A silhouette of a worker wearing a hard hat and safety harness, positioned on a structure with cables against a clear blue sky. The worker is seen from the side, reaching out with one arm. The entire scene is framed by a thick orange border.

ACEEE's 2019 Annual Report



Penni McLean-Conner, ACEEE board chair, and Steven Nadel, ACEEE executive director.

Message from ACEEE leadership

Energy efficiency is essential to combating climate change. It can halve energy use and emissions, getting us halfway to U.S. climate goals. These findings—from our research in 2019 and from work by others—invigorated our focus on efficiency as a tool that not only protects our climate but also creates jobs, reduces utility bills, cleans the air, improves our health, and boosts resilience.

The urgency of climate change and the need to scale efficiency inspired bold action. We started a coalition effort to develop a plan to decarbonize industry, expanded our *City Scorecard* to track advances in renewable power in addition to energy efficiency, and launched utility working groups to increase the number of grid-interactive efficient buildings and electric vehicles.

Our work had impact. We helped advance new efficiency programs and policies in New Jersey, New York, and Virginia and also the passage of state laws requiring energy-efficient equipment in four other states. We mobilized support for robust efficiency gains in new model building codes, provided analysis used in legal challenges to the federal rollback of fuel economy standards, and shaped bipartisan energy-saving legislation on Capitol Hill.

We enlarged and strengthened the clean energy community. We expanded collaboration among energy and health professionals, partnered with Efficiency Canada on its first provincial scorecard, helped increase participation in the annual Energy Efficiency Day, and sparked innovative ideas and solutions by convening thousands of attendees at our conferences and virtual events.

With a new decade upon us, we appreciate your support as we intensify our push to build a more sustainable and equitable world for all our children and grandchildren.

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Senior Local Policy Researcher David Ribeiro (left) appears on ABC News to speak about the findings of the 2019 City Clean Energy Scorecard.

Advancing Efficiency Policy

Scorecard tracked city clean energy efforts

With cities accounting for two-thirds of global energy use and emissions, we expanded our efforts to track their clean energy efforts. For the first time, our *City Scorecard* evaluated renewable power in addition to energy efficiency. We also scored more U.S. cities and took a closer look at equity-driven actions and policy performance. Cities had more than 265 new actions since 2017, and many cited our Scorecard, including the city of Providence, RI in its new Climate Justice Plan. The director of the San Francisco Department of the Environment called it “thorough and comprehensive.”

Many U.S. cities cannot measure climate emissions progress - report



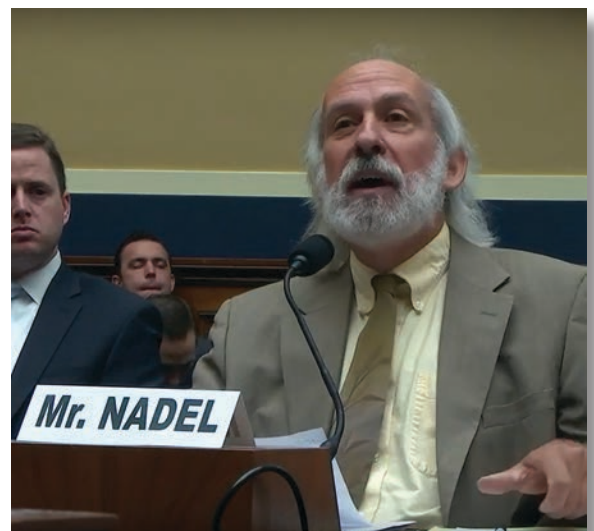
REUTERS | July 25, 2019

Assistance bolstered state efficiency targets

As the U.S. federal government stalled efficiency measures, states showed leadership. Our annual *State Scorecard* and technical assistance helped guide their efforts, especially as they pursued equity, electrification, and decarbonization. In Virginia, where Governor Northam cited our research in an executive order, we helped state regulators nudge Dominion Energy to ramp up its energy efficiency programs. In New Jersey, we played a major role in framing and implementing high energy-saving targets, and in New York, we supported efforts to establish ambitious efficiency targets for utilities.

