



EESI IMPACT

Environmental and Energy Study Institute



November 2023

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

REPORTING ON THE PROGRESS OF HISTORIC CLIMATE LEGISLATION

EESI is tracking the status of implementation of the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (IIJA) and the *Inflation Reduction Act* (IRA) on multiple fronts by:

- Highlighting major implementation updates in a special section of our bi-weekly newsletter, *Climate Change Solutions*. Go to eesi.org/signup to subscribe!
- Hosting “Progress Report” briefings focused on keeping our Congressional audience up-to-date on the latest IIJA and IRA progress by agencies and states. >>



EESI’s new Progress Report briefing series kicked off September 28 with a look at a dozen IRA tax incentives for individuals, businesses, and nonprofits.

SETTING THE PACE FOR A NEW ERA OF CLEAN ENERGY IN RURAL AMERICA

Thanks to \$11 billion in funding for rural clean energy allocated by the ***Inflation Reduction Act***, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently launched two new programs to **advance clean energy and boost resilience** in rural America: Powering Affordable Clean Energy (**PACE**) and Empowering Rural America (**New ERA**).

PACE offers **forgivable loans** for up to 60 percent of costs for renewable energy projects that use **solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal, biomass, or renewable-based energy storage**. **New ERA**, the largest investment in rural clean energy since the *Rural Electrification Act of 1936*, is a \$9.7 billion fund for the Rural Utilities Service to support the purchase of **renewable energy systems, zero-emission systems, microgrids, and carbon capture systems**.

EESI and our partners at the Beneficial Electrification League have been providing assistance to eligible entities—including rural electric cooperatives for **New ERA** and a broader selection of electricity-generating applicants for **PACE**—throughout the application process to **promote equity and inclusion in the transition to a clean energy economy**. USDA reports that demand for both programs is **astronomical**.



EESI’s **Beneficial Electrification Toolkit** (www.BEtoolkit.org), which we continually update to remain a useful resource, provides rural utilities with **PACE, New ERA, and other critical program guidance**.



LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING AHEAD ON CLIMATE

On September 29, 1983, EESI's first board of directors convened in Washington, D.C., to set the organization's agenda. In a press release at the time, EESI's chair, Rep. Richard L. "Dick" Ottinger, said, **"We all want to return to the kind of informed, non-partisan debate that has produced a remarkable degree of consensus on protecting the environment."**

Here we are 40 years later, and that sentiment still drives everything we do here at EESI. **And you make it all possible!**

Turning 40 is a pretty big deal (unfortunately, I would know—but just barely 😊). But EESI is definitely not "over the hill." The opposite is true. **Thanks to you, we are fully charged up and ready to meet the climate challenge.**

We will take time over the next year to reflect on our first 40 years. But the climate crisis is already here, and **the worst outcomes are yet to come if we fail to act.** So the occasion will be very much about preparing for the future.

As we look ahead, I hope you will continue to partner with EESI to advance climate change solutions. Together we can **raise awareness about the resilience challenges facing communities.** Together we can **find new ways to accelerate clean energy deployment at scale, especially in rural areas.** And that includes beneficial electrification. And together, through paid internships and scholarships, we can **inspire young leaders to find their voice advancing equitable solutions.**

Thanks for your partnership.



Daniel Bresette,
President

INTERN(S) SPOTLIGHT



EESI's first completely in-person intern cohort in three years, our summer 2023 group—Mariko, Parthav, Georgia, and Sydney—developed an especially strong bond.

PARTHAV EASWAR

Political Science and Environmental Science Major
American University student from Oregon



“The **professional development component of the internship** has been really useful to me as I've refined my resume. I am also looking forward to applying my strengthened understanding of Congress and the legislative process in future roles.



I met Senator Jeff Merkley during the EXPO, which was really cool since **he's one of my senators!**



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: CLIMATE JOBS

- Many millions of workers are already making the transition to a decarbonized, clean energy economy. Recent historic climate investments will ensure that many more will find new opportunities in energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transportation, and climate resilience and adaptation.
EESI highlights climate jobs at every opportunity. The 2023 Congressional Clean Energy EXPO featured a panel with climate job leaders from the Department of Energy, BlueGreen Alliance, Clean Energy Business Network, and Solar Energy Industries Association.
And check out our recent podcast episodes, "Building Up Adaptation Jobs to Rise to the Climate Challenge" and "Powering Up the Electrification Workforce for an Equitable Clean Energy Future." Go to eesi.org/podcast.
The latest update to our Climate Jobs fact sheet will be out soon. Subscribe to Climate Change Solutions at eesi.org/signup to make sure you never miss our nonpartisan, science-based resources.



WHAT YOU ARE MAKING POSSIBLE

OCTOBER

Applications accepted for the Future Climate Leaders Scholarship, funding students of color studying climate change



DECEMBER

EESI will publish the 11th version of our Climate Jobs fact sheet, showcasing job creation in clean energy, sustainable transportation, and climate adaptation



2024

Commemorating 40 years of accomplishments and getting ready for 40 more!



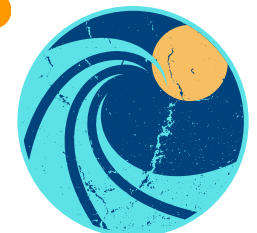
JANUARY

Fifth National Climate Assessment briefing about the latest science and outlook for action



FEBRUARY

All-new resources about ocean carbon dioxide removal and other innovative climate solutions



IN THE KNOW CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE



WHAT IS IT?

Preparing for, managing, and recovering from the climate impacts that cannot be avoided.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Resilient communities are essential to save lives and avoid costly and disruptive damage to buildings and other infrastructure that hurts frontline communities first and worst.

HOW CAN FEDERAL POLICY HELP?

State and local governments have developed climate adaptation plans. But without a coherent national strategy, states and local governments will be on their own. The Biden-Harris Administration recently released the first-ever National Climate Resilience Framework. This is an important step forward that will better equip agencies to deal with climate hazards and keep people safe.

A+

EESI has earned 99 out of 100 points from Charity Navigator!
So you know you can trust us :)



EESI is a key resource for the U.S. Congress, and the public. Their briefings on Capitol Hill inform all levels in the Congress--from Members and Senators to staff members. And their newsletter is an important resource for the public. EESI focuses on major sustainability and environmental issues, problems, solutions and legislation, and is tremendously valued by Congress and the public.



wendallandsue

Review on GreatNonprofits



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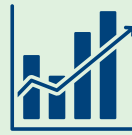
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*YOU are needed to advance
urgently-needed climate solutions!*

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