NARUC
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

State Energy Justice Roundtable Series: Participation in Decision Making

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Acknowledgments and Disclaimers

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Background

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), and National Governors Association (NGA) hosted a State Energy Justice Roundtable (Roundtable) in April 2022. Participants included federal and state decision-makers, members of community-based organizations, and subject-matter experts. The Roundtable members explored current state efforts to articulate and incorporate energy justice concerns into energy-related decision-making. Participants established connections with one another to better understand the current landscape of existing resources, learn about emerging efforts, and identify ongoing support opportunities for advancing energy justice.

This paper is one of five authored by the host organizations on topics that were the focus of the Roundtable. Each paper summarizes key themes, emerging efforts, and group takeaways that were discussed at the Roundtable and should assist state members in developing and meeting their own state goals around energy justice. The papers all include the same discussions of background, introduction, and reading list so they can be read separately. Each paper is written from the perspective of one association and includes options for its members to take actions that could support more equitable state energy policies and programs. The five papers cover:

- Participation in decision making (NARUC)
- Customer affordability and arrearages (NARUC)
- Energy justice metrics (NARUC)
- Equity in clean energy research and development (NASEO)
- Equitable distributed energy resource (DER) access (NGA)

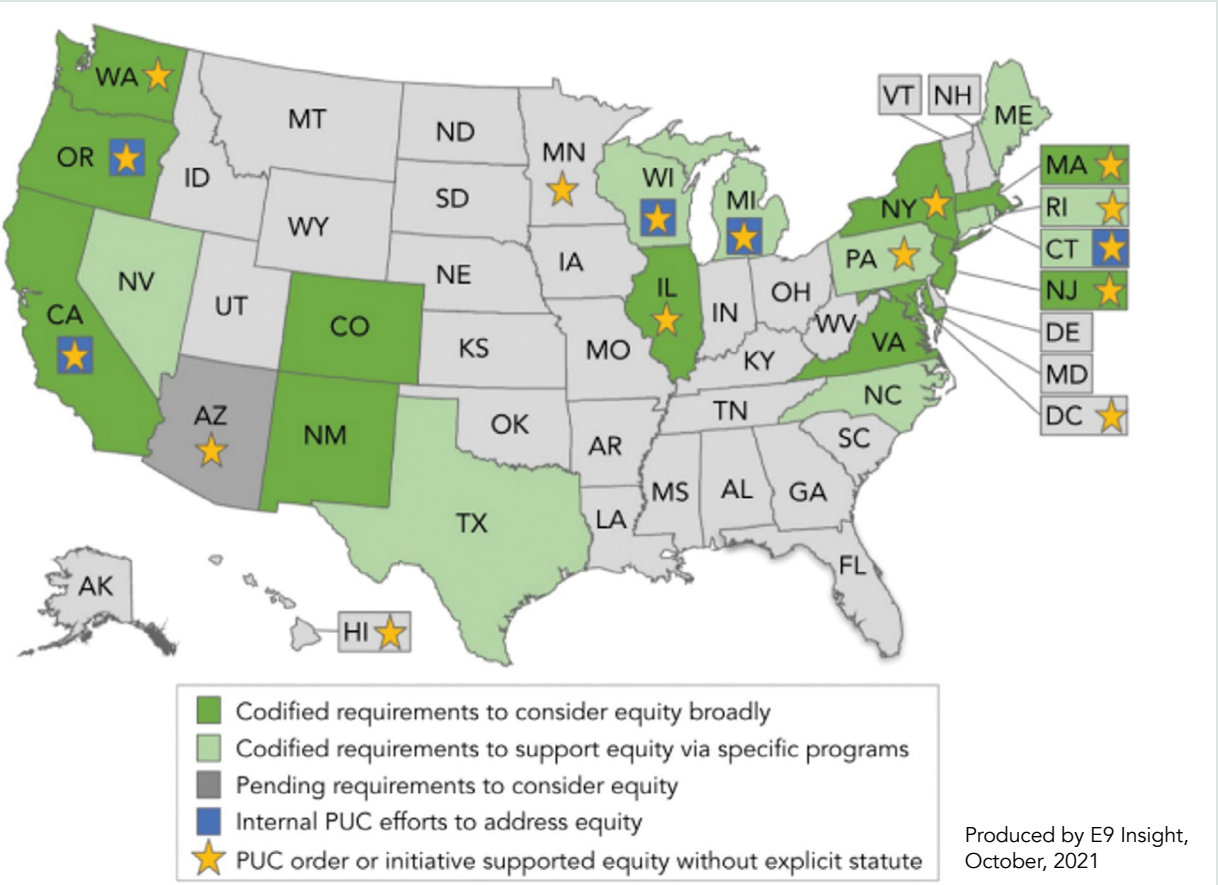
The resources and recommendations listed in these papers are not meant to be exhaustive, as this field of study continues to evolve. Although this brief is focused on electricity, energy justice considerations extend to all energy needs and services, including the impact of energy extraction, processing, and distribution functions.

