

# **EESI IMPACT REPORT**

# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **ENERGY**



#### **HELPED**

eight green banks apply for zero-interest federal loans to fund inclusive, clean energy financing programs in rural areas.

## **FINANCING**



#### **SPURRED**

the development and implementation of innovative on-bill financing programs to make clean energy upgrades more affordable and equitable in Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Indiana, Ohio, and 13 more states.

## **POLICY**



#### **DEVELOPED**

30 policy recommendations to support coastal community resilience to extreme weather, erosion, flooding, sea level rise, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change.

### CLIMATE



#### **SHOWCASED**

the report issued by the majority staff of the House Select
Committee on the Climate Crisis to inform and guide new climate policy proposals.

# **WORKFORCE**



#### **ELEVATED**

workforce development to a top priority, to accelerate recovery from the pandemic and ensure an equitable transition to a decarbonized, clean energy economy.

# **EQUITY**



to diversity, equity, and inclusion as core EESI values and set goals for positive change across all programs and initiatives.

# EESI'S MISSION

Our mission is to advance science-based solutions for climate change, energy, and environmental challenges in order to achieve our vision of a sustainable, resilient, and equitable world.

### CLIMATE ACTION IS URGENT, PANDEMIC OR NOT

For almost 40 years, EESI has been a source of timely, relevant climate change information for Congress and policymakers. Thanks to your commitment, we navigated challenges of the pandemic and ended 2020 ready to meet the urgency and immediacy of climate action in the new political environment of 2021.

We were ready with the Congressional Climate Camp online briefing series to inform new staff about achievable climate change solutions and legislative procedures needed for enactment. And we organized support for critical federal programs to help rural utilities provide low-cost financing to their customers for cost-effective energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades.

No matter what the future holds, we will continue to ensure Congress has everything it needs to act urgently on climate change, and I am so glad you are an important part of this.





25% OF OUR OPERATING **SUPPORT IS FROM INDIVIDUAL DONORS** 



**DIRECTLY FUND CLIMATE SOLUTIONS AND POLICIES** 

#### THANK YOU SO MUCH!

You enable equitable climate solutions at this pivotal time.

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

#### REVENUE

\$1.291.000 **Foundation Grants** 

> \$403.812 Contributions

\$68,031 **Workplace Giving** 

Nonoperating Income Allocated to Operations \$113,619

#### EXPENSES

Federal Climate and Clean Energy Policy \$907,722

> **Access to Clean Energy Savings** \$436,796

> > **Total Programs** \$1,344,518

General and Administrative \$104,747

> \$228,533 **Fundraising**

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS BEFORE NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES \$198,664

> TOTAL NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES (Investments) \$293,650

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS \$492,314

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR \$4,280,388

Complete audited financial statements are available at eesi.org.

#### **FOCUS ON DECARBONIZATION**

Decarbonizing the energy sector is critical for many climate solutions.

With increasing electrification, carbon-free energy is necessary to avoid catastrophic surges in greenhouse gas emissions. The challenges of decarbonization are as much about people as they are about technology.

To speed the transition to a decarbonized, clean energy economy, the future has to be better. That involves retraining fossil fuel workers and preparing the next generation for climate-friendly jobs.

New policies and programs are needed to keep energy costs low for everyone and expand access to equitable, inclusive climate solutions.

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# SHOWCASING FEDERAL POLICY NEEDS FOR COASTAL RESILIENCE

In October 2020, EESI published A Resilient Future for Coastal Communities. As coastal communities across the country face increased uncertainty and risks from intensifying climate change impacts, we recognized the need to inform policymakers and the public on this pressing issue. This report is based on the solutions from around the country highlighted in EESI's regional coastal resilience briefing series (eesi.org/rfcc).



#### **Major Recommendations**

- Design projects and programs in partnership with communities.
- Show special attention to the many **cultural heritage sites** and traditions threatened by climate impacts.
- Collect **locally specific, actionable data** about climate impacts, risks, and vulnerabilities—and communicate these findings to the public in accessible ways.
- Reduce the negative impacts of future natural disasters by using **proactive mitigation and resilience** techniques.
- Increase government financing through revolving loan funds and a national green bank, prioritizing communities that face systemic underinvestment.

# ELECTRIFICATION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR EVERYONE

Rural, islander, low-income, and under-resourced communities are among the most vulnerable to the worst impacts of climate change. Yet, they are also the least prepared to deal with extreme weather events. On top of that, rural residents pay on average 40 percent more for energy than their urban counterparts.

By implementing an equitable screening and payment process, on-bill financing programs make clean energy upgrades more accessible to low-income communities and help expand clean energy adoption nationwide. [Learn about on-bill financing at www.eesi.org/obf.]

To spread the word about the importance of equitable approaches, EESI's Miguel Yanez wrote a peer-reviewed paper, Inclusive Financing Programs for Solar and Electrification. It features two case studies of programs in Hawaii and Washington State, exploring why this approach should be replicated across the United States.



### BRIEFING SERIES

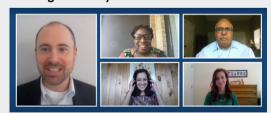
#### **WORKFORCE WEDNESDAYS**

- Conservation corps and high school career and technical training can set **young people** up for success in **low-carbon careers**.
- Opportunities exist to grow green American innovation and manufacturing jobs beyond renewable energy technologies.

#### **CLIMATE ADAPTATION DATA**

- Climate change threatens **cultural heritage**, which must be protected by unique data products and decision-making processes.
- Often, an abundance of data delineating community risk to climate change is available. Policymakers need to find the best ways to make the data useful and widely available.

In coordination with the majority staff of the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, EESI held a briefing on the Committee's 538-page climate action report. It provides a comprehensive framework for future climate policy, and our briefing focused on four core areas: mitigation, adaptation, environmental justice, and public health. With 366 viewers, this was the third best-attended EESI briefing in history.



EESI's online briefing, "The Climate Crisis Report in Focus"

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

- Marine terminals are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. **Designing with adaptation** in mind can lower the carbon footprint of ports and prepare infrastructure for rising seas.
- Electrifying commercial passenger planes is extremely challenging, but opportunities to **lower the greenhouse gas emissions from aviation** exist. For example, low-carbon biofuels can replace fossil fuels.

**FACILITATED APPLICATIONS FOR** 



10,945

CLIMATE CHANGE
SOLUTIONS SUBSCRIBERS



# PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

1

Preparing for the COP26 U.N. climate talks with the U.S. return to the Paris Agreement

2

Updating our two most popular fact sheets, green jobs and fossil fuel subsidies—both widely referenced on Capitol Hill

3

Releasing a beneficial electrification toolkit, a first-of-its-kind resource for rural utilities to accelerate the transition away from fossil fuels

# SAVE THE DATE: FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE Thursday, September 16, 3pm EDT

Join Executive Director Daniel Bresette for a pulse check on climate policy. To RSVP, please scan the QR code or go to eesi.org/call.



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