

One of 10 "Charities Worth Watching" according to Charity Navigator!



# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



EESI was recognized as a  
**Four Star Charity**  
for the ninth time  
by Charity Navigator,  
with a perfect score!



# EESI

Environmental and  
Energy Study Institute

Ideas. Insights. Sustainable Solutions



The year 2017 was a time of great uncertainty on the policy front. The dramatic budget cuts and relentless regulatory rollbacks proposed by the Trump Administration on energy and environmental issues have brought more attention to federal action, the role of Congress, and, by extension, to EESI's work. It is more than ever abundantly clear that there is a **great need for strong education and advocacy at the federal level.**

Policymakers need credible information that they can trust. EESI worked with many allied organizations on group letters, held briefings to showcase the issues at stake and what kinds of impacts the administration proposals would have, and talked to Congressional staffers to help inform Congress. Congress took note and pushed back against the Administration's budget proposals. Clearly, **EESI's educational and advocacy work at the federal level is more important than ever.** We must be ever vigilant, but where there are opportunities for positive change, we are pushing that change forward.

In addition to our work at the federal level, **we are providing more and more technical assistance at the local level.** The two are inextricably linked: real world examples of win-win sustainable solutions pave the way for better national policy and more resilient communities. With our **on-bill financing initiative**, we are working with rural electric co-ops and municipal utilities to help foster **affordable energy efficiency retrofits, community renewables, and low-carbon electrification**, thereby lowering emissions and saving households money.

All of our results in 2017 were possible only because of your commitment. **Thank you so much for your support!**

*Carol Werner*

Carol Werner, Executive Director

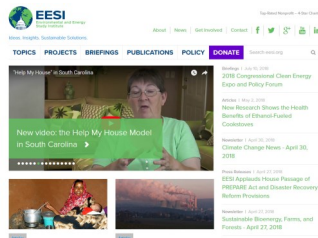
## EESI BY THE NUMBERS (2017)

19,572 email subscribers



- Climate Change News
- Sustainable Bioenergy, Farms, and Forests
- Briefing notices
- Fact sheets
- EESI Update

280,844 website visitors



291,871 cumulative YouTube views



15 Congressional Forums  
180 Offices attended briefings  
3,342 people attended EESI events, in person or online.



87% of survey respondents say they share briefing information with others.

## About EESI

The Environmental and Energy Study Institute is an independent, non-profit organization advancing innovative policy solutions to set us on a cleaner, more secure and sustainable energy path. EESI receives no Congressional funding and is supported by generous donors and grants.



Environmental and Energy Study Institute  
1020 19th Street, NW, Suite 650  
Washington, DC 20036-6119

Phone: (202) 628-1400  
eesi@eesi.org

www.eesi.org  
eesionline



EESI's annual reports are available to the public on our website, at [www.eesi.org/annual\\_reports](http://www.eesi.org/annual_reports). EESI is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. EIN: 52-1268030



# Accomplishments: Top 10 in 2017

1

**Emphasized the national security impacts of climate change.**

© U.S. Army, Rashawn D. Price



Rising sea levels and extreme weather caused by climate change are already affecting America's national security. Without action, things will only get worse. EESI called attention to these threats with our issue brief and June briefing on the **national security implications of climate change**. Our best attended briefing of the year, it was attended by more than 175 people and broadcast live by C-SPAN. **Our efforts contributed to the adoption of a climate provision in the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act**. The provision calls climate change a “direct threat” to national security and directs the Pentagon to identify and report on its most vulnerable bases.

2

**Warned about the devastating impacts of the Administration’s budget proposal on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and climate action.**

In April 2017, EESI published a summary and analysis of the **sustainable energy, building, transportation, and climate implications** of the Trump administration's proposed budget for fiscal year 2018. Our congressional engagement shored up support for endangered programs related to clean energy and climate, helping preserve them from the chopping block. **Defense of federally-funded sustainable energy and climate programs is an EESI priority** and we frequently make the case for the benefits these programs bring to communities across the country. In 2018, we are once again **engaging on the budget and appropriations processes as they play out in Congress**.



