



EESI Update

Winter 2007 -
2008

Environmental and Energy Study Institute ...*advancing innovative solutions!*

Fast and Furious

EESI Executive Director Carol Werner walks so hurriedly that she once got stopped by the Capitol Hill police for walking so fast in the hallways of Congress! But nothing will slow Carol down because she is acutely aware of the urgency of the challenge we face to effectively address climate change and build a sustainable energy future.

She is traveling fast because she knows almost a third of our greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation sector. EESI has been a leading partner in the successful Plug-in Partners Campaign led by Austin Energy to convince automakers that there is a viable market for flex-fuel, plug-in hybrid vehicles. EESI focused on showing Congressional offices how plug-in hybrid vehicles could revolutionize the transportation sector and suggested policy options to help bring them to market. Our hard work, and that of coalition partners, paid off – both House and Senate Energy bills include provisions for plug-in hybrids – research and development of high-capacity batteries, tax incentives for consumers and manufacturers, and demonstration programs. EESI and the campaign have shown how plug-in vehicles are a true “win-win.”

Carol receives National Stewardship Award

The National Defense Council Foundation (NDCF) has given EESI Executive Director Carol Werner its first ever National Stewardship Award for outstanding service. In making the award, NDCF President Milt Copulos said, “Carol is someone who has always had a positive influence on process and a real impact in developing policies that not only protect our environment but also move the nation forward.”

EESI Briefings at Work

An EESI Associate recently asked a Member of Congress about their motivation to introduce legislation supporting a technology for a particular renewable resource that isn't particularly strong in that Member's state.

A former senior Senate staffer recently told our board, “*EESI is the most effective group inside the beltway.*”

The Member replied that he had gone to an EESI Congressional briefing on the technology and “*got inspired.*” While we know our briefings make

a difference, it is always nice to see specific examples. A former senior Senate staffer recently told our board, “*EESI is the most effective group inside the beltway.*”

EESI Convenes a Wood-based Energy Discussion Series

EESI is bringing together a diverse group of foresters, academics, NGOs, and civic officials, as well as those involved in the production of wood-based energy products, for a series of discussions on sustainable forest management and the future of wood-based energy. Our goal is to help address climate change, assist sustainable forestry practices and accelerate development of a sustainable wood-based energy industry. These discussions will help define needed research and determine the principal opportunities and barriers to widespread adoption of wood-based energy. The discussion series will provide a stakeholder forum for sharing information and ideas, exploring problems and solutions, and building general consensus on the needs and conditions of our forests and the industry. For more information or to participate, contact Jetta Wong at (202) 662-1885, jwong@eesi.org, or Jesse Caputo at (202) 662-1882, jcaputo@eesi.org.

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- EESI has organized 35 briefings & events this year (page 4)

Small Business Committees Bring Energy and Climate to the Forefront

After EESI's briefing last year on the role of small business in passing California's landmark climate legislation AB 32, EESI and its partner, Center for Small Business and the Environment (CSBE), conferred with small business committee staff on the interrelationship of climate change, energy, and small business. These discussions led to committee hearings and legislative proposals, including bills addressing workforce education, small business investment and the incorporation of small business considerations into the House and Senate energy bills and the farm bill.

Byron Kennard, Executive Director of CSBE, has been leading the charge to gain recognition of the potential for small business collaboration on climate change and sustainable energy use. Byron says, "*EESI has an unrivalled ability to transmit new information and knowledge directly to policy-makers in Congress. That's why we partnered with EESI to assert the interests of small business which, heretofore, have been almost entirely neglected by environmental and energy policy-makers. Now, thanks to EESI briefings, both the House Small Business Committee and the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship are actively engaged in promoting small business's key role in environmental protection and in combating global warming.*"

EESI and CSBE are now focusing attention on the hundreds of small-scale solutions to global warming that currently exist, which are successful, profitable and replicable. Rather than a nonexistent "silver bullet," the project will spotlight "silver buckshot" – small businesses, in aggregate, making a big impact.