Research shaped bipartisan U.S. legislation

With the U.S. Congress often gridlocked in partisanship, our research guided bipartisan bills to reduce energy waste. We worked with Senators Portman (R-OH) and Shaheen (D-NH) on the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act, with Representatives Welch (D-VT) and Kinzinger (R-IL) on a smart buildings bill, and with Senators Shaheen and Alexander (R-TN) on a smart manufacturing bill. All three bills passed committee. We also worked on legislation to spur financing, as well as a national energy efficiency resource standard. In House testimony and Capitol Hill meetings, we explained how energy efficiency can halve U.S. energy use and emissions, a key finding of our Halfway There report.



ACEEE Executive Director Steven Nadel testifies before the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy Subcommittee.



Andrew deLaski, executive director of the Appliance Standards Awareness Project, testifies before the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy Subcommittee.



Wendy Koch, senior director of marketing and communications, speaks at our Women in Energy Efficiency event. Right: Sue Coakley, executive director of the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships.



Building Better Things

Light bulb and appliance work spurs state laws

LEDs use up to 85% less energy than the 1870s light bulb invented by Thomas Edison. To leave the 19th century behind, we co-led a media campaign to stop the U.S. rollback of 2020 efficiency standards for light bulbs. We highlighted research by the Appliance Standards Awareness Project (ASAP), based at ACEEE, that documented the rollbacks' hefty costs: about \$100 per household per year. That research was cited by 17 state and city attorneys general, 37 electric utilities, and congressional leaders in letters to the Department of Energy. Our campaign built on ASAP's work to initiate and guide efforts to adopt energy efficiency standards for 16 products, including light bulbs. Those efforts led to new state laws in Washington, Colorado, and Hawaii, following earlier wins in Vermont. Nevada also passed a law that adopted the 2020 federal light bulb standards

Energy Department to prolong the lives of incandescent lightbulbs

The Washington Post | September 4, 2019

Coalition sparked stronger building codes

Buildings account for one-third of U.S. carbon emissions, and to slash their energy use and emissions, we collaborated on a successful push for stricter building codes. We worked with a coalition to

develop energy efficiency proposals and encourage local governments to vote for them. The result? The 2021 International Energy Conservation Code will reduce building energy use by more than 10%, reduce utility bills, and cut carbon emissions. It gives builders flexibility, but requires more efficient lighting and residential water use, as well as electric vehicle charging stations.

'Greenest' New Cars For 2019

Forbes | February 5, 2019

Analysis helped push for clean car standards

Federal vehicle fuel economy standards have delivered massive energy savings and emissions reductions. To preserve them and ensure continued progress, we analyzed the dire impact of rolling back standards for model year 2021-2026 cars and light trucks. As leaders of the Clean Cars Coalition's technical subgroup, our analysis informed legal challenges to the federal rollback and reportedly helped slow its finalization, likely pushing resolution of the litigation into the next administration. Our annual GreenerCars report highlighted the most energy-efficient vehicles available to consumers.

Utilities Program Director Rachel Gold moderates the Regional Roundup panel at EER 2019.



Our Linda Latham Scholars got to mingle with experts and gain insights into upcoming trends and research at our 2019 Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Industry.

Transforming Energy Use

Leadership advanced industrial decarbonization

Because industry accounts for one-third of global carbon emissions, we led a coalition to develop a plan to decarbonize industry. We convened NGOs, industry stakeholders, and labor and identified technical and cross-cutting areas for policymakers to prioritize. The CLEAN Future Act framework, released by the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce, cited our work and incorporated approaches that we advocated, including carbon capture and utilization, "buy clean" programs, and a climate or green bank.