3

**Held a briefing series on making U.S. communities more resilient.**



EESI held a Congressional briefing series about making our communities more resilient: 2017’s hurricanes and wildfires made it the costliest year on record for U.S. natural disaster damage. Our “**Building Resilient and Secure Infrastructure**” series examined 1) **how cities can become more resilient to extreme weather**, 2) **the critical federal-state-private sector partnership that underpins our emergency preparedness**; and 3) **how we can best invest in our infrastructure for the long-term**. We have continued this briefing series on resilience in 2018, with a look at coastal communities that are especially vulnerable to extreme weather.

4

**Earned a perfect score from Charity Navigator and was also #1 on Charity Navigator's "Charities Worth Watching" Top Ten list!**



In March 2017, Charity Navigator, America’s leading nonprofit evaluator, **awarded EESI its highest designation as a Four Star Charity for the ninth time!** In addition, we earned—for the first time ever—*100 out of the 100 points possible in both categories* considered by Charity Navigator: financial health, and accountability and transparency. According to Charity Navigator, **only about 1.8 percent of the organizations rated Four Star Charities have achieved a perfect score as EESI has!** We were also #1 on Charity Navigator's list of ten "Charities Worth Watching!" Charity Navigator noted that "many of America's most effective charities are also household names. But some well-known charities are less effective than you'd think, **while a number of lesser known charities are truly exceptional.**"

5

### Gained media coverage to help get the word out on sustainable energy.

Spreading information far and wide is an important part of our mission. In 2017, EESI earned a lot of positive media coverage, which helped get the word out. One of our policy associates was interviewed by three television networks: ABC, BBC, and CNBC. Arizona PBS covered one of our briefings, and C-Span broadcast two of them live. Our executive director was interviewed by Bloomberg's Bureau of National Affairs and by *The Atlantic*. All of our briefings are livecast, greatly expanding our reach.



6

### Implemented more clean energy opportunities for rural communities, and launched work on a beneficial electrification initiative.

EESI has supported the development or enhancement of on-bill financing programs in eight states (AK, CO, HI, MN, MO, NC, SC, and TN). These programs offer rural electric co-op members and other utility customers the ability to more easily finance energy improvements that save them money. We also are working with utilities to help their customers switch to electricity and away from fossil fuels to more efficiently heat their homes and power their vehicles.

7

### Showcased two key options to reduce U.S. carbon emissions from the transportation sector: high-octane biofuels and electric vehicles.

Courtesy Steve Jurvetson / Mario R. Duran Ortiz



The transportation sector is now the largest source of carbon emissions in the United States. EESI held a Hill briefing examining how high-octane, low-carbon renewable biofuels can lower vehicle emissions as we transition to electric vehicles. We also published a fact sheet on plug-in electric vehicles: they make up just over one percent of all vehicle sales in the United States—that’s not a lot, but there is a clear upward trend!

8

### Prepared sustainability recommendations for the 2018 Farm Bill.

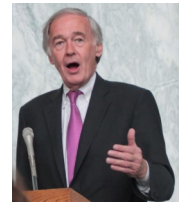
Lawmakers are preparing the next Farm Bill (the current one expires in September), which funds critical conservation programs, provides financing for rural clean energy initiatives, and establishes a framework for the renewable bioenergy industry—an important source of revenue and jobs for agricultural communities. EESI analyzed existing Farm Bill programs and provided our analysis and recommendations to Congressional offices.



9

### Celebrated the 20th Congressional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency EXPO, attracting more than 750 attendees.

EESI has helped organize every Congressional Clean Energy EXPO since its scrappy beginnings in 1997. Every year, the EXPO creates more impetus for federal action on sustainable energy. In 2017, Sen. Edward J. Markey (D-MA, pictured), Rep. Ryan Costello (R-PA), and Rep. Paul D. Tonko (D-NY) gave rousing remarks in support of renewable energy and energy efficiency.



