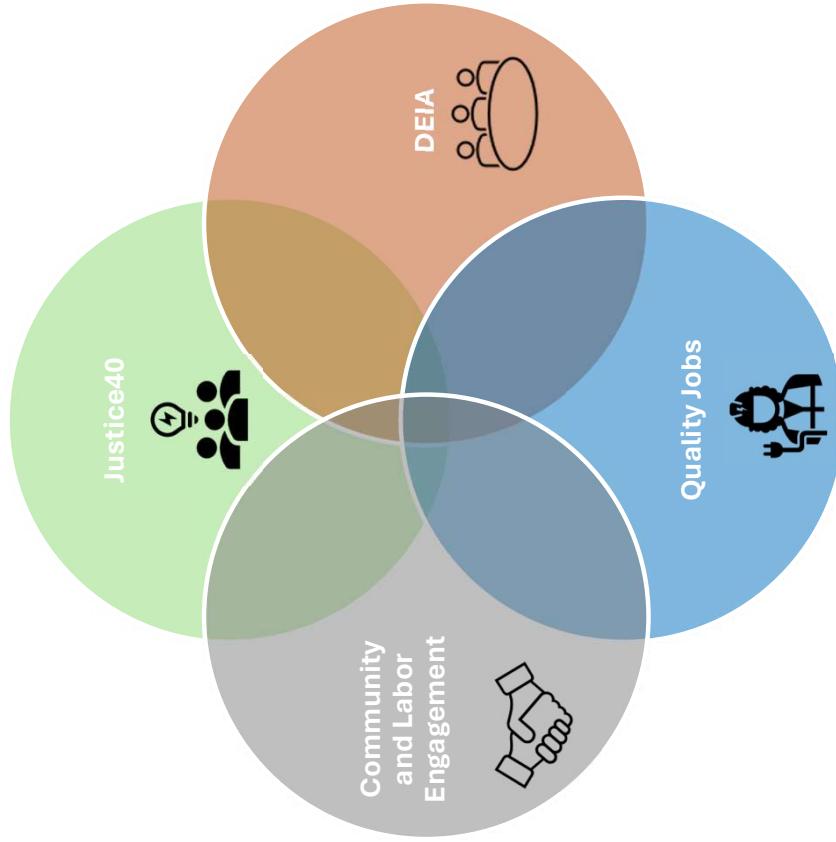
# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



## Community Benefits Plan Overview

# Community Benefits Plan elements

- **Community and Labor Engagement**
  - Meaningful engagement with community and labor partners leading to formal agreements with accountability to affected stakeholders
- **Investing in Quality Jobs**
  - Create good-paying jobs to attract and retain skilled workers and ensure workers have a voice on the job over decisions that affect them
- **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility**
  - Equitable access to wealth-building opportunities (teaming, access to good jobs, business and contracting opportunities, etc.)
- **Justice 40**
  - Meet or exceed the objectives of the Justice40 initiative that 40% of total benefits from certain federal investments accrue to disadvantaged communities (not per project or per FOA)



Courtesy of Kate Gordon



# Community Benefits Plans = Umbrella Term

## VOLUNTARY COMPANY COMMITMENTS

### NEGOTIATED, ENFORCEABLE AGREEMENTS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

- Upper quartile wages (by industry/location/occupation), competitive benefits
- Partnership with workforce training organizations
- Providing wrap-around services like childcare or transportation
- Direct support to community groups
- Forming Community Advisory Boards with established feedback loops

- Community Benefits Agreements
- Collective Bargaining agreements
- Project Labor Agreements
- Community Workforce Agreements
- Tribal Agreements

These are the

GOLD STANDARD for CBPs!

Courtesy of Kate Gordon

## Community Benefits Frameworks Definitions

# Community Benefits Frameworks – Definitions

*Private CBA*: A legally-binding contract between a project developer and a set of community and/or labor stakeholders, setting forth community benefits to be provided if the proposed project moves forward; *i.e.* a “classic” or traditional CBA.

- Compare with *Community Benefits Plan (CBP)*.

*Public CBA*: A legally-binding contract between a project developer and a local public entity, setting forth community benefits to be provided if the proposed project moves forward; *a.k.a. Host Community Agreement, Good Neighbor Agreement*; may be a component of a Development Agreement.

*Project Labor Agreement (PLA)*: A specialized contract concerning construction labor, entered into by the local construction unions and a project developer, public entity, and/or prime contractor.

