



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of Economic
Impact and Diversity

Justice Week 2023: *Equity Empowered*

Full Agenda





Equity Portfolio Day, October 30, 2023

10:00-10:15: Celebrating Our Successes and Staying the Course: Opening Remarks from Director Shalanda Baker

Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity Shalanda Baker will kick off Justice Week and welcome all attendees, in person and virtually.

10:15-10:20: The Importance of Justice Week: Opening Remarks from Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm

Secretary Jennifer M. Granholm will provide opening remarks for the second annual Justice Week. Justice Week highlights departmental work to support equity, Justice 40, minority business enterprises, minority serving institutions, and diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility.

10:20-11:05: Panel – Introduction to Community Benefits Plan - In Theory and In Practice

Join us on Day 1 of Justice Week for an introduction and discussion of the Department of Energy's groundbreaking Community Benefits Plans (CBP). Titled "Introduction to Community Benefits Plans – In Theory and Practice," this panel is the inaugural event for Justice Week. It promises to be a dynamic discussion on implementing and integrating CBP policies throughout the Department of Energy.

The Department introduced a transformative initiative to reshape the landscape of clean energy projects in our country. As part of all Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and (IRA) funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) and loan applications, these require the integration of the Community Benefits Plan. These plans are instrumental in shaping the future of clean energy development by aligning projects with four core policy priorities:

- Investing in America's workforce
- Engaging communities and labor
- Advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility
- Implementing Justice 40

This panel will delve into Community Benefits Plans' critical role in paving the way to ensuring that BIL and IRA investments are equitably shared within the clean energy transition. This panel offers a unique opportunity to delve into the heart of the DOE's commitment to equity through Community Benefit Plans. The panel will feature insights from DOE Program Offices and Clean Energy Innovation Prize participants. Learn how CBPs are helping guide the Department's work in ensuring an equitable energy system where its benefits flow and are felt by communities. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to gain insights into how the DOE drives equity and community engagement through its innovative Community Benefits Plans.

11:05-12:05: Panel – Community Benefits Plans from the CEO Perspective

The roundtable will highlight best practices on community engagement, community benefits, and project design, as well as novel approaches firms are taking to center equity in their public-facing programs. This roundtable will challenge CEOs from corporations that could one day receive taxpayer funded dollars to think through their relationships and responsibility to the surrounding community. The conversation will finish with a focus on the future of CBP-type equity

frameworks and their potential to catalyze long-term partnerships between company and community leadership.

12:05-12:25: BREAK

12:25-1:25: Advancing Equity in Weatherization through Interagency Coordination.

The Advancing Equity Through Interagency Coordination panel will explore the ways that state and local agencies have leveraged funding through the Departments of Energy (DOE) and Health and Human Services (HHS) to help a greater number of low-income households reduce their energy burden. The discussion will feature state and local agencies in Pennsylvania and Virginia and how they successfully braided Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) dollars to address the unique needs of their communities.

1:25-2:10: Advancing Equity in DOE Procurement Opportunities

The Advancing Equity Through Interagency Coordination panel will explore the ways that state and local agencies have leveraged funding through the Departments of Energy (DOE) and Health and Human Services (HHS) to help a greater number of low-income households reduce their energy burden. The discussion will feature state and local agencies in Pennsylvania and Virginia and how they successfully braided Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) dollars to address the unique needs of their communities.

2:10-2:30: Civil Rights Compliance in DOE Conducted and Funded Activities

This presentation will provide an overview of DOE grantee civil rights compliance requirements, including ensuring access to Limited English Proficient individuals, will be provided. Additionally, the civil rights goals that support DOE's Equity and Justice Agency Priority Goal will be discussed.

2:30-2:35: Closing Remarks from Director Shalanda Baker

Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity Shalanda Baker will close out Equity Day and get audience excited for remainder of activities for Justice Week.



Justice40 Day, October 31, 2023

10:00-10:15: Opening Remarks from Director Shalanda Baker

Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity Shalanda Baker will kick off the second day of Justice Week, which will focus on the Justice40 Initiative.

10:15-10:45: Justice40 Nuts and Bolts – Towards Distributive Justice

The office of Economic Impact and Diversity will give a high-level view of Justice40 covered programs and what the initiative has helped accomplish including showing some data analysis. The Geothermal Office will do a deeper dive and describe their implementation of Justice40 followed by the Grid Development Office who will share their implementation of Justice40.

10:45 -11:45: Listening Session – Justice40 Perceptions

The Department of Energy will offer this space to hear from community voices on the department's efforts implementing Justice40.