EESI Fights for Geothermal Energy and Hydropower Funding Once Again



The President's FY 08 budget request zeroed out core geothermal and incremental hydropower programs and cut many critical energy efficiency programs. EESI raised awareness about these cuts and worked to restore these critical programs through our budget and technology

briefings and our widely distributed budget analysis. EESI worked with House and Senate Congressional offices on letters urging appropriators to restore energy efficiency and renewable energy funding in FY 08. Subsequently, the House appropriated \$44.2 million for geothermal energy, a nearly nine-fold increase over the \$5.0 million enacted in FY 2007 and the Senate appropriated \$25.0 million for geothermal energy. The House appropriated \$22.0 million for hydropower, well above the \$0.5 million enacted in 2006, while the Senate appropriated \$2.0 million for hydropower. The final funding levels still have not been resolved.

Planning Our Way to a New Energy Future

EESI's project, *Planning Our Way to a New Energy Future*, in partnership with the American Planning Association (APA), is preparing a searchable database containing resources to assist planners interested in incorporating energy efficiency and climate change strategies into the planning process. Lively discussion among a diverse group of stakeholders during our June 2007 Partner Dialogue meeting in Washington, DC helped augment our research to identify online management tools, existing plans, case studies, research papers, and communities already hard at work on these important topics. The database is scheduled to be available by the end of the year on the project website: <http://www.planning.org/energy>. In addition, the partnership is beginning to work on a comprehensive planning and climate change manual.

EESI Farm Bill Recommendations – Used on Capitol Hill and Beyond

The Farm Bill reauthorization process has been a major focus of EESI this year, including the release of our updated Farm Bill policy whitepaper, [The 2007 Farm Bill: Policy Recommendations for Integrated Renewable Energy Production](#), holding numerous meetings with staff in the Senate and the House, responding to inquiries, tracking the energy titles in the bills as they made their way through Congress and working on numerous provisions with many other organizations in our agriculture network. We are happy to say that a number of program ideas from EESI's white paper were included in Senate and/or House proposals including: programs to help develop an ag/energy workforce; increasing use of bioenergy power in current renewable energy facilities like ethanol plants; preprocessing, harvesting and storage grants; Small Business Bioproduct Marketing and Certification Grants; authorization of the Fuels for Schools Program; an expanded renewable energy and energy efficiency grant/

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loan program; expanded procurement of biobased products; research and technology development for woody-biomass; a biorefinery program focused on loan guarantees; and an expanded bioenergy program focusing on diversified feedstocks (excluding corn starch).



The Clean Air Council (PA) saw our whitepaper and asked if we could help review a farm policy proposal by Gov. Rendell (PA) and make suggestions concerning its energy provisions. They needed a full update on the Farm Bill Energy Title because they were new to the issue. Our assistance and comments helped them make recommendations to the Governor's office. The results generated this comment, *"This is very helpful. I have forwarded to Secretary McGinty and Secretary Diberadins and we will likely make some changes to our document based on your feedback. I appreciate your time to review and comment."*

EESI Helps Newsweek with Story on Green Malls and Clean Transportation

When *Newsweek* magazine needed information on "clean" transportation, they turned to EESI. Kevin Hand, from the Newsweek graphics department in New York asked:

"We are working on an internet interactive graphic as well as a graphic for our magazine on "Green Malls. In these new malls, such as one being developed in Chicago, there will be installed options for energy savings such as outlets for electric cars, preferred parking for hybrids and indoor bicycle parking. We would like to find out just how much energy might be saved in those three choices instead of using a car if someone were to travel 5 miles to the mall in each instance. Would you be able to supply this type of information?"

So our Transportation Policy Analyst, Shefali Ranganathan, set to work. Shefali's challenge was to find a common fuel to compare these modes of transportation. When we sent Kevin our results, his response was, **"Wow! Shefali, this is brilliant!"** However, he thought comparing mega-joules per mile was too complicated for the average reader, so he asked us to translate each into gasoline usage.

Kevin responded, "Wow! Shefali, this is brilliant!"