- A *Community Workforce Agreement (PLA)* is a PLA that contains terms aimed at advancing targeted hiring, contracting, and equity goals.

## Supplemental Background on Rivertown\* and the Proposed Project

\*Rivertown is a fictional community that has been developed for the DOE's Build a Community Benefit Plan activity. The community statistics and resident opinions on the following slides are fictional.

# Rivertown Residents' Perspectives

## Ronny

Ronny is a truck driver who has been a contracted employee of FDC for over 10 years. In recent years, he has felt the impacts of inflation and struggled to provide for his family. Despite his tenure with FDC, he does not have good employee benefits. He is a member of the Long-Haul Trucker's Union and cares deeply that FDC make concrete commitments to its current employees.

## Joseph

Joseph is a local resident who lives next to the highway in Rivertown. As someone who suffers from asthma, Joseph is very invested in improving Rivertown's air quality, and has been bothered by the Food Distribution Center's diesel trucks driving past his apartment every day.

Joseph would like to see any changes in the town's energy infrastructure include requirements to improve air conditions.

## Charlie

Charlie is a Rivertown Fire Marshall. They care deeply about the safety of their city. They have heard some rumblings around town that hydrogen may pose some safety risks and wants safety to be prioritized in the CBP.

## Delia

Delia is a longtime Rivertown resident who is very concerned about the cost of living and energy in her community. As a single parent who works two jobs to support her kids, she wants good jobs and industry but also wants a bright future for her children. She is frustrated by the noise in her neighborhood, which is close to the FDC, and worries that the exhaust from the trucks is hurting her family's health.

# Rivertown is an Environmental Justice Community

## CEJST Statistics

- Top 5% lowest amount of greenspace
- Highest 3% for lack of indoor plumbing
- Highest 2% for proximity to hazardous waste facilities
- Highest 9% for diesel particulate matter exposure
- Highest 12% for wastewater discharge
- Highest 3% for linguistic isolation
- Highest 10% for traffic proximity
- Highest 20% for non-grid connected heating fuel
- Highest 45% for coal employment
- Highest 35% for energy burden

## Economic Statistics

- Median household income: \$30,000
- Median family income: \$64,000

\*\*National Median household income: \$70,000\*\*

- 22% of residents live below the poverty line

# Hydrogen Fueled Food Distribution Center

Rivertown is home to a large food distribution center called the FDC.

The FDC has 130 truck bays and trucks go through the distribution center 24 hours a day.

The FDC provides jobs to the region and is also the source of concern for residents because of the noise pollution and tailpipe emissions from the hundreds of diesel trucks that flow in and out of the center.

It's important to note that, though FDC provides fresh produce to 15 million people across 3 states, Rivertown is a food desert and residents lack access to affordable fresh produce.

A coalition of food distributors at the FDC and We Truck, a developer, are proposing to change the diesel trucks into Hydrogen Fuel cell trucks.



# Why Transition to Fuel Cell Trucks?

Because the only emission from fuel cell trucks is water:

- Reduction in Greenhouse Gas Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) released by 2,232 tons per year
  - This is equivalent to taking 450 passenger cars off the road for one year!
- Reduction in release of harmful pollutant nitrogen oxides (NOx) by 2.6 tons per year.
  - Nitrogen Oxides damage the lungs and respiratory system.
- Reduction in release of Particulate Matter PM2.5 by 40 lbs per year.
  - PM2.5 contributes to asthma and other heart and lung disease as well as impacting child development.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Where does the hydrogen come from?

The hydrogen will be produced via steam methane reforming with carbon capture in a town with a long history of energy plant emissions and environmental injustices.

The hydrogen will be transported to the Rivertown area via compressed gas tube trailers. About 7 tube trucks will need to stock the fuel tanks each day to sustain an average of 50 trucks filling their tanks every day. The proposal assumes other fuel stations will also be built along the trucking routes in the FDC delivery region.

## Where and how will the hydrogen be stored? Is it safe?

It will be stored in 700-bar hydrogen storage tanks at the Food Distribution Center. The tanks have a similar safety profile to gasoline storage at gas stations.

## What will need to get built for this project? Where is it going to go?

In addition to the hydrogen storage tanks, a hydrogen fueling station will need to be constructed at FDC. Station construction will take ~2 years and will cost FDC ~\$2-5 million.