11:45-12:00: BREAK

12:00-12:15: Seeding Recognition Justice - Highlights from the Energy Justice to the People Roadshow

Sonrisa Lucero, Special Advisor for Stakeholder Engagement in the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity will provide opening, framing remarks and then turn it over to a video recapping the DOE Energy Justice to the People Roadshow.

12:15-1:00: Panel – Towards Relational Justice in Energy Systems

This is a series of presentation about the theory and practice of relational environmental justice. This is an emerging approach to environmental justice focuses on injustice as an outcome of broken relationship between communities and seeks to address injustice by building toward “good relationships” that are built on consent, trust, accountability and reciprocity. Indigenous Climate Justice scholars have argued that clean energy transitions by narrowly focusing on Greenhouse gas emissions will fail to address the roots causes of climate change which are broken relationships between human communities due to racism and colonialism and between humans and their environments. Addressing these root causes they argue requires building consent, trust, accountability and reciprocity between interdependent communities. Presentations from three panelist describe the theory and practice of this approach based on community centered research projects in Massachusetts and Colorado. Each panelist will give a 7-10 minute talk and then Direct Baker will lead a Q and A.

1:00-2:30: LUNCH

2:30-2:40: Move to Breakout Rooms

2:40-3:25: Breakout Rooms: Implementing Justice40 at DOE - Community Benefits Plans

The topic is building and advancing accountability in CBPs. There will be four breakout rooms, one for each of the CBP pillars. Each breakout room will have a facilitator(s). Our plan is to create breakout rooms where program offices can engage in dialogue and reflection about their CBP work, focusing on the specific pillar of the room they are in. The general topic of the

breakout session is accountability in relation to CBPs, and we will explore how accountability can best be achieved to ensure the success of CBPs.

3:25-3:30: Return from Breakout Rooms

3:30-3:50: Share-out – Highlights from the Community Benefits Plans Breakouts

Facilitators for each of the four breakout rooms will share out key-takeaways from the CBP Breakout Session.

3:50-4:10: Coffee Break

4:10-4:55: Panel – Energy and Beyond: Justice40 Across the Federal Family

This panel is intended to be a conversation style panel with moderator-led questions about Justice40 implementation at different Federal agencies.

4:55-5:00: Closing Remarks





Energy Justice Day, November 1, 2023

10:00-10:15: Welcome and Lookback on Community Engagement

This opening session will welcome all attendees and set the tone for the day, Energy Justice. It will highlight the importance of community voice and decision-making in the development and operation of the energy system as well as highlight the opportunities offered by community owned energy systems. Leilani Chow will share how her community on the island of Molokai organized themselves to redirect the local utility to meet the community's vision for their energy future.

10:15-11:15: Panel – Leveraging Federal Opportunities for Equitable Solar Deployment

With the signing of the Inflation Reduction Act into law, the federal government is providing communities various opportunities to deploy equitable solar projects, such as the Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit Program, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, Direct Pay, and more. Join us for a panel to discuss how communities can take advantage of these opportunities to spur meaningful, beneficial, community-led solar projects with members of the federal family currently implementing these programs and equity-focused community solar developers. We will discuss the latest on federal programs for community solar, what communities can do to leverage these opportunities, and case studies from the developers on the panel. This conversation will include Senior Advisor of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Nicole Steele, Senior Advisor for Racial Equity at the U.S. Department of Treasury, Anisha Steephen, CEO of Groundswell, Michelle Moore, and CEO of WeSolar, Kristal Hansley.

11:15-12:15: Panel – Supporting Community-Led Energy Projects

The nation is excitedly at work under the monumental investment Congress made with BIL and IRA in our national infrastructure. With the goal that these investments become distributed in a manner that is both just and equitable, the Biden/Harris administration has made it a priority that these investments truly benefit communities through the Justice40 initiative and other executive orders; especially those communities historically overburdened and underserved. These panelists represent a combination of stewards and recipients of DOE funds that are undertaking the hard work of connecting communities with federal investments in ways that are both innovative and conscious of the needs of all Americans for cleaner, safer, and more reliable energy.

