

# Northwest Regional Clean Energy Innovation Workshop

University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington



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Area of Expertise: University-Industry Partnerships, Testbed Facilities

# Major Takeaways: University of Washington Workshop

## Event Overview

- 120 participants and speakers from Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington
- Strong representation from Northwest Tribes, National Labs, Research Universities, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, Cleantech Investors, Fortune 500 Tech & Industrial companies, Utilities, Policy Makers and Regulators.
- Panels explored the Research Ecosystem, Innovation in Large and Small Enterprises, Regional Policy & Investment
- Keynote talks by Secretary Moniz, Senator Cantwell, Governor Inslee, and Representative Kilmer

## Key Takeaways

- **Current Northwest Regional Innovation Ecosystem : VERY PROMISING**
  - NW clean energy start-ups are getting exits to market; some NW states have dedicated clean energy public investment funds; regional coordination has resulted in the formation of Cascadia Cleantech Accelerator, a 501(c)(3).
  - Globals in the NW like Amazon, Boeing, Freightliner, GE Grid Solutions, Itron, McKinstry, Microsoft, Paccar, Schweitzer, SolarWorld, and others have know-how to launch market-leading or market-making energy & efficiency products & services.
  - Region is an “all of the above” testbed for deep decarbonization, and an energy gateway to Canada and Asia.
  - Invaluable experience in social/environmental issues of Energy-Water nexus from 8 decades of hydropower development.
- **Building a Broader Northwest Ecosystem: ROADMAPPING needed to ACCELERATE INNOVATION**
  - Ingredients for a supercharged ecosystem are present in the Northwest.
  - A regional roadmap with coordination of public and private funds, strategic partners, testbed facilities, researchers and students will enable next-level performance.

# Major Takeaways: University of Washington Workshop (continued)

## Key Takeaways (continued)

- NW Opportunity: Create the nation's premier "all of the above" deep decarbonization testbed
  - Currently about 75% of NW electricity generation has no carbon emissions.
  - Energy efficiency and renewables are expected to meet future growth in the region's electrical load.
  - NW science and technology strengths in materials, computing, large data analytics, system analysis supports deeper decarbonization of the grid, transportation, building, and industrial sectors.
  - Deeper decarb: RD&D partnerships using regional and national testbeds to expand deployment of small modular nuclear, wind, geothermal, marine energy, energy efficiency, and grid modernization hardware and software.
  - Deeper decarb: RD&D partnerships to accelerate biofuels, electrification, & lightweighting for aviation & vehicles
  - Deeper decarb: RD&D partnerships using regional & national testbeds to accelerate clean energy smart manufacturing
- NW Opportunity: Leverage the region's energy and trade integration with Canada and Asia to accelerate global progress.
- NW Challenge: Coordination & communication across the region to focus on highest impact areas.
- NW Priority: Strategy and funding that mobilizes the partnerships & facilities needed to transition high impact innovations from research to prototypes and scalable demonstration projects.
- Next Step: Develop a roadmap to strategically align regional assets with globally impactful goals & milestones in order to accelerate prototype development and technology demonstrations at scale.