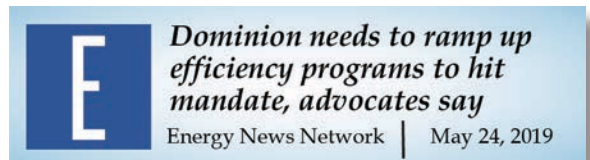


Outreach spurred efficient cannabis cultivation

To reduce the energy intensity of the quickly growing cannabis industry, we helped develop energy-saving proposals. After partnering with the Resource Innovation Institute to engage a Massachusetts stakeholders group, the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission announced revised code requirements for new cannabis cultivation facilities and required all facilities seeking license renewal to disclose their energy use. Illinois subsequently passed related efficiency requirements.

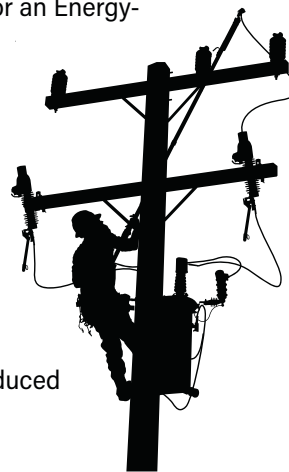
Research improved home energy audit reports

Residential retrofits can greatly reduce energy use, and our research showed how home energy audit reports can persuade homeowners to make energy efficiency upgrades. We found, for example, that the most persuasive audits grabbed customer attention in the first few pages. At multiple events, we discussed our findings, which ComEd and NYSEERDA are using to inform their approach to residential retrofits.



Assistance buoyed efficiency in India and Taiwan

Climate change mitigation demands serious global energy-saving efforts, and we advanced some abroad. We worked with the Alliance for an Energy-Efficient Economy in India on its second State-Efficiency-Preparedness Index and partnered with Efficiency Canada on its first provincial Energy Efficiency Policy Scorecard. We collaborated on behavior-energy research in Taiwan, overseeing a home energy report program that reduced recipients' energy use.





Young professionals network at BECC 2019.



ACEEE employees spend an evening volunteering to prepare Thanksgiving dinners for people in need in the Washington, DC, area.



Bringing People Together

Working groups expanded utility engagement

Because utilities can play a critical role in slashing energy use, our working groups helped them learn from each other and brainstorm better programs for customers. We established two new working groups, one to increase uptake of electric vehicles in low- and moderate-income communities and another to advance grid-interactive efficient buildings. They built on the success of our ongoing multifamily and low-income working groups, which include representatives from more than 70 utilities. A workshop at our Energy Efficiency as a Resource Conference helped group members incorporate equity into program design, delivery, and evaluation.



How To Achieve Optimal Cooling And Energy Efficiency When It's Really Hot Out

May 24, 2019

Efforts promoted health-energy partnerships

Energy efficiency programs can make the air we breathe—outside and inside—cleaner and healthier. Our work demonstrates how these programs make homes healthier by eliminating mildew, mold, pests, and uneven temperatures. It has spurred the American Public Health Association, Health Care Without Harm, and Physicians for Social Responsibility to join us in supporting energy-saving policies at the national level and in target U.S. states. We launched a working group with more than 100 participants to bring together

health and energy professionals, and we provided technical assistance for utilities incorporating health into customer services.

ACEEE: 'Ambitious' energy efficiency could halve US emissions by 2050



UTILITY DIVE

September 19, 2019

Events attracted thousands of attendees

We sparked brainstorming about innovative technologies, policies, and programs by convening thousands of people at our conferences and virtual events. We held 17 webinars to discuss our research and related topics. We also convened five conferences, including the Hot Water Forum and the new Forum on Connected and Automated Vehicles, which led to our toolkit to help cities prepare for these vehicles. We grew attendance for our three largest 2019 events: Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Industry, Energy Efficiency as a Resource, and the Conference on Behavior, Energy & Climate Change.