This will create dozens of local jobs throughout construction. Investment in the distribution center also makes it more likely FDC will maintain a large presence in Rivertown.



NATIONAL  
ACADEMIES  
Sciences  
Engineering  
Medicine

Example Hydrogen Storage.  
Source: Dr. Arthur Braun licensed under CC BY SA 4.0

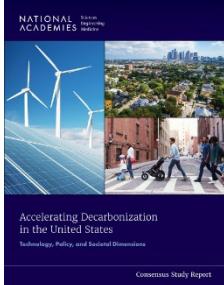
## Fishbowl Conversation Overview

## What is a Fishbowl Conversation?

A Fishbowl Conversation invites all members of the audience to engage in an interactive dialogue with invited speakers. A room will be set up in concentric circles, with the moderator seated and panelists at the center—this will be the fishbowl. **To encourage audience participation, an empty chair will be available. Any member of the audience can occupy the empty chair, and this will prompt an existing member of the fishbowl to free up a chair.** As the discussion continues, willing members of the audience will be able to actively listen to and participate in the conversation at their own comfort.

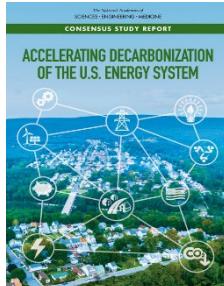


# Activities Completed by the Board on Energy and Environmental Systems (BEES)

ACCELERATING DECARBONIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES: TECHNOLOGY, POLICY, AND SOCIETAL DIMENSIONS**Released October 17, 2023**

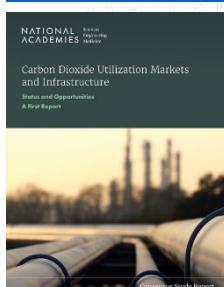
**Sponsors:** Alfred P. Sloan Foundation; Energy Foundation; Gates Ventures; Heising-Simons Foundation; Incite Labs; Quadrivium Foundation; National Academy of Sciences Presidents' Committee

**Scope:** Recent legislation has set the nation on the path to reach its goal of net zero by 2050 in order to avoid the worst consequences of climate change. However, even if implemented as designed, current policy will get the United States only part of the way to its net-zero goal. This report addresses federal and subnational policy needs to overcome implementation barriers and gaps with a focus on energy justice, workforce development, public health, and public engagement. The report also presents a suite of recommendations for the electricity, transportation, built environment, industrial, fossil fuels, land use, and finance sectors.

ACCELERATING DECARBONIZATION OF THE U.S. ENERGY SYSTEM**Released February 2, 2021**

**Sponsors:** Alfred P. Sloan Foundation; ClearPath Foundation; Energy Foundation; Gates Ventures; Heising-Simons Foundation; Incite Labs; Quadrivium Foundation; National Academy of Sciences Presidents' Committee

**Scope:** The world is transforming its energy system from one dominated by fossil fuel combustion to one with net-zero emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), the primary anthropogenic greenhouse gas. This energy transition is critical to mitigating climate change, protecting human health, and revitalizing the U.S. economy. The report presents a policy blueprint outlining critical near-term actions for the first decade (2021-2030) of this 30-year effort, including ways to support communities that will be most impacted by the transition.

CARBON UTILIZATION INFRASTRUCTURE, MARKETS, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**First Report Released December 1, 2022****Second Report anticipated to be released in 2024**

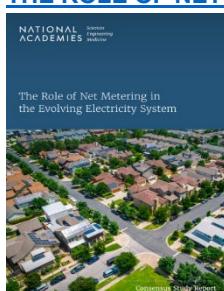
**Sponsor:** Department of Energy

**Scope:** Carbon materials pervade many aspects of modern life, from fuels and building materials to consumer goods and commodity chemicals. Reaching net-zero emissions will require replacing existing fossil-carbon-based systems with circular-carbon economies that transform wastes like CO<sub>2</sub> into useful materials. This report evaluates market opportunities and infrastructure needs to help decision makers better understand how carbon dioxide utilization can contribute to a net-zero emissions future.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR NEW AND ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTORS IN THE UNITED STATES**Released April 27, 2023**

**Sponsors:** Department of Energy; Private, non-profit donation

**Scope:** Next-generation nuclear reactors have the potential to be smaller, safer, less expensive to build, and better integrated with the modern grid. However, the technical, economic, and regulatory outlook for these technologies remains uncertain. This study assessed the future of new and advanced nuclear reactor technologies and identify the opportunities and barriers to commercialization.