10

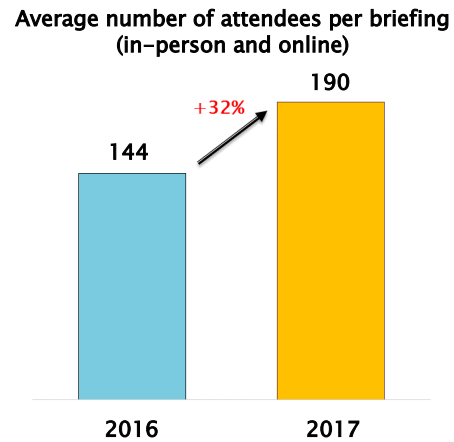
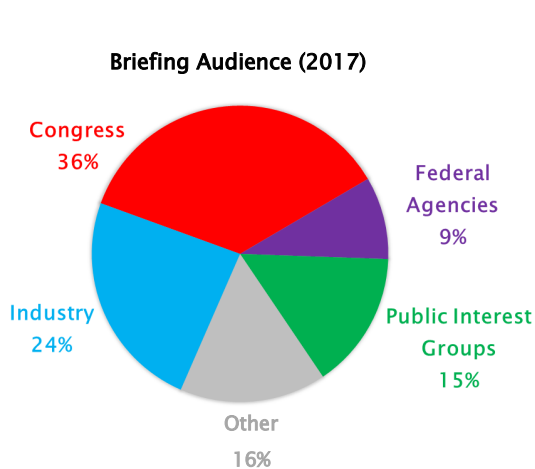
### Emphasized the effectiveness of energy efficiency standards.

Federal efficiency standards reduced our national energy bill by about \$80 billion in 2015, equivalent to the electricity needs of nearly a third of U.S. households. At a time when the Trump Administration proposed slashing funding for energy codes and appliance standards, EESI published an in-depth fact sheet, *Energy Efficiency Standards for Appliances, Lighting and Equipment*, noting the regulatory standards currently in place, and showing their value.



# Congressional Briefings

**WE BRING EXPERTS** from government, industry, academia, and civil society to Capitol Hill for Congressional briefings. EESI briefings spur bipartisan discussions on cutting-edge research and analysis, success stories, and lessons learned. Briefing videos are livecast and posted on YouTube. Watch them and sign up for our notices at [www.eesi.org/briefings](http://www.eesi.org/briefings). Please let your colleagues and friends know!



## February

- 2017 Sustainable Energy in America Factbook
- Electric Transmission Infrastructure 101

## March

- Can the United States Achieve a Low Carbon Economy by 2050?
- The Economic Returns of a National Transportation Infrastructure Initiative

## April

- How Foreign Climate Aid Benefits the United States



## May

- Investing in U.S. Infrastructure for Maximum Dividends
- Energy Emergency Preparedness: A Critical Federal-State-Private Sector Partnership
- Powering Businesses, Homes and Vehicles with Waste
- WIRES University Graduate School – Electric Transmission Infrastructure

## June

- The National Security Implications of Climate Change
- Protecting America’s Water Amid Growing Threats



## July

- 20th Annual Congressional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency EXPO and Policy Forum

## September

- How Can Cities Become More Resilient to Extreme Weather?

## November

- Can Fuel Efficiency Standards Be Met Cost-Effectively?

## December

- What Came Out of the Latest Global Climate Talks?



**Thank you so much!  
You make it possible.**

## GRANTORS

GOOGLE.ORG (IN KIND)  
THE GEORGE GUND FOUNDATION  
HENRY M JACKSON FOUNDATION  
THE JPB FOUNDATION

MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION  
MERCK FAMILY FUND  
NEW YORK COMMUNITY TRUST (NYCT)  
THE OTTINGER FOUNDATION

POET  
DAVID ROCKEFELLER FUND  
SALESFORCE FOUNDATION (IN KIND)

*Grants awarded in 2017 and through May 2018*

## DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE (\$5,000+ per year)

Members of the Director's Circle have made a substantial commitment to EESI by providing \$5,000 or more in general support. EESI is deeply grateful for everyone in the Director's Circle! [You can join the Director's Circle today.](#)

ANONYMOUS  
ASSAD, MICHAEL  
CERES CHARITABLE FOUNDATION  
CONKLIN, GABRIELLE  
DEVLAL, VIKAL (IN-KIND)

HAVEN, PAUL (IN-KIND)  
FIDELITY CHARITABLE GIFT FUND  
ALANNA AND KYLE HULBURD AND FAMILY  
MARTIN, ANNE

PB & K FAMILY FOUNDATION  
RAWAL, SATENDER (IN-KIND)  
SANT, ROGER & VICKI  
WHITNEY, RICHARD AND KAREN

*Donations received in 2017 and through May 2018*

## EESI ASSOCIATES (\$1,000 - \$4,999 per year)

EESI Associates have made a significant commitment to advancing clean energy policy by providing \$1,000 to \$4,999 in general support. EESI is very grateful to all of our Associates! We also thank the many donors who give other amounts, whether by mail, online, or through workplace giving. Our work depends on you! [Please give again today!](#)