Collaboration grew the efficiency community

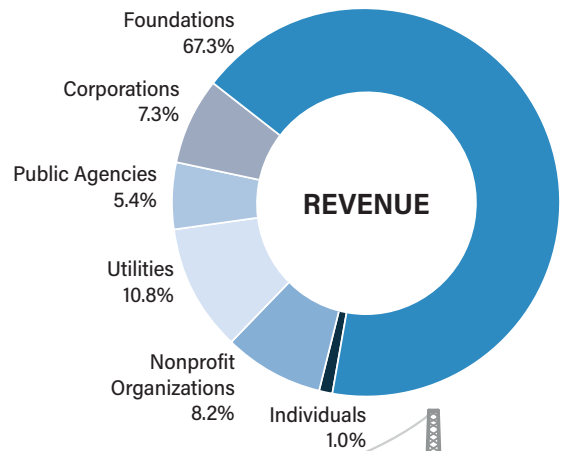
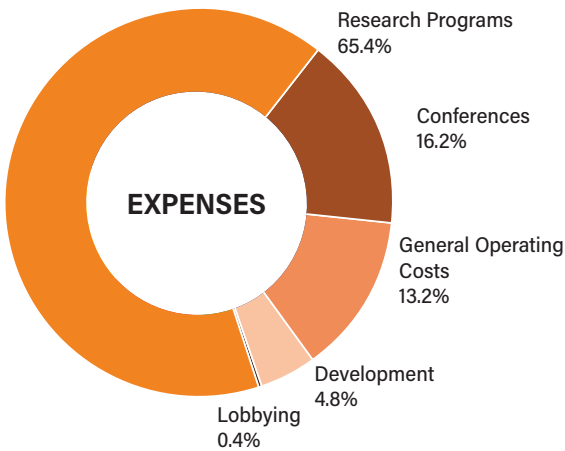
Because it takes a village, we collaborated to grow public support for reducing energy waste. We led the Energy Efficiency Communications Network, which represents more than two dozen regional and national groups, and we co-led a campaign to scale the annual Energy Efficiency Day to a record 580 participating organizations.



Financial Overview

In 2019, ACEEE's total unrestricted revenues totaled \$9.56 million, including contributions from foundations, public agencies, utilities, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and individuals.

Total unrestricted operating expenses for the year were \$9.42 million. Expenditures for research programs and conferences accounted for 81.6% of these expenses. Development costs and lobbying costs were 4.8% and 0.4%, respectively, with the remaining 13.2% attributable to general operating costs.



Massachusetts Leads America's Clean Energy Efforts



October 1, 2019



Automakers siding with Trump against California's emissions rules are selling customers out [editorial]

November 4, 2019



Like berries, a superfood, energy efficiency provides multiple benefits. Reuven Sussman, director of the Behavior and Human Dimensions programs, discusses those benefits in our Live Well with Energy Efficiency video series.



"The organization's reputation is stellar and enables energy efficiency's many contributions to be quantified and tracked."

—Lisa Jacobson, President, Business Council for Sustainable Energy

"ACEEE has been an important partner, offering expertise and recommendations for bipartisan energy efficiency legislation."

—Sen. Rob Portman, (R-Ohio)

"ACEEE has transformed the practice of energy efficiency, not only in the U.S. but throughout the world."

—Ahmad Faruqi, The Brattle Group

"ACEEE is a critical leader for an affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy future."

—Dian Grueneich, Stanford University

"Facts still matter. When it comes to trying to persuade a skeptical Congress or administration to champion policies that advance energy efficiency, it is a tremendous advantage to have ACEEE in your corner laying out the facts."

—Curt Rich, CEO, North American Insulation Manufacturers Association

"I have worked with ACEEE for at least 37 years. Their valuable research and analysis has always been a key asset in making the case for energy efficiency before Congress and the administration."

—Jeff Genzer, National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO)

"ACEEE's action to deepen our understanding and enable stronger energy efficiency policies is an absolutely critical part of any energy efficiency solution."

—Peter Fox-Penner, Boston University