THE ROLE OF NET METERING IN THE EVOLVING ELECTRICITY SYSTEM**Released May 11, 2023**

**Sponsor:** Department of Energy

**Scope:** Net metering is a billing mechanism reshaping the relationship between electricity customers and utilities. This Congressionally-mandated study for the Department of Energy examined net metering in the context of alternative transactional mechanisms and incentives, and evaluate its potential to contribute to a decarbonizing, equitable, and resilient electricity system.

# Activities Completed by the Policy and Governmental Affairs (PGA)

## Policy and Governmental Affairs

### Recent Activities

#### CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TOWARD A JUST TRANSITION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL ACADEMIES  
Consensus Study Report  
Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief

Challenges and Opportunities Toward a  
Just Transition and Sustainable Development  
Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief



Released December 14, 2023

**Scope:** The concept of a just transition is increasingly recognized as a key element of sustainable development and the transformation of low-carbon economies and societies. Challenges to achieve a just transition include limited data availability and stakeholder engagement, issues of inequality, lack of regulations, and limited financial resources. To explore how to address these challenges, the Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability, the Board on Energy and Environmental Systems, and the Board on Science Education at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine jointly convened a public workshop on July 24, 2023. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussion of the workshop.

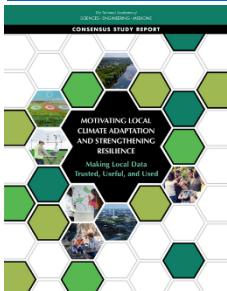
#### EQUITABLE AND RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS



Released July 21, 2022

**Scope:** Communities across the United States are subject to ever-increasing human suffering and financial impacts of disasters caused by extreme weather events and other natural hazards amplified in frequency and intensity by climate change. At the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Resilient America Program of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened the Committee on Applied Research Topics for Hazard Mitigation and Resilience to assist the FEMA in reducing the immense human and financial toll of disasters caused by natural hazards and other large-scale emergencies. This report explores equitable and infrastructure investments for natural hazard mitigation and resilience, focusing on: partnerships for equitable infrastructure development; systemic change toward resilient and equitable infrastructure investment; and innovations in finance and financial analysis.

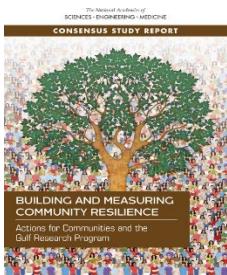
#### MOTIVATING LOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE



Released August 20, 2021

**Scope:** Local communities are already experiencing dire effects caused by climate change that are expected to increase in frequency, intensity, duration, and type. Public concern about climate-related challenges is increasing, available information and resources on climate risks are expanding, and cities across the country and the globe are developing approaches to and experience with measures for mitigating climate impacts. Building and sustaining local capacities for climate resilience requires both resilient physical and social infrastructure systems and inclusive, resilient communities. At the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Motivating Local Climate Adaptation and Strengthening Resilience provides guidance for active and ongoing efforts to move science and data into action and to enable and empower applied research that will strengthen capacities for hazard mitigation and resilience in communities, across the nation, and around the world.

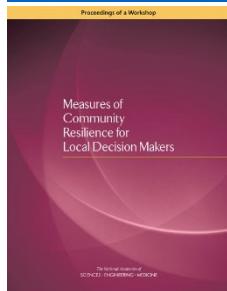
#### BUILDING AND MEASURING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



Released March 20, 2019

**Scope:** The frequency and severity of disasters over the last few decades have presented unprecedented challenges for communities across the United States. In many ways, the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 was a turning point for understanding and managing disasters, as well as related plan making and policy formulation. It brought the phrase "community resilience" into the lexicon of disaster management. This report summarizes the existing portfolio of relevant or related resilience measurement efforts and notes gaps and challenges associated with them. It describes how some communities build and measure resilience and offers four key actions that communities could take to build and measure their resilience in order to address gaps identified in current community resilience measurement efforts.

#### MEASURES OF COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FOR LOCAL DECISION MAKERS



Released March 20, 2017

**Scope:** Although many kinds of resilience measures and measuring tools have and continue to be developed, very few communities consistently use them as part of their planning or resilience building efforts. A major challenge for many communities in developing their own approaches to resilience measures is identifying a starting point and defining the process. Building on existing work, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine organized a workshop in July 2015 to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and information about ways to advance the development and implementation of resilience measures by and within diverse communities. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.