ALLETE/Minnesota Power  
Adams, Annette and Jeff  
Adhikari, Emily  
Anonymous  
Arora, Akankshi and Sartaj  
Beltz, Karen  
Bierbaum, Rosina  
Birnbaum, Steven  
Brzozowski, Mike  
Buchholzer Charitable Foundation  
Carson, TJ  
Chen, Jacqueline  
Colton, Deborah  
Cooper, Rachael  
Curtis, William  
De Vera, I.Q.  
DeSantis, Ranae  
Dorman, Craig and Cynthia  
Dudar, Lori  
Duston, Art  
The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina, Inc.  
Elton, Loree  
Fidler, Shelley  
Filomena, Joseph  
Google Matching Gifts Program  
Gramlich, Jeffrey  
Hammond Family Foundation

Harris, Jessie  
Harvey, Guy  
Howland Family Fund  
Iowa Renewable Fuels Association  
Jansen, Laura  
Jethva, Mayur  
Kaarsberg, Tina  
Kalick, Laura  
Carl E. Kessler Family Foundation  
David Kimmel Foundation  
Kirkland, Kelly  
Kolesky, Jeff  
Kramer, Peg  
Levine, Jeffrey  
Matiss, Kaija  
Matloff, Dan  
Meyer, Carl  
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program  
Monteiro, Mike  
Murray, Frank  
National Hydropower Association (NHA)  
Polymer Science Incorporated  
Lester Poretzky Family Foundation  
The Mark Ramba Family Fund  
Ribar, Mitchell  
Rielly, Marie  
Ruiz Alvarez, Arkaitz

Rutberg, Michael and Pooja  
Sam and Alex Family Fund  
Scharch, Alex  
Schepis, Christopher  
Schmitz-Fromherz Family Fund  
Schwab Charitable  
Seligman, Peter  
Senechal, Luke  
Sentman, Michael  
Shaw, Karen  
Singh, Reet  
Stringer, Ben and Kristi  
Stromberg, Luise  
Tanjuakio, John  
Trillium Asset Management  
Triskeles Foundation – Tierra Vista Fund  
Tulsa Community Foundation  
Van Ness Feldman  
Wagoner, Julianne  
Warshaw, Lawrence  
Wedemeyer, Kate  
Westminster Barrington Foundation  
Whitman Family Foundation  
Winnard, James  
Wood, Patrick  
Zizlsperger, Nora

*Donations received in 2017 and through May 2018*

# The Impact of Your Support



**2017 WAS A YEAR** in which renewed attention to federal policymaking and the increasing impacts of our technical assistance work resulted in strong revenue for EESI—as you can see in our statement below.

This increased revenue demonstrates that donors know they can make an impact on the issues that matter most to them by investing in EESI. Another sign of confidence is the recognition EESI has received from **Charity Navigator**, America’s leading nonprofit evaluator. **We were once again designated a Four Star Charity, and received a perfect score to boot!**

Thank you so much for your confidence as we continue a robust program in 2018!

## Summary Financial Statement of Activities

for the year ended December 31, 2017, with comparative totals for 2016

|                                | 2017               | 2016               |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>           | <b>\$1,669,334</b> | <b>\$1,144,014</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                |                    |                    |
| Program Activities             | 1,122,726          | 1,140,461          |
| General and Administrative     | 53,166             | 39,524             |
| Development                    | 91,888             | 102,233            |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>          | <b>1,267,780</b>   | <b>1,282,218</b>   |
| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS           | 401,554            | *(138,204)         |
| NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR  | 3,419,826          | \$3,558,030        |
| <b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b> | <b>3,821,380</b>   | <b>\$3,419,826</b> |

\*Note related to 2016 results: per rules specific to not-for-profit accounting, EESI was required to recognize the entirety of multi-year grants in 2014, when the commitment was made. In 2016, EESI spent \$366,000 to perform grant obligations for multi-year grants awarded in 2014.

The condensed financial information shown is a summary derived from EESI's 2017 audited financial statements. Our complete audited financial statements are available at [www.eesi.org/funders](http://www.eesi.org/funders), by e-mailing us at [eesi@eesi.org](mailto:eesi@eesi.org), or by calling us at (202) 628-1400.