Introduction

The Growing Priority of Energy Justice in Energy Policy

The impetus for the Roundtable was the emergence of energy justice as a priority for state and federal decision-makers in recent years. The energy sector transition from fossil fuels to low-carbon energy resources has highlighted the disparate social, economic, and health impacts of the current energy system. The recent focus on energy justice has been driven by state legislative mandates, state programs and policies, focused federal investments, and societal recognition of inequities. Examples of recent state legislation on energy justice include California's SB 350, 2021, Colorado's HB21-1266, 2021, Illinois' SB 2408, 2021, Maine's HP 1251, 2021, Massachusetts' S.9, 2021, and Oregon's HB 2475, 2021.[1] Further, **Figure 1** illustrates actions by state public utility commissions (PUCs) across the country.

Figure 1. Equity Activities and Requirements at U.S. Public Utility Commissions



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Significant federal action has also occurred recently. In early 2021, President Biden issued Executive Order 14008, directing 40 percent of the overall benefits from federal climate and clean energy investments toward disadvantaged communities in an initiative known as Justice40. In July 2021, the Office of Management and Budget released Interim Guidance for the Justice40 Initiative that outlined requirements for federal agencies that manage covered programs, established an interim definition of disadvantaged communities, and defined actions required of state agencies, such as State Energy Offices, that manage Justice40 programs. Subsequently, on July 25, 2022, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released

1 C. Farley et al., *Advancing Equity in Utility Regulation*, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, 2021, https://emp.lbl.gov/publications/advancing-equity-utilityregulation

General Guidance for Justice40 Implementation that provided program and funding guidance, policy priorities and benefits, and case studies for demonstration and educational purposes.[2]

In addition, on February 18, 2022, the White House Council on Environmental Quality released the beta version of its Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) to help federal agencies identify disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.[3] On the same day, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released an update to its EJSCREEN tool, an environmental justice mapping and screening tool that may complement CEJST. Additional guidance from the federal government on the Justice40 initiative is expected.

Defining Energy Justice

Although the concept of energy justice and injustice varies among organizations and stakeholders, it generally includes evaluation of:

- **Energy burden** – the proportion of energy expenditures relative to overall household income
- **Energy insecurity** – the hardships households face when meeting basic household energy needs
- **Energy poverty** – the lack of access to reliable and affordable energy
- **Energy democracy** – whether communities have agency in shaping their energy future[4]

The host organizations of the Roundtable proposed the following working definition of energy justice, adapted from the Initiative for Energy Justice:

> **The goal of achieving equity in both the social and economic participation in the energy system, while also remediating social, economic, and health burdens on those historically harmed by the energy system. Energy justice explicitly centers the concerns of marginalized communities and aims to make energy more accessible, affordable, clean, reliable, resilient, and democratically managed by and for all communities.**[5]

What's The Difference between Energy Justice, Environmental Justice, and Climate Justice?

Justice, by definition, implies fairness and impartiality. Energy justice, environmental justice, and climate justice are inherently connected and together represent a more just future for individuals and communities who have suffered historic injustices. **Environmental justice** specifically involves the 'recognition and remediation of the disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on communities of color and low-income communities' as well as fair treatment and meaningful involvement in the development, application, and administration of environmental laws, regulations, and polices. **Climate justice** focuses on the 'remediation of the impacts of climate change on poor people and people of color, and compensation for harms suffered by such communities due to climate change.' Collectively with **energy justice** (defined above) these frameworks can help create a comprehensive vision for a just transition. The principle of a just transition supports the co-existence of a healthy economy and clean environment, and the process and practice of achieving this vision is one that is fair and does not cost workers or community residents their health, environment, jobs, or economic assets.