The Results: To travel 5 miles, the comparison is (for gas and mega-joules):

- 27 mpg or 29.4 mega-joules (MJ) for a gasoline car (Camry as proxy)
- 55 mpg or 14.3 MJ for a hybrid car (Prius)
- 135 mpg equivalent or 7.09 MJ for an electric car (Tesla roadster)
- no gasoline or 0.97 MJ (human energy) for a bicycle

New Staff at EESI

EESI would like to welcome several new staff members.



Jesse Caputo, our new Agriculture and Energy Fellow, is an enthusiastic practitioner of forest science and natural resource management with a MS in Forest Resources. He is deeply engaged in our woody biomass discussion series. In addition to his academic work, Jesse worked as the manager of the U.

Mass. at Amherst forest system, administering timber harvests, overseeing an overhaul of the management plans, and acting as the principal liaison between the public and the University Forests Committee.

Deirdre Nicholson, EESI's new Executive Assistant, has a degree in History and has always been interested in environmental issues, including working for her college's recycling program. Prior positions include working for a structural engineering firm and working at the US Navy Museum in Washington, DC on a special exhibit.



Jan Mueller is EESI's new Transportation, Energy & Smart Growth Policy Analyst. He has a MS in Resource Ecology and Management as well as a Masters of Landscape Architecture: Land Use Planning & Design. Prior positions include consulting, electoral work, and several years with the National Wildlife Federation office in VT (where he worked on the last transportation bill).

EESI Awarded 4-Star Rating Second year in a Row

Charity Navigator, America's premier charity evaluator, once again has given EESI its top rating of 4-stars, indicating that EESI excels at efficiently and effectively managing its finances to ensure that your contributions have the greatest impact possible. Only 15 percent of charities they've rated have received at least 2 consecutive 4-star evaluations.



Recent EESI Briefings

EESI's Congressional briefing schedule for 2007 has been rigorous – with **35 briefings this year!** We have had great attendance for all of our briefings, exhibiting the strength of interest in our issues on the Hill and among other organizations, businesses, and media sources. CSPAN broadcast our briefing, *Climate Change: What Americans Think* live, in which Professor Jon Krosnick explained the results of his recent polling work on perceptions of climate change and climate change solutions. Copies can be ordered via www.cspan.org/shop (enter C-SPAN ID# 197951, Public Perspectives of Global Climate Change).



We also put a great deal of hard work into this year's **10th Annual Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Expo and Forum**, presented by the Sustainable Energy Coalition (of which EESI is a Steering Committee member) and the House and Senate Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucuses. Exhibitors from a cross-section of the renewable energy and efficiency industries displayed information about their technologies and answered questions. The policy forum stressed the urgency of addressing climate change and how renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies are real and available NOW to mitigate severe climate change. Before a packed room of Congressional staffers, agency officials, industry, media and others, virtually every speaker reiterated the critical need for Congress to extend the renewable energy production tax credit (PTC), Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBS), the solar investment tax credit (ITC), and efficiency tax credits. Keynote speakers Dr. John Holdren, Heinz Professor, Harvard University; Director, Wood's Hole Research Center; and Chair, AAAS, and John Hieftje, Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor, MI book-ended a day that featured Members of Congress, and top executives of major renewable energy and energy efficiency companies.

- **Findings from the IPCC Working Group II Report: Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability** – April 18, 2007
- **Climate Change: What Americans Think** – May 4, 2007
- **How Does Transportation Fit into Cap and Trade?** – May 11, 2007, presented in cooperation with the *2020 Vision Education Fund* and the offices of *Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN) and Senator Joe Biden (D-DE)*
- **Congressional Fuel Cell Expo 2007--Fuel Cells: Powering the Present...Securing the Future** – May 15, 2007, presented in conjunction with the *US Fuel Cell Council*

- **High-Performance Green Buildings: A Look at Their Benefits and the Role of Federal Policy** – May 21, 2007
- **World Environment Day 2007: Melting Ice - A Hot Topic?** – June 5, 2007, presented in conjunction with the *Royal Norwegian Embassy*
- **The Low Carbon Fuel Standard: A Climate Policy Solution for Transportation** – June 5, 2007
- **The Role of Advanced Hydropower and Ocean Energy in Upcoming Energy Legislation** – June 8, 2007
- **The 10th Annual Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Expo and Forum** – June 14, 2007, presented by the *House and Senate Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Caucuses* in cooperation with the *Sustainable Energy Coalition*
- **Harvesting the Farm Bill for Energy Security and Climate** – June 15, 2007, presented in cooperation with the *2020 Vision Education Fund*, and the offices of *Sen. Richard Lugar and Sen.*