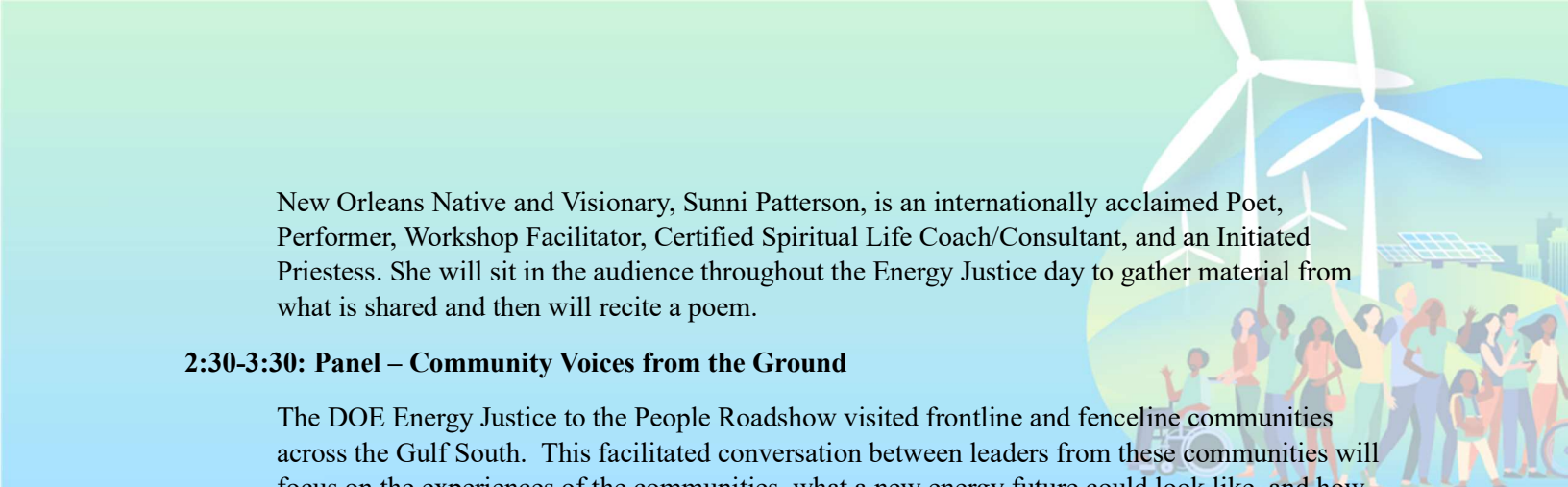
12:15-1:45: LUNCH

1:45-2:15: DOE Technical Assistance for Equitable Building Decarbonization

A just and equitable energy transition necessitates communities play a central role in the design of solutions to reflect their needs and priorities. Community-led planning ensures that state and local decarbonization strategies create tangible benefits to historically underserved households. This panel will discuss two new DOE programs established to foster community-based partnerships and technical assistance within decarbonization process. Join us to learn about approaches taken by the Building Technologies Office's Buildings Up Prize and the State & Community Energy Program's Energy Futures Grant.



2:15-2:30: A Voice in the Room



New Orleans Native and Visionary, Sunni Patterson, is an internationally acclaimed Poet, Performer, Workshop Facilitator, Certified Spiritual Life Coach/Consultant, and an Initiated Priestess. She will sit in the audience throughout the Energy Justice day to gather material from what is shared and then will recite a poem.


2:30-3:30: Panel – Community Voices from the Ground

The DOE Energy Justice to the People Roadshow visited frontline and fenceline communities across the Gulf South. This facilitated conversation between leaders from these communities will focus on the experiences of the communities, what a new energy future could look like, and how the DOE could help make that vision a reality.

3:30-3:45: COFFEE BREAK

3:45-5:00: Hackathon - The Opportunity Project: Improving Access to Electrical Power for Climate Resilience

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Economic Impact and Diversity and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau's The Opportunity Project (TOP) launched a TOP University Sprint (10-week hackathon) on September 8, titled "Improving Access to Electrical Power for Climate Resilience." Participating university teams will present their on-going efforts and seek feedback from the audience. TOP is an innovation program based at the U.S. Census Bureau that brings together universities, technologists, government, and communities to create digital products that tackle public facing challenges using federal open data. The U.S. Department of Energy is leveraging this process to ensure that communities overburdened by power outages are not left behind as electrification advances towards an equitable, clean energy future by creating tools or analyses that help to address any of the following energy goals: 1) inform investments in grid resilience and restoration, 2) deliver immediate benefits to our existing emergency response systems during power outages, and/or 3) provide visibility into disparities in access to energy. In the short term, this sprint will help communities to recover from power outages faster, measure progress, and ensure the needs of underserved communities are met. Ultimately, tools created through this program could also help target significant investments to modernize our grid, reduce the severity of power outages, and provide reliable and equitable electricity to all communities.





MSI and MBE Day, November 2, 2023

10:00-10:05: Welcoming Remarks for the Minority Educational Institutions (MEI) Portion

Chief of the Minority Educational Institutions Division in the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity will provide a welcome message and an overview of house cleaning notes.