Baker, S., DeVar, S., & Prakash, S. (2019). The Energy Justice Workbook. Initiative for Energy Justice. https://iejusa.org/workbook/.

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2 U.S. Department of Energy Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Justice40 Initiative, https://www.energy.gov/diversity/justice40-initiative. Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, 2022, https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/

3 Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, 2022, https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/

4 S. Baker, S. DeVar, and S. Prakash, *The Energy Justice Workbook*, Initiative for Energy Justice, 2019, https://iejusa.org/workbook/

5 Ibid.

The energy industry is embarking on fundamental changes to the way energy is produced and delivered that will result in cleaner, and possibly more localized, options. This transformation offers an opportunity to recognize disparities in who has received the benefits and who has carried the burdens of the existing system by intentionally investing in historically disadvantaged communities.

A four-pillar framework has emerged in energy justice literature that helps conceptualize how energy justice is achieved. Although the exact terminology varies slightly among groups, the following language was used to frame the Roundtable discussions:

- **Distributional justice** – an inherently spatial concept[6] that concerns both the distribution of costs, hazards, or externalities, and the distribution of benefits and access to modern energy systems and services, throughout society.[7]
- **Procedural justice** – relates to the accessible and meaningful participation of individuals in the energy decision-making processes.
- **Recognition justice** – seeks to acknowledge the various needs, rights, and experiences of different groups in relation to the energy system.[8]
- **Restorative justice** – aims to repair the harm done to people (and/or society/nature) and can pinpoint where prevention needs to occur.[9]

6 McCauley, D., Heffron, R.J., Stephan, H., & Jenkins, K. (2013). *Advancing energy justice: the triumvirate of tenets.* International Energy Law Review. https://research-repository.st-andrews.ac.uk/bitstream/handle/10023/6078/IELR_2013.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

7 Sovacool, B.K., & Dworkin, M.H. (2014). *Global Energy Justice: Problems, Principles, and Practices.* Cambridge University Press.

8 Gillard, R., Snell, C., Bevan, M, *Advancing an energy justice perspective of fuel poverty: Household vulnerability and domestic retrofit policy in the United Kingdom,* Energy Research & Social Science, 2017, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2017.05.012.

9 Heffron, R.J., and McCauley, D, *The concept of energy justice across the disciplines*, Energy Policy, 2017, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2017.03.018.

The Role of Participation in Decision Making in Energy Justice

One of the critical realizations in exploring a more just energy system is the need for increased awareness, education, information sharing, and direct participation of communities and community representatives in energy-related decision-making processes. Yet, many of the current policy development and implementation frameworks are largely inaccessible to those without the time and resources to pay a professional to represent them.

Although public forums may be available as a source of community input, often the people who show up to speak may not be fully informed on the parameters of an issue or might raise matters outside of the direct topic of an event so that their feedback or concerns are dismissed as irrelevant or out of scope. Public notification systems may be antiquated or insufficient and make it difficult for people to learn about the forums, issues under consideration, and potential impacts on the community. Further, community members are typically not at the table during policy and program development and may be left only with the opportunity to respond to what others have created.

Meaningful engagement with communities throughout energy-related decision-making processes, in ways that are authentic and transparent, is necessary to further energy justice. Throughout the Roundtable, participants expressed the importance of incorporating intentional community input from the outset focused on guiding processes and programs as a foundation for advancing equity in the energy system. The success of programs that involve customer-located distributed energy resources (DERs), energy efficiency, community-based energy, and adoption of new technologies will require customers that are knowledgeable and willing to work with policy makers and their utility. Today, many citizens are largely unaware of the process by which energy policy is made and rates are set. Further, many distrust the motivations of policy makers and utilities due to historic harm from the legacy energy system and systemic discrimination. Without intentionality and the direct inclusion of communities in the decisions about how the future energy system will be structured, we will be unable to attain the trust and empowerment necessary to be successful in maintaining grid reliability and resilience and meeting state energy goals.

This paper explores foundational considerations that can be used in reevaluating or developing decision making processes that genuinely engage communities, honor local priorities, and advance meaningful pathways to cleaner and more just energy policies and programs.

Community Engagement Frameworks

An assessment of current processes and procedures is an important step in making them more inclusive, including identification of where barriers to engagement exist. Such an assessment should include a determination about what is within an organization's ability to alter in the normal course of business, what may require a formal proceeding to change, and what requires a legislative or other solution.

