



# EESI IMPACT

Environmental and Energy Study Institute



April 2023

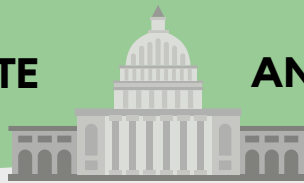
YOU are critical to achieving a sustainable, resilient, and equitable world!

## BIPARTISAN OUTREACH THAT YOU HAVE MADE POSSIBLE

Number of Congressional offices\* that EESI has met with thus far in 2023...

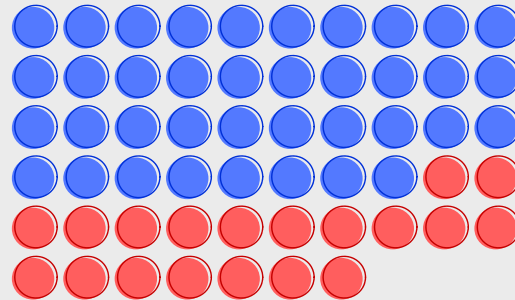
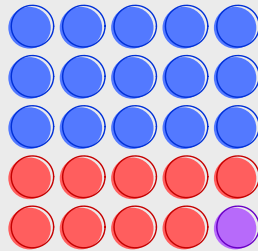
IN THE SENATE

(25)



AND THE HOUSE

(57)



\*PLUS SEVERAL COMMITTEES!

## FEDERAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM WILL HELP NONPROFITS



When Congress passed the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and *Inflation Reduction Act*, agencies across the federal government began the enormous task of **rapidly and equitably implementing the new laws**. Many new climate investments—especially home efficiency and electrification rebates—need coordination with state and local governments. **You have made possible extensive coverage of the implementation efforts so far, but there is so much more to do.**

One small but mighty program is the “**Energy Efficiency Materials Pilot Program**.” This program provides \$50 million to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to make **grants to nonprofits for cost-effective energy efficiency investments**.

**Every dollar saved by reducing energy waste can be reinvested in advancing a nonprofit’s core mission.** The grant program has real potential to **advance environmental justice goals** and ensure benefits reach disadvantaged communities.

EESI is working with partners at DOE and ENERGY STAR® to reach thousands of nonprofit sector stakeholders to share the good news of the grant program and help them prepare for the grant opportunity. **You have helped document the multiple benefits of energy efficiency for nonprofits** in an extensive article series that includes case studies from Connecticut, Indiana (see back page), and Maryland.

## UP NEXT, IMPLEMENTING THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

Frankly, the headlines about the new Congress so far have not exactly inspired confidence in its ability to take further actions on climate.

**What do you think about the goings-on in Washington?** Let me know at [dbresette@eesi.org](mailto:dbresette@eesi.org).

One way or another, Congress still has work to do: appropriations, oversight of the **historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law** and **Inflation Reduction Act**, and, of course, the **Farm Bill**. You are helping equip policymakers with the nonpartisan, science-based information we know they need—and this is important—before they even know they need it.

**We have met with Congressional staff in more than 80 offices across the political spectrum.** We are not bringing them any “asks” to consider. Our goals are just to (re)introduce ourselves, share an overview of our upcoming briefings, and hear feedback about information gaps they need addressed.

We are making many new friends, getting lots of ideas, and **finding an impressively receptive audience** for our resources.

The Farm Bill has been a major topic of our discussions. I do not have a crystal ball, but I sense real—if tempered—**optimism about the potential for the two parties to work together.**

**Thanks for making possible a wide range of Farm Bill educational resources.** These materials are proving to be a big hit with Congressional staff in Republican and Democratic offices, especially those newer to climate and agriculture issues.

**As we approach Earth Day, thanks for your continued commitment to climate solutions.** You are essential in the crucial work to create a sustainable, resilient, and equitable world, no matter who controls Congress.



Daniel Bresette,  
President

## INTERN SPOTLIGHT SHREYA AGRAWAL



"I'm so grateful to have been able to intern at EESI! I was given the opportunity to sharpen my research and writing skills, leading to the publication of multiple articles and fact sheets. Working in a DC-based environmental nonprofit allowed me to better understand environmental policy on a local, federal, and international scale. The EESI community welcomed me with open arms and supported me throughout my internship."