Joe Biden

- **Can a National Renewable Portfolio Standard Increase Energy Security, Reduce Emissions and Lower Costs?** – July 11, 2007
- **Why is Concentrating Solar Power Good for America?** – September 6, 2007
- **The Clean Water Act turns 35! The Next 35 Years of Clean Water: What will the Future Hold?** presented in cooperation with the *Water Environment Federation* – September 19, 2007
- **Ecosystem Thresholds and Climate Tipping Points: Implications for Policymakers** – September 20, 2007
- **What Does the Stern Review Mean for the UN Climate Change Meeting in Bali?** – September 21, 2007
- **National and International Perspectives on Energy and Climate Policy: A Roundtable Discussion** – September 25, 2007
- **The Daily Transit Pass: One of the Most Powerful Weapons to Combat Global Climate Change** – September 26, 2007
- **Solar Decathlon Showcases Green Homes for Today: How Energy Bill Provisions Can Support High-Performance Homes** – October 17, 2007
- **Loan Guarantee Provisions in the 2007 Energy Bills: Does Nuclear Power Pose Significant Taxpayer Risk and Liability?** – October 30, 2007
- **Opportunities for Bioenergy Production in Every State** – October 31, 2007
- **Green Collar Jobs: Why Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency are Economic Powerhouses** – November 8, 2007
- **Can States Meet the Proposed 15% National Renewable Portfolio Standard?** – November 1, 2007



EESI's New Publications

White Paper:

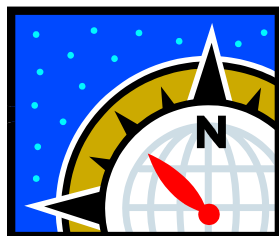
- [The 2007 Farm Bill: Policy Recommendations for Integrated Renewable Energy Production](#) 5/11/07

Fact Sheets:

- [Jobs from Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency](#) 11/8/07
- [Loan Guarantee Provisions in the 2007 Energy Bills: Does Nuclear Power Pose Significant Taxpayer Risk and Liability?](#) 10/30/07
- [Annotated Bibliography of Important Climate Science Papers](#) 5/21/07
- ["Recent Polling on Public Perceptions of Climate Change: April 2006-2007."](#) 5/4/07
- [Hybrid Buses: Costs and Benefits](#) *updated March 2007*

Press Releases:

- [Senate Farm Bill Stalled on the Floor](#) 11/16/07
- [Senate Agriculture Committee Reports Farm Bill](#) 10/25/07
- [Sec. 9006 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Program Grants Awarded](#) 9/25/07
- [Woody Biomass Utilization Grants Proposal Request](#) 9/19/07
- [Proposed Rule Changes for Rural Development Guaranteed Loan Program](#) 9/18/07
- [USDA and CCSP Climate Impacts Report Public Comment](#) 9/17/07
- [DOE Enzyme Solicitation](#) 8/27/07
- [New Energy Programs in House Passed Farm Bill](#) 7/27/07
- [FY 08 House Appropriations for EE/RE](#) 6/29/07
- [Biomass R&D Solicitation](#) 6/11/07
- [DOE Biorefinery Solicitation](#) 5/2/07
- [Value-Added Producer Grant Solicitation](#) 4/16/07
- [RFS Final Regulation](#) 4/10/07
- [Sec. 9006 Solicitation](#) 3/23/07
- [Biomass Utilization Awardees](#) 3/23/07
- [Human Infrastructure and Biofuels](#) 3/20/07