Several existing tools and frameworks have been developed to foster genuine inclusiveness in decision making and define a vision of justice and equity in organizations that can be considered or incorporated into processes and procedures. Five approaches are highlighted: the Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership, power mapping, Resource Guide on Public Engagement, NARUC Stakeholder Engagement Guide, and the Jemenz Principles for Democratic Organizing.

1. A 2020 NASEO publication[10] identified several approaches that decision makers may find useful in considering actions to increase involvement of communities in energy policy and program development.

10 National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), Designing Equity-Focused Stakeholder Engagement to Inform State Energy Office Programs and Policies, July 2020, https://naseo.org/data/sites/1/documents/publications/13-0376_0549_000208-KOEWLER%20FINAL%20cover.pdf.

One example is the **Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership**.[11] It offers a staged framework to community capacity building in governance and collaboration that can be considered in decision making and solutions development activities, starting with the most basic and least impactful actions and progressing to active democratic participation. The Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership was designed to:

a. Acknowledge marginalization

b. Assert a clear vision

c. Articulate a development process

d. Assess community participation efforts

The categories are shown in **Figure 2**.

Figure 2. Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership

Detailed actions and outcomes associated with each of the stages can help decision makers identify where they are today and where they want to go. Roundtable participants recommended that policy makers follow the course of:

- Start where you are
- Decide where you want to go
- Craft a path to get there
- Evaluate what was effective and what was not
- Use this information to make changes and improvements
- Repeat

2. Another tool used to support effective stakeholder engagement is **power mapping**, which is categorizing the influence and alignment of rightsholders, impacted communities, and stakeholders to better understand how to achieve goals in diverse groups. Ultimately, the understanding of who is involved in the discussion also allows for a gap analysis of who is missing. The U.S. Department of Energy Clean

11 Rosa Gonzalez & Facilitating Power, The Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership, 2019, https://movementstrategy.org/resources/the-spectrum-of-community-engagement-to-ownership/.

Energy for Low Income Communities Accelerator demonstrates one example of power mapping in program design and implementation.[12]

3. The National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation created another resource titled **Resource Guide on Public Engagement**.[13] The Guide identifies the following seven principles, or fundamental components of quality public engagement:
    - Careful planning and preparation
    - Inclusion and demographic diversity
    - Collaboration and shared purpose
    - Openness and learning
    - Transparency and trust
    - Impact and action
    - Sustained engagement and participatory culture

    The Resource Guide also includes four engagement streams: exploration, conflict transformation, decision making, and collaborative action. Within the engagement streams there are process distinctions that provide suggestions for who and how to bring people into the discussion that support each engagement stream. It includes considerations to better define the goals of a process or event and the actions that can help support accomplishing them.

4. NARUC published a resource for utility regulators called **Public Utility Commission Stakeholder Engagement: A Decision-Making Framework**[14] (2021), which provides a decision-making framework and nearly a dozen examples of commission experiences gathering input outside of formal adjudicatory processes to inform decision making. It identifies and defines six categories that serve as a framework for developing decision-making processes (**Figure 3**).

5. Several participants in the Roundtable suggested looking to democratic organizing for examples of representative processes. **The Jemenz Principles for Democratic Organizing** was developed to obtain common understanding among participants from diverse backgrounds and perspectives. The principles are:
    - Be inclusive
    - Emphasis on bottom-up organizing
    - Let people speak for themselves
    - Work together in solidarity and mutuality
    - Build just relationships among ourselves
    - Commitment to self-transformation.[15]

    These principles can provide a foundation for inclusionary processes and are only a sample of the possible approaches.