### Ways You Can Give

- Online at [www.eesi.org/donate](http://www.eesi.org/donate) (monthly or single donation)
- By mail to EESI:  
1020 19th St NW Suite 650  
Washington DC 20036 New address!
- Through a Donor-Advised Fund or Giving Account
- Through workplace giving
- By including EESI in your will, insurance policy, or as an IRA/401(k) beneficiary. Our EIN is 52-1268030.

### Perfect Charity Navigator Rating

Charity Navigator gave EESI perfect scores in both financial and accountability and transparency.

|                               |        |       |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|
| Overall Score & Rating        | 100.00 | ★★★★★ |
| Financial                     | 100.00 | ★★★★  |
| Accountability & Transparency | 100.00 | ★★★★  |

WE ARE JUMPING FOR JOY...

**EESI WAS NAMED  
#1 ON CHARITY  
NAVIGATOR'S  
CHARITIES WORTH  
WATCHING LIST!**

THANK YOU!





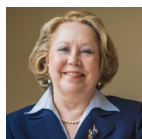
# 2017 Board of Directors



**Jared Blum, Board Chair**, former President, Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association

**Rosina M. Bierbaum, Ph.D.**, Professor and Dean Emeritus, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan; former Acting Director, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

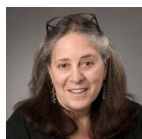
**Laura Kalick**, National Director, Nonprofit Tax Consulting, BDO



**Linda Church-Ciocci, Board Vice Chair**, Executive Director, National Hydropower Association (NHA)

**Frances S. Buchholzer\***, former Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

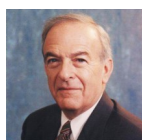
**Frank Murray**, former President & CEO, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority



**Shelley Fidler, Treasurer**, Principal, Government Affairs, Energy and Environmental Policy, VanNess Feldman Attorneys at Law

**Harmon (Monty) Cooper**, Counsel, Crowell & Moring; Chairman, Redevelopment Authority for Prince George's County (MD)

**Chris Schepis**, former Subcommittee Staff Director, House Committee on Homeland Security; long-time Senior Policy Advisor and Legislative Director for Members in both the Senate and House



**Richard L. Ottinger, Board Chair Emeritus**, Pace Energy Project, Dean Emeritus, Pace University School of Law; former Member of Congress (D-NY)

**Randy Hayman\*\***, Principal, Beveridge & Diamond PC

**Claudine Schneider\***, Independent Consultant; former Member of Congress (R-RI)

**David Terry**, Executive Director, National Association of State Energy Officials

**Larry Jaworski**, former Interim Executive Director, Water Environment Research Foundation (retired)

\* Board term ended in 2017

\*\* Joined Board in 2017

*“EESI is uniquely positioned to inform each successive Congress on the merits of energy and environmental legislation. There is a lot of information available to staff, but not a lot of objective information that is precisely tailored to helping busy Members and staff understand the importance and consequences of their actions.”*

— Jim Turner, former Congressional staffer

EESI benefits from its 55-member Advisory Board, which includes government officials, academics, scientists, business executives, and nonprofit administrators. Please see [www.eesi.org/board-advisors](http://www.eesi.org/board-advisors) for more information.



In 2017 (and 2018!), EESI won a coveted **Top-Rated Award from GreatNonprofits** for the seventh time in a row. Only 1 percent of eligible nonprofits have won this accolade.

EESI has received **129 rave reviews on GreatNonprofits.org**, including:

*EESI is consistently an excellent organization to work with and learn from. They organize a plethora of interesting and informative briefings on the Hill, providing reliable straightforward information to stakeholders and decision makers in the energy and environment fields.*

— Agatha Wein

*EESI keeps me updated on climate and other environmental issues in Washington, with just the right amount of depth and breadth. It is absolutely unique—timely, intelligent and focused.”*

— Gelvin S.

## Staff

**Carol Werner**  
Executive Director

**John-Michael Cross**  
Policy Associate

**Brian La Shier**  
Policy Associate

**Amaura Laporte**  
Communications Director

**Richard Nunno**  
Policy Fellow

**Daniel O'Brien**  
Operations Associate (joined EESI in 2018)

**Adanna Okpala**  
Operations Associate (left EESI in 2018)

**David Robison**  
Director of Finance and Administration

**Jessie Stolark**  
Policy Associate

**Ellen Vaughan**  
Policy Director for Buildings

**Susan Williams**  
Director of Development

**Miguel Yanez**  
Program Associate