10:05-11:05: Fireside Chat with the Whitehouse Initiatives on Educational Institutions

Description TBD

11:05-11:20: Overview on Minority Educational Institutions Opportunities and Research

An overview of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity's Minority Educational Institutions (MEI) division's mission, vision, and role as an actor for social change in higher education with a focus on how MEI amplifies accomplishments and achievements of HBCUs/TCUs/MSIs while addressing concerns and barriers through research, outreach, technical assistance, and advocacy.

11:20-11:30: BREAK

11:30-12:10: Panel – Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) Community Advancing Energy Justice

A fireside chat to provide an overview of the programs they've administered via funding provided by the Minority Educational Institutions division to advance STEM education, research and development, energy technology innovation and commercialization initiatives within the HBCU, TCU, and HSI communities. Lessons learned from each initiative will be explored with a focus on identifying strategies to further enhance and optimize programs of this nature to build sustainable pathways for HBCUs, TCUs, and MSIs.

12:10-12:25: Overview of New Technical Assistance Series

An overview of FY 2024 technical assistance programs administered by the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity that are designed to help HBCUs/TCUs/MSIs build competitiveness within the STEM and energy sectors.

12:25-12:55: The Impact of Internships for MSI Students

The session will address the importance of internship opportunities from a student's perspective, the value of networking and how summer learning experiences can lead to federal employment opportunities at the Department of Energy.

12:55-1:00: Closing Remarks

Chief of the Minority Educational Institutions Division in the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity will provide closing remarks.

1:00-2:00: LUNCH

2:00-2:15: Networking

This portion of the program is to allow for physical attendees to gain access to the event while creating a portion of the program for networking.

2:15-2:20: Opening Remarks for the Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) Portion



Introduction of ED's agenda and presentations.

2:20-2:30: Leveraging Community Benefit Plans to De-risk Large Capital Projects

Director of the Loans Program Office Jigar Shah will speak to the impact community benefits plans can have in de-risking large capital projects.

2:30-2:45: Showcasing Team Travel – Where We've Been and Who We've Met

This portion of the agenda focuses on the outreach efforts of ED 2.1 for the past 6 months. This will include an interactive map that highlights all of the states ED 2.1 has visited within the last year for outreach. It will include MBDA visits as a commitment to our MOU, conferences, and other speaking engagements.

2:45-2:55: Highlights of DOE Spending to Date

This will highlight funding awarded by DOE as Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Contracts. Awards for prizes and ED's funding opportunities will also be showcased.

2:55-3:10: Doing Business with DOE and Forecast Funding Opportunities

This session will explain the mission and commitment of the OSDBU, DOE's socioeconomic goals and whether the goals were achieved, and various ways to successfully do business with DOE. Minority businesses will be educated on the DOE mentor-protégé program, different methods of procurement within DOE, and where to locate funding opportunities.

3:10-3:20: BREAK and Transition to Breakout Rooms

3:20-4:20: Breakout Rooms: Intellectual property, Workforce, and Private Capital

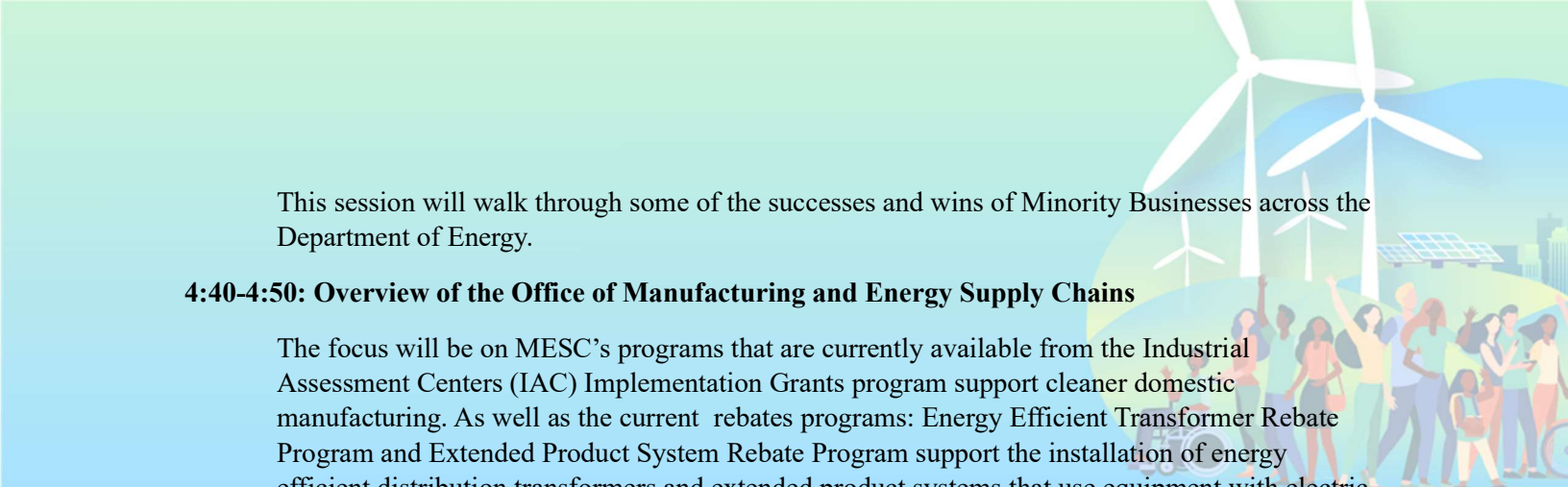
Breakout Session 1: United States currently faces a gap in racial, gender, and economic inclusivity in access and growth to U.S. intellectual property (IP), technology and knowledge-based economy for many disadvantage communities and businesses. The lack of access to technology markets for large segments of the U.S. population perpetuates a growing divide between demographics with access to the technology and knowledge-based economy and those who have limited access to it. Discussion will be related to these issues, breaking barriers, potential solutions, and resources.