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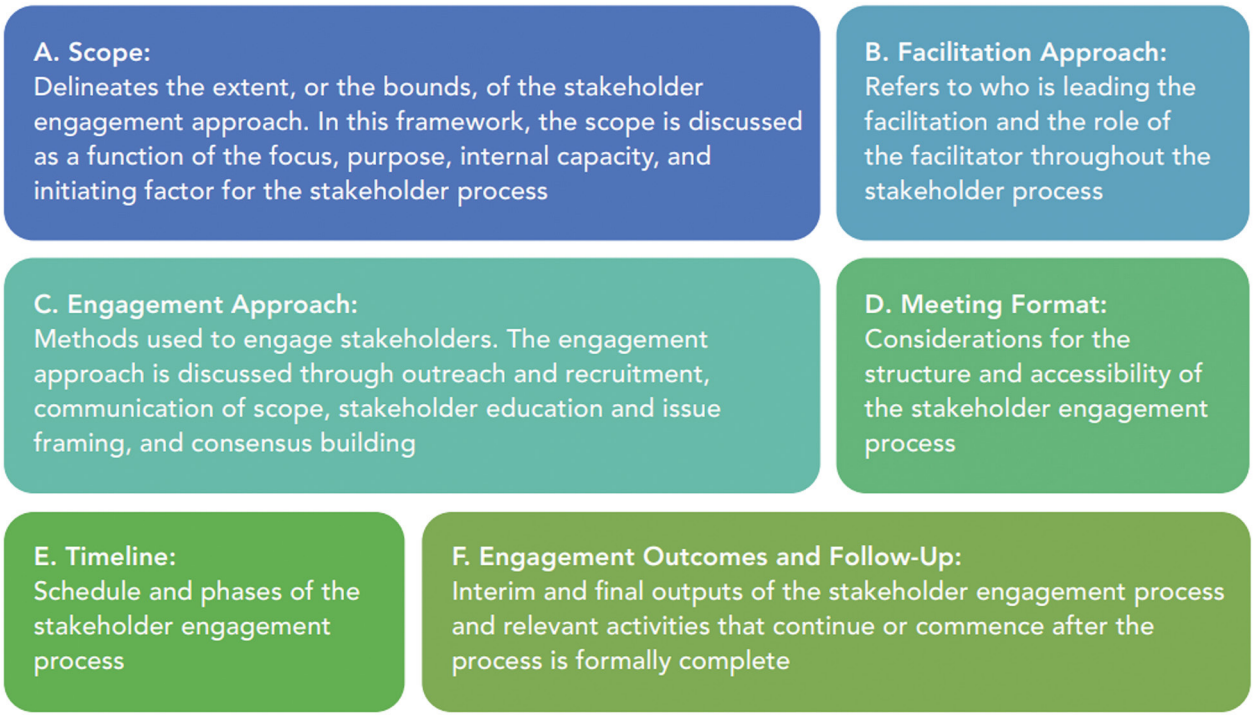
12 U.S. Department of Energy Clean Energy for Low Income Communities Accelerator, https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/CELICA-Toolkit/stakeholder-engagement.

13 National Coalition for Dialog and Deliberation, Resource Guide on Public Engagement, 2010, https://www.ncdd.org/resource-guide.html.

14 McAdams, Jasmine, NARUC Public Utility Commission Stakeholder Engagement: A Decision-Making Framework, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, 2021, https://pubs.naruc.org/pub/7A519871-155D-0A36-3117-96A8D0ECB5DA.

15 Jemenez, Principles for Democratic Organizing, 1996, https://www.ejnet.org/ej/jemez.pdf.

Figure 3. NARUC Stakeholder Engagement Decision Making Framework



The right framework for each organization or situation will be unique and based on the starting point and the goal or vision for the future. Once an approach and plan are established, a system of accountability that includes regular assessment, reporting, feedback, opportunities for improvement, and a pathway to effective outcomes is needed to help maintain trust in the process. The NASEO publication includes a valuable guide for where to start in the development of stakeholder engagement practices.[16]

Social and Cultural Considerations

In addition to having a framework that supports defining and implementing towards intended outcomes, consideration of and respect for a variety of social and cultural experiences will bolster trust among participants and enhance community engagement. Understanding the experiences and needs of those new to the approaches or topic gives power and credibility to their voices in the decision-making process.17 Consider, for instance, the different expertise brought forward by the real, day-to-day experiences of those most impacted by poverty, adverse health impacts, climate change, high energy burden and social injustices. This understanding is as important as data in raising awareness of the impacts of decisions. In Roundtable discussions, participants elevated the need to recognize the potential that any of us could have to face these burdens. As one participant said, we are all, "just one bad day from being on the other side of the table."

