



2023 AABE DC CHAPTER ENERGY POLICY SUMMIT

Tuesday, March 28 | 11AM - 7PM



State of Energy Policy

This address will provide the status of energy policy in advancing the clean energy transition and the impact of such transition on disadvantaged communities



Energizing Panels

Industry experts will discuss the three key energy areas of focus for the summit: affordability, resiliency, and reliability



Interactive Workshop

Attendees and panelists will work together to draft innovative mock proposals focusing on affordability, resiliency, and reliability

Hosted By
Edison Electric Institute

701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Register at www.aabedc.org



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AGENDA

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Registration Opens

11 :00 AM - 11:10 AM

Welcome

- 👤 Keturah A. Brown, Esq., Senior Managing Associate, Sidley Austin LLP; AABE DC President
- 👤 Cynthia Owens, Administrative Manager, Environment and DEI Council Co-Chair, Edison Electric Institute

11:10 AM - 12:00 PM

State of Energy Policy

- 👤 David Owens, President & Energy Consultant, Da' Vas, LLC; AABE DC LIPP Committee Co-Chair

Mr. Owens will provide the status of energy policy in advancing the clean energy transition and the impact of such transition on disadvantaged communities. Mr. Owens will also discuss the role of legislation, including the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), breakthrough decarbonizing technologies, natural gas, and the regulatory compact influence in the clean energy transition. Finally, Mr. Owens will provide insight on the polarizing options of Congress and what it means for disadvantage communities and the companies that service them.

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Networking Luncheon

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Increasing Affordability for Those Who Need it Most

As inflationary pressures and rising costs continue, how can companies and local and federal governments best intervene to alleviate unprecedented increases in customer bills? This panel will focus on the existing company and government-funded programs that assist low-income customers and how they can be enhanced to better serve customers. The panelists will discuss different pathways to increase the affordability of overall energy use and opine on what it means for affordability to be at the forefront of stakeholder discussions.

Moderator

- ⌚ Alexander M. Ratner, Esq., Federal Policy Manager, The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy; AABE DC Member

Panelists

- ⌚ Larry Alston, Director, Customer Financial Operations, Pepco Holdings
- ⌚ DeShaundra Jones, Customer Experience & Stakeholder Engagement, Washington Gas
- ⌚ Katrina Metzler, Executive Director, National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition
- ⌚ Kintéshia Scott, Assistant People's Counsel, The Office of the People's Counsel for the District of Columbia

2:00 PM - 2:50 PM

Resilience is Key to a Clean Energy Future

As climate and cyber events become more severe, frequent, and costly, the resiliency of the energy grid remains a top priority for energy companies. How can energy regulators and companies ensure swift and efficient restoration of electric service following major disruptions? Panelists will discuss tools for hardening and adapting critical infrastructure systems to withstand major disturbances, best practices for governing network security and infrastructure networks, the importance of resilience planning and investing that prioritizes equity and environmental justice, the intersection of resilient grid infrastructure and reliance on natural gas, and the increased integration of long duration energy storage, advanced nuclear solutions, new gases, and hydrogen.

Moderator

- ⑧ Ziyang Sears, Government Relations Analyst, Berkshire Hathaway Energy; AABE DC LIPP Committee Member

Panelists

- ⑧ Apera Nwora, Director of Governmental Affairs & Public Policy, DC Water
- ⑧ Heather Polzin, Reliability Enforcement Counsel, The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- ⑧ Jason Reynolds, Vice President of Infrastructure Policy, Entergy
- ⑧ Hailey Siple, Director of National Security Policy, The Edison Electric Institute

2:50 PM - 3:00 PM

Break

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Reliability and a Transitioning Grid

Sufficient generation supply and grid infrastructure are vital to maintaining reliability. As global economic conditions, such as the war in Ukraine, continue to sustain supply chain issues and increase international instability, how can energy companies provide secure and reliable service while incorporating a variety of clean energy technologies and other renewable energy sources into the grid?

What is the future role of natural gas in this transition? Panelists will discuss these issues in the context of the clean energy transition and beyond. Panelists will also highlight the specific opportunities provided by recently passed legislation, including the IRA and IIJA, that aims to enhance the reliability of electric service for traditionally disadvantaged communities.

Moderator

- ⑧ Dr. Lawrence Jones, Senior Vice President, International Programs, Edison Electric Institute

Panelists

- ⑧ Alyse Taylor-Anyikire, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Policy, U.S. Department of Energy; AABE DC Member
- ⑧ William Ellis, Director of External Affairs, Pepco Holdings; AABE DC Member
- ⑧ Lakshmi Srinivasan, Senior Technical Leader, Electric Power Research Institute
- ⑧ Alexander Washington, Director, Federal Governmental Affairs, Entergy; AABE DC LIPP Committee Member

3:50 PM - 4:50 PM

Workshop: Justice40 Initiative - De-Mystifying Community Benefit Planning

- 🕒 Led by Dr. Tony G. Reames, Deputy Director, Energy Justice in Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, U.S. Department of Energy

On January 27, 2021, President Biden issued Executive Order 14008, entitled *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*, which created the Justice40 Initiative. The Justice40 Initiative establishes a goal of flowing 40 percent of the overall benefits from climate and clean energy investments to disadvantaged communities (DACs).

Investment categories include, among others, clean energy and energy efficiency, training and workforce development, and the remediation and reduction of legacy pollution.

This workshop will provide a unique opportunity to have the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as a thought partner in developing mock Justice40 Initiative Community Benefit Plans (CBP) for grid modernization projects that intentionally address energy affordability, resilience, and reliability. The identification and prioritization of DACs is also a very important component to CBP, and the DOE team will share updates on DOE mapping tools.

4:50 PM - 5:00 PM

Closing Remarks

- 🕒 Aaron Cope, Director, Investor Relations, Finance, & ESG and DEI Council Co-Chair, Edison Electric Institute; AABE DC LIPP Committee Co-Chair

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Reception