**abishiva246**

General  
Member of the  
Public  
01/16/2023



Not only is EESI an incredibly impactful nonprofit that produces meaningful work, but it is also well-known for its warm and welcoming company culture. Definitely a leader in the environmental field!

Share this review:

### RATE EESI ON GREAT NONPROFITS!

## WHAT WE ACHIEVE TOGETHER



Clean, decarbonized energy—  
affordable and accessible for all



Resilient, healthy, just communities  
ready for climate change impacts



Informed decisionmakers motivated  
and equipped to act now



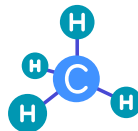
## IN FOCUS: FARM BILL

Congress is gearing up to renew U.S. agriculture and nutrition programs in legislation known as the "Farm Bill" as early as later this year. You are helping EESI provide resources to Congressional staff to aid them in identifying climate, environmental, and clean energy opportunities across the massive bill. This includes **forestry, conservation, rural development, research and development, and energy efficiency**. Our Farm Bill resources ([eesi.org/2023-farm-bill](https://eesi.org/2023-farm-bill)) include articles, hearing trackers, and a briefing series happening now. Soon, we will release side-by-side comparisons of the House and Senate versions of key environmental provisions for the new Farm Bill.

One of our briefings will focus on mitigation and adaptation "win-wins," like **agroforestry, cover crops, and no-till farming**. Many other agricultural practices that we might call "sustainable" today actually date back generations, and often to Indigenous farmers. Critically for the prospects of Farm Bill passage, **many proposals to help advance agricultural climate solutions have strong bipartisan support**.



## IN THE KNOW: METHANE



### WHAT IS IT?

Methane is the second-most abundant greenhouse gas, accounting for about **20% of global emissions**. It is also a **prime ingredient in ground-level ozone, or smog**.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Over a 20-year period, methane is 80 times more potent at warming the planet than carbon. **Cutting methane emissions now provides fast climate benefits**. It also helps us reach the crucial target of **limiting warming to 1.5° C**.

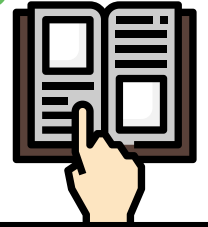
### HOW CAN FEDERAL POLICY HELP?

In the agricultural sector, most methane emissions come from livestock and manure management systems. **Programs in the upcoming Farm Bill can provide assistance to farmers implementing sustainable agricultural practices** that reduce these emissions, such as rotational livestock grazing.

## WHAT YOU ARE MAKING POSSIBLE

### MARCH

Our **Sustainable Energy in America Factbook** briefing explored the status of the clean energy transformation



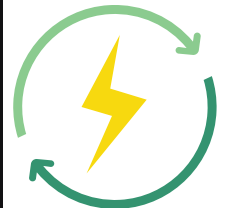
### APRIL

*The Climate Conversation* podcast features an **episode on the Supreme Court**, with an **environmental justice focus**



### APRIL

EESI is hosting briefings on federal **energy efficiency, renewable energy, and nuclear energy** programs



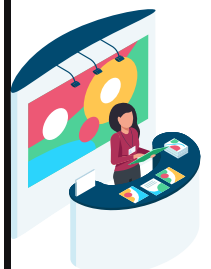
### MAY

Next steps on **helping nonprofits benefit from energy efficiency**



### JULY

The annual **Congressional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency EXPO and Policy Forum** will be back with in-person exhibits and panels!







# EESI HAS GONE PLATINUM

The operational transparency you have come to expect from EESI has led to the **highest level of recognition** from Candid (formerly Guidestar) for the **3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row!**

Platinum  
Transparency  
2023

**Candid.**

## CHECKLIST: MAKE EARTH DAY EVERY DAY

Use reusable shopping bags



Use mass transit



Give for progress on climate solutions



[eesi.org/donate](https://eesi.org/donate)

"We do sustainability work by installing solar panels, weatherizing homes, growing fresh produce, and investing in the community. But we want to do so much more."

**Pastor Curtis Whittaker**  
Progressive Community Church  
Gary, Indiana

Profiled in a nonprofit energy efficiency case study powered by you!



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