Creating an environment where impacted communities can be heard may require an intentional disruption of the status quo that is largely process and procedure driven. In undertaking this work, participants in the Roundtable noted several times that a different approach will likely come with discomfort that some policy makers will need to be prepared to experience and work through.[18] Training and facilitated conversations were suggested to explore and process emotions that arise in this work. Further, they urged policy makers to

16 NASEO, pp. 11-12.

17 NASEO, pp. 9-10 (referencing DOE Clean Energy for Low-Income Communities Accelerator: Stakeholder Engagement).

18 One State Energy Justice participant shared a framework for understanding the experience of disruption that moves from a panic zone that is deeply uncomfortable and unfamiliar, to a stretch or learning zone, through to a new comfort zone.

focus on impact over intention, noting that good intentions can still have harmful impacts, so it is critical to be able to change direction without being constrained by an underlying beneficial intent. Similarly, participants highlighted that including community leaders that truly represent the interests of the community at the decision-making table is not the end goal, but that thoughtful incorporation of their feedback is necessary so as not to tokenize their involvement.

With that backdrop, the following considerations can support a more welcoming and inclusive space: time, accessibility, and investment.

Time

Authentic engagement takes time, which requires a commitment by decision-makers and participants, and recognition that processes may need to be longer. Roundtable participants noted that a sense of urgency often drives policy making processes that do not allow for meaningful interactions with communities. Conducting regular and consistent listening sessions and meeting people where they are offer an opportunity to better understand a wide variety of experiences and expectations that can foster critical relationship building. Community members have referred to this as "reaching in" instead of "reaching out."

Other time-related considerations are early communication and advertising of events for planning purposes, the need for evening or weekend meetings, and clear and reasonable time commitment expectations to accommodate varying work hours, child and elder care, and the need for flexibility.

Accessibility

Ensure communications are developed and delivered in a way that intentionally reaches communities that may not be reached through traditional channels, such as those without access to technology, for whom English may not be the primary language, and may have different reading levels and modes of understanding material. Accessible information shared in advance to provide a basic understanding of relevant topics, issues, and processes can be circulated among community members to reach more people. Including education sessions on agency processes and basic energy concepts as part of regular community connections can bolster community involvement. Policy makers may want to consider facilitated conversations with communities as another avenue to help increase community understanding and participation. Varying the location of meetings can also increase accessibility of engagement opportunities, as well as supporting efforts to provide the technology needed to participate in virtual sessions. Consideration should also be given to providing language interpretation services for written materials and language access/translation support during meetings and events.

Investment

Typical participants in energy policy decision making processes are professional lawyers, engineers, accountants, economists, etc. and tend to be relatively well compensated to be there. Inviting community members to lend their time to participate in the process for free when they may already be struggling financially is a barrier to effective engagement and inequitable. Building or identifying existing resources to recognize the value of community participants' time and input will allow for meaningful involvement. Adequate funding to provide stipends for travel, technology, childcare, etc. recognizes the importance of these voices in the process. Intervenor funding, mostly used in PUC proceedings, is available in some states (six as of December 2021), although there can be qualifications or requirements that make it difficult for individuals to use. An overview of state intervenor compensation programs at PUCs can be found in the 2021 *State Approaches to Intervenor Compensation* report prepared by NARUC.[19]

19 FTI Consulting, Inc, *State Approaches to Intervenor Compensation, National Association of Utility Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC), December 2021,* https://pubs.naruc.org/pub/B0D6B1D8-1866-DAAC-99FB-0923FA35ED1E.

Further, resources that build community capacity and expertise are vital to long-term changes in decision making processes. Several Roundtable participants recommended including basic energy education in K-12 school curriculum to support an informed public. Others suggested engaging student interns to serve as liaisons for and with communities to support participation in events and processes. In addition, advancing equity through workforce partnership programs that increase participation from underserved and underrepresented groups in rapidly growing energy industries like solar will help ensure that as jobs are created, they will be accessible to workers from all backgrounds, thereby increasing diversity and participation in a variety of decision-making processes.