Breakout Session 2: This session seeks to present the disparities of re-entering citizens and make business aware of the challenges they may face in partnership. Each panelist has a different perspective of how to approach these challenges: one from the citizens and one from the hiring platform. They also will discuss strategies towards individual business development and best practices for returning to the workforce.

Breakout Session 3: We will be going through a physical exercise/ line of questioning to understand the financial preparedness in the room as it relates to the private funding landscape. We will also have our industry experts sharing their practical knowledge based on the level of those in the room. Our goal is to ensure companies are aware and understand their readiness to engage with private capital that is advantageous to be competitive in the federal contracting and grant arena.

4:20-4:30: BREAK and Transition Back from Breakout Rooms

4:30-4:40: Showcasing Wins of MBEs Across DOE




This session will walk through some of the successes and wins of Minority Businesses across the Department of Energy.

4:40-4:50: Overview of the Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains

The focus will be on MESC's programs that are currently available from the Industrial Assessment Centers (IAC) Implementation Grants program support cleaner domestic manufacturing. As well as the current rebates programs: Energy Efficient Transformer Rebate Program and Extended Product System Rebate Program support the installation of energy efficient distribution transformers and extended product systems that use equipment with electric motors, such as pumps, air compressors, and fans. The rebate programs aim to help domestic manufacturers, utilities, tribes, hospitals, schools, and other operators finance equipment upgrades, which will conserve energy and reduce costs while slashing greenhouse gas emissions across multiple sectors of the economy. Lastly, for small to medium manufactures located in coal impacted communities they will share more about their Advanced Energy Manufacturing and Recycling Grants. and Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (48C) Program Tax Credits for future rounds.

4:50-5:00: Closing Remarks

Chief of the Minority Business and Workforce Division, Shalaya Morissette, will provide important announcements that will include the new Equity Ambassadors and the Minority Business Enterprise summit.





DEIA Day, November 3, 2023 **DOE EMPLOYEES ONLY**

10:00-10:15: Opening Remarks from Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm and Deputy Secretary David Turk

10:15-11:55: DEIA High-Level Accomplishments and Progress Across Divisions

The DEIA Strategic Planning, Training and Organization Development and Outreach and Engagement Divisions will engage in a roundtable discussion. The Chiefs of the Divisions will provide insights into their program accomplishments, goals and upcoming program plans. This session will be moderated by the Deputy Director of the Office of DEIA.

11:55-12:30: Outreach and Engagement Roundtable

This session will cover ODEIA Outreach and Engagement impacts both internal and external stakeholders. This panel discussion will highlight several successes focused on supporting underserved populations or communities through various ways.

12:30-12:35: BREAK

12:35-12:55: Introduction to Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility and to the DOE DEIA Alliance

The Division Chiefs of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity's Office of DEIA will introduce to DOE the DEIA Alliance.

12:55-1:10: Meet DOE's Employee Resource Groups

This presentation will highlight how DOE Employee Resource Groups are critical in supporting DOE mission and how ODEIA are spearheading efforts to increase engagement and collaboration within the DOE complex.

1:10-1:15: Closing Remarks

Deputy Director for DEIA Anthony Pegues will introduce Director Shalanda Baker for the closing remarks.

1:15-2:15: Employee Resource Group Meet and Greet

DOE Employee Resources Groups will get together for a networking event.