EESI on the Road

- November 8 – [State Environment Leadership Program](#)
- October - [Brazilian Delegation at the Meridian International Center](#)
- October 19 – [National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture](#)
- October 11, 2007 – [Sacramento Region Clean Energy Showcase, CA](#)
- October 7-8 – [Association for the Advancement of Industrialized Crops conference](#) in Portland, ME
- October 1-3, 2007 – [National Climate Summit](#) meeting at Wingspread in Wisconsin
- September 9-11 – [2007 National Association of State Energy Officials Annual Meeting](#) in Atlanta, GA
- August 16 – 19 – ["Biofuels and the Promise for Sustainable Energy" conference](#) organized by Pace University (NY) in Brazil
- August - [Swedish Delegation at Meridian International Center](#)
- September 30 – [APA Federal Policy Conference, DC](#)
- July – [Indonesian Delegation at the Meridian International Center, DC](#)
- July 16 – [DOE: State Biofuels Workshop, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO](#)
- June 4 - 6 – [National Climate Summit at Wingspread in Wisconsin](#)
- May 8 – [Fueling Energy Independence: Bioenergy's Role in the Solution](#), Swedish Embassy, part of a series on Creating Sustainable Cities by the Swedish Trade Council.
- May 8 - 9 – [National Summit on Coping with Climate Change](#), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- April 24 – [California Regional Leadership Conference, Washington, DC](#)
- April 20 – [National Conference of State Legislatures' Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and Energy Spring Forum](#), Washington, DC.
- April 19 – [National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture: Energy Committee](#)
- April 16 – [American Planning Association annual conference, Philadelphia, PA](#)

Carol was interviewed on "Green Energy" for JWM Productions for use in their science DVDs to be distributed to classrooms grades 7-12. She also recently taped interviews about energy and climate change for the Boston University Newsroom/TV station.

Please Make a Year-End Gift to EESI to Protect the Climate

EESI is unique. No other organization provides the same quantity and quality of science, technology and policy briefings that EESI regularly orchestrates for policymakers. EESI brings together a wide range of experts from across the country to educate Congress and promote "win-win" policy options. EESI's highly acclaimed Congressional briefings, free electronic newsletters, broad-based coalition building and policy development work elevate attention to critical issues and bring about groundbreaking solutions.

As you think about your charitable contributions this year, we hope you will include EESI as one that you support. A

tax-deductible contribution to EESI will allow us to help free America from its "addiction to oil" and reduce global warming with clean renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. You can take pride in knowing you are making a difference!

Please mail a check to: EESI, 122 C St., NW, #630, Washington, DC 20001; donate online by going to our website, www.eesi.org and use the "Donate Now" button located at the top right of the page; or contact EESI Development Director Ruth Lampi at RLamp@eesi.org or 202-662-1887. Thank you for being part of the solution.



**Environmental and
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Institute ...advancing
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122 C Street, NW, Suite 630
Washington, DC 20001-2148

Phone: 202-628-1400
Fax: 202-628-1825

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EESI Update and EESI's other valuable work in energy, climate change, agriculture, transportation and smart growth are made possible through financial support from people like you. Your tax-deductible contribution will help EESI develop innovative policy solutions for a cleaner, safer, healthier world. EIN: 52-1268030. For more information, contact Ruth Lampi at rlamp@eesi.org or 202-662-1887. For an electronic version of this newsletter, visit www.eesi.org.

The Environmental and Energy Study Institute is a non-profit organization established in 1984 by a bipartisan, bicameral group of members of Congress to provide timely information on energy and environmental policy issues to policymakers and stakeholders and develop innovative policy solutions that set us on a cleaner, more secure and sustainable energy path.

EESI Staff

Carol Werner, Executive Director

Deirdre Nicholson , Executive Assistant	Fred Beck , Senior Policy Associate (Energy & Climate)
Ruth Lampi , Director of Development	Jan Lars Mueller , Policy Analyst (Transportation, Energy & Smart Growth)
Leanne Lamusga , Communications Coordinator	Jetta Wong , Senior Policy Associate (Agriculture and Energy)
Jessica Siegel , Director of Finance and Administration	Jesse Caputo , Fellow (Agriculture and Energy)

Environmental and Energy Study Institute
122 C Street NW, Suite 630
Washington, DC 20001-2148