State Actions Impacting Participation in Decision Making

Many states and state decision makers have or are evaluating and implementing policies and actions that result in greater, more meaningful, and more diverse stakeholder participation. One related recommendation from the Roundtable is to coordinate engagement across state agencies to reduce the number of separate forums that require time and attention from communities. A few examples of recent state actions follow:

- **California:** California's AB 2722 establishes the Transformative Climate Communities program that outlines specific community engagement guidelines for the Strategic Growth Council, the state-level cabinet committee administering the program. The Council is required to conduct outreach to disadvantaged communities to encourage input on policies and award grants to build a more equitable funding and implementation process.
- **Colorado, Illinois, and Maine:** Colorado (SB21-272), Illinois (Climate and Equitable Jobs Act), and Maine have enacted legislation to require or encourage greater engagement with historically disadvantaged communities.
- **Massachusetts:** Massachusetts SB 9 requires consideration of environmental justice principles in policy and decision making, establishes an environmental justice council to advise on standards to achieve the principles within state agencies, provides accessible information about projects that includes non-English speakers, and promotes an equitable clean energy workforce.
- **Minnesota:** In 2020, the Minnesota State Energy Office adopted an Affirmative Action Plan to define roles, responsibilities, and processes as part of their diversity, equity, and inclusion work. In addition, the office committed to actively participating in community-driven cluster meetings on weatherization and energy assistance community action programs. This included incorporating the tribal liaison at weekly leadership collaboration meetings; partnering on equity-related presentation opportunities; and developing a year-long equity education series for staff to rethink policy and program development with meaningful engagement of Tribal Nations as well as other Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities.
- **New Mexico:** The state Climate Change Task Force adopted Equity Guiding Principles that have been agreed upon by stakeholders to consider in all task force actions.
- **Oregon:** Oregon HB2021 requires power companies to establish a Community Benefits and Impacts Advisory Group that files biennial reports on community benefits and impacts, energy burden, opportunities to increase contracting with minority-owned businesses, actions to improve resilience in environmental justice communities, and customer experience and engagement. Costs associated with the advisory group, including compensation for members, are recoverable in rates.
- **Washington:** Washington State adopted SB 5141, which requires state agencies to apply principles of environmental justice to state laws and agency rules and policies and to develop a community engagement

and environmental justice implementation plan. It also creates the Environmental Justice Council, which provides guidance to state agencies and biennially evaluates agency progress. Further, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission issued an order in docket U-210959 that implements a law allowing utilities to enter into financial assistance agreements with organizations representing customers so they can participate in cases; it prioritizes vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities. Costs are recoverable in rates.

Other state entities have adopted diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessible and/or justice statements or principles to guide the work and practices of the organization. Roundtable participants observed that there is overall positive momentum by policy makers to increase participation in decision-making and bring more equity and justice to energy policies and programs. Yet, more work remains to incorporate impacted community perspectives into outcomes.

Actions for Public Utility Commissions

Participants in the Roundtable would like to see commissions move forward with energy justice metrics by adopting promising practices identified in this brief and also:

- Consider adding a community liaison or equity officer, or developing a community advisory group to support just policy development and decision making that can also provide consistency as leadership changes.
- Evaluate existing policies and procedures for impediments to meaningful community engagement and identify the necessary changes, including those related to time, accessibility, and resources. Use intermediaries and trusted partners to enhance engagement and accessibility.
- Conduct organization-wide training on equity and anti-racism to help employees better understand the impacts of race and class on those impacted by decisions.
- Incorporate consideration of the impact policy and program decisions have on communities historically harmed by systemic inequities into day-to-day activities.
- Conduct assessments of past projects and programs designed to address the needs of marginalized communities.
- Organize listening sessions to inform communities and community organizations about the Commission, available resources, and how to access them.
- Engage with stakeholders (i.e., nonprofit organizations, community groups, national laboratories, university research centers, etc.) as the first step in developing plans that will increase access to distributed energy resources.

Resource List

The following list of publications, data and tools, and organizations conducting work on energy justice issues is included to assist state members seeking more detailed information and support for their efforts. Content was compiled from Roundtable participants and staff conducting research for these briefs. Inclusion in this list is not an endorsement of any individual resource or organization's content by NARUC, NASEO, or NGA members, or staff.

