

# Briefing Notice

## **Energy Efficiency Jobs Are Green Jobs Report Shows Employment Potential of Weatherizing Affordable Housing**

**Wednesday, July 31, 2019**

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

*Lunch will be served*

**Room 2168 Rayburn House Office Building (“Gold Room”)**

Please RSVP to expedite check-in: [www.eesi.org/073119jobs#rsvp](http://www.eesi.org/073119jobs#rsvp)

Live webcast (connection permitting) will be streamed at: [www.eesi.org/livecast](http://www.eesi.org/livecast)

**Energy Efficiency for All (EEFA)** and the **Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI)** invite you to a briefing about an upcoming EEFA report, *Job Potential in Retrofitting Affordable Multifamily Housing*, which will be previewed at the briefing. The report shows a large untapped job creation potential in the residential retrofit market, particularly for efficiency upgrades to affordable housing. To unlock this potential, however, the disparities in access to those energy efficiency jobs must be addressed.

Energy efficiency improvements are the largest source of clean energy jobs in the United States and a major driver of the economy. Retrofit projects also reduce emissions that pollute our air and overheat our planet, while making homes more comfortable and more affordable through lower utility bills. Indeed, energy efficiency is the cheapest, fastest and simplest way to address energy and environmental goals while providing additional benefits to society and the economy. EEFA's multi-state analysis shows the distribution of existing energy efficiency jobs across 12 states and their 15 largest metro areas, as well as the employment potential of the sector. Speakers for this forum will be:

- **John Marshall**, Senior Policy Advisor, Rep. Bobby L. Rush (D-IL)
- **Khalil Shahyd**, EEFA Program Manager and Senior Policy Advocate, Natural Resources Defense Council
- **Phil Miller**, Director of Operations, Rising Sun Center For Opportunity
- **Donele Wilkins**, President / CEO, Green Door Initiative
- **Lauren Asplen**, Director, Healthy Sustainability Program, BlueGreen Alliance

As many as 2.25 million Americans work in energy efficiency, and more jobs are in the pipeline. Demand for home energy efficiency upgrades and more skilled workers is projected to increase, given the huge inventory of existing homes built to outdated energy codes, the rising cost of housing, and a greater understanding of the multiple benefits of energy efficiency. Importantly, new programs for financing energy upgrades and training workers can help meet this demand.

While the jobs potential of retrofitting residential buildings is great, more needs to be done to ensure equitable access to these jobs. EEFA's research shows that disparities in access to the higher income jobs in the efficiency sector are common along racial/ethnic, gender, geographic and educational lines. This new report offers policy solutions and best practices for addressing these disparities and recommends more investment and job creation services in the sector overall. Developing a more diverse and well-trained workforce to deliver energy efficiency services at good wages will benefit the entire nation.

**This event is free and open to the public.**

**For more information, contact Ellen Vaughan at [evaughan@eesi.org](mailto:evaughan@eesi.org) or (202) 662-1893.**