# Summary of Active Events and Studies for BEES and PGA

## Summary of Active Events and Studies

Activity Title	Short Description	Status
Health in Buildings Roundtable/Federal Facilities Council – Clean Air as a Public Health Strategy: What are the Priorities?	<p>The Health in Buildings Roundtable focuses on issues, research, and best practices pertaining to engineered health-enhancing strategies and technologies and their deployment in the planning, design, and management of buildings and the built environment. On <b>May 21, 2024</b>, join the National Academies for an interactive session with plenty of opportunities for dialogue and discussion amongst building owners, academic experts, and building certification system owners.</p>	Registration Open
Philanthropy and Basic Research: Partnerships and New Pathways for Sustainable Funding	<p>On <b>June 4, 2024</b>, the Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable will convene a webinar to discuss the increasing importance of philanthropy as a sustainable funding source and a central component to the advancement of basic research. During this webinar, France A. Córdova, President of the Science Philanthropy Alliance, will provide a short overview of the <i>Science Philanthropy Indicators Report</i>, with special attention to philanthropy's evolving role in funding basic research. Following the presentation, Dr. Córdova will moderate a discussion with expert panelists Tom Skalak, Senior Advisor to the Joe and Clara Tsai Foundation, and Shirley Tilghman, President Emerita and Professor of Molecular Biology and Public Affairs at Princeton University, to discuss topics relating to the advantages and challenges of philanthropic partnerships in research. Topics will include scaling funding through partnerships, accelerating high-risk research, developing new funding models, and the capacity for more engagement from philanthropic sources.</p>	Registration Open
Electricity System Operability and Reliability under Increasing Complexity: A Workshop	<p>A critical and emerging topic for the U.S. electricity system is how to maintain and improve the operational integrity of the grid while it integrates an increasing number of complex, distributed elements. On <b>June 17-18, 2024</b>, join the National Academies for a workshop that will explore how to maintain and enhance the reliability of the U.S. electricity system under increasingly complex operating conditions. This event will bring together leaders from government, industry, academia, and nongovernmental organizations to consider how to improve the operational integrity of the United States' electricity grid while incorporating new technologies and distributed elements.</p>	Registration Open
State of Science Address	On <b>June 26, 2024</b> , join the National Academy of Sciences' President, Dr. Marcia	Registration Open

<p>McNutt in exploring the health of the U.S. scientific enterprise and its ability to compete globally and contribute to the nation's economy, security, public health, and quality of life. Dr. McNutt's speech will be followed by a panel discussion.</p>	<p>The global community is in a crucial window for addressing the many threats climate change poses to the planet and society. To meet these challenges, the nation and the world must harness the full knowledge and skills across science, engineering, and medicine. On <b>July 16-17, 2024</b>, the National Academies will bring together leaders spanning the breadth of expertise for a vibrant discussion about how to catalyze equitable action among a diverse range of stakeholders and decision makers.</p>	<p>The interplay between decarbonization strategies and the macroeconomy plays a crucial role in informing equitable and effective public policy. On <b>September 12-13, 2024</b>, join the National Academies for a workshop exploring the macroeconomic and socioeconomic implications of decarbonization strategies, and the role of the macroeconomy in achieving policy goals.</p> <p><b>Studies</b></p> <p><b>Evaluation of ARPA-E's Mission and Goals</b></p> <p>The Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) was established in 2009 to address barriers to the development of transformational science and technology solutions for energy and environmental challenges, with goals of increasing U.S. energy and economic security and ensuring U.S. leadership in advanced energy technologies. As requested in the Energy Act of 2020, this study will evaluate how well ARPA-E is achieving its mission and goals by analyzing its operations and assessing the impacts of its programs. This will be the second National Academies review of ARPA-E, following the first review that was published in 2017.</p> <p><b>Carbon Utilization Infrastructure, Markets, Research and Development</b></p> <p>Carbon materials pervade many aspects of modern life, from fuels and building materials to consumer goods and commodity chemicals. Reaching net-zero emissions will require replacing existing fossil-carbon-based systems with circular-carbon economies that transform wastes like CO<sub>2</sub> into useful materials. As requested in the Energy Act of 2020, this study will explore regional and national market opportunities as well as infrastructure and research needs to help decisionmakers better understand how carbon utilization can contribute to the nation's decarbonization effort.</p>
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