Publications

Overarching Resources

- Advancing Equity in Utility Regulation, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- Comprehensive Building Blocks for a Regenerative & Just 100% Policy, The 100% Network
- Energy Infrastructure: Sources of Inequities and Policy Solutions for Improving Community Health and Wellbeing, RAP, Synapse, and Community Action Partnership
- Energy Justice Workbook, Initiative for Energy Justice
- Incorporating Equity into Energy Benchmarking: Guidance for Practitioners, Institute for Market Transformation
- Just Energy Policies and Practices: Action Toolkit, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- Making Equity Real in Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience Policies and Programs: A Guidebook, The Greenlining Institute
- Racial Equity Toolkit, Greenlining Institute
- State and Local Energy Justice Programs, Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy, University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy

Participation in Decision-Making

- Climate Equity & Community Engagement in Building Electrification: A Toolkit, Emerald Cities Collaborative, People Organizing to Demand Environmental & Economic Rights
- Community acceptability and the energy transition: a citizens' perspective, The Environmental Research Institute, University College Cork, Ireland
- Community Engagement: A Practitioner's Guide, Citizen Lab
- Dear Policymakers: Community Engagement is Critical for Climate Policy, Climate Xchange
- Designing Equity-Focused Stakeholder Engagement to Inform State Energy Office Programs and Policies, NASEO
- Public Utility Commission Stakeholder Engagement: A Decision-Making Framework, NARUC
- State Approaches to Intervenor Compensation, NARUC
- Surfacing Social Values & Community Priorities: A Landscape Report of Relationship-Building Approaches for Public Engagement with Climate, American Association for the Advancement of Science

Arrearages and Affordability

- High energy burden and low-income energy affordability: conclusions from a literature review, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- How High are Household Energy Burdens? An Assessment of National and Metropolitan Energy Burdens across the U.S., American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy
- Memorandum on State Utility Disconnection Moratoriums and Utility Affordability, NGA
- Sociodemographic disparities in energy insecurity among low-income households before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, O'Neill School of Public Policy and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University
- Supporting Electricity Customers During Times of Crisis: Being There When It Matters Most, Critical Consumer Issues Forum
- Survey of Household Energy Insecurity in Time of COVID, O'Neill School of Public Policy and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University

Clean Energy Research, Development, and Deployment

- An analysis of energy justice program across the United States, O'Neill School of Public Policy and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University
- Comprehensive Building Blocks for a Regenerative & Just 100% Policy, The 100% Network
- Designing Electricity Rates for an Equitable Energy Transition, Energy Institute at Haas
- Energy Democracy: Honoring the Past and Investing in a New Energy Economy, Race Forward
- Fostering Equity Through Community-Led Clean Energy Strategies, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
- Framework for an equitable energy supply transformation, Meister Consultants Group
- Justice40+ Playbook, Emerald Cities Collaborative
- Policy Options to Enable an Equitable Energy Transition, Resources for the Future
- Regulators' Energy Transition Primer: Economic Impacts on Coal-Producing Communities, Environmental Justice Consideration, and Implications on Clean Energy Jobs, NARUC
- The Role of State Utility Regulators in a Just and Reasonable Energy Transition: Examining Regulatory Approaches to the Economic Impacts of Coal Retirements, NARUC
- Workers and Communities in Transition: Report of the Just Transition Listening Project, Labor Network for Sustainability

Metrics

- Clean Energy for Low Income Communities: Metrics and Indicators, Better Buildings, U.S. Department of Energy
- The State of Equity Measurement: A Review for Energy-Efficiency Programs, Urban Institute
- The State of Equity Measurement: A Review of Practices in the Clean Energy Industry, VEIC
- Review of Energy Equity Metrics, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- Quantitative Energy Equity, Empower Dataworks

Data and Tools

- Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, White House Council on Environmental Quality
- Community Engagement Innovation Products (Resources, Tools, Guides, and Implementation Examples), Urban Sustainability Directors Network
- EJScreen, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Energy Burden Calculator, Sierra Club
- Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA), U.S. Department of Energy
- Justice in 100 Metrics: Tools for Measuring Equity in 100% Renewable Energy Policy Implementation, Initiative for Energy Justice
- Low-Income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) Tool, U.S. Department of Energy
- Map of Disconnection Moratoria, National Regulatory Research Institute

Organizations and Initiatives

- ACEEE Leading with Equity
- Center for the New Energy Economy, Colorado State University
- Climate Justice Alliance
- Climate Justice Network
- Electric Power Research Institute
- Emerald Cities Collaborative
- Energy Democracy Project
- Energy Efficiency for All
- Energy Equity Project, University of Michigan
- Energy Justice Lab, Indiana University
- Equity in a Clean Energy Economy, DEFG
- Government Alliance on Race & Equity
- Initiative for Energy Justice
- Institute for Market Transformation
- Just Solutions Collective
- Justice40 Accelerator
- National Utilities Diversity Council
- Race Forward
- US Climate Action Network

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