



SEPA OVERVIEW

Accelerating an Equitable Transformation

Resilience | Transportation | Emerging Technology | Energy Storage | Policy

Vision and Mission

Vision

A net-zero carbon energy system that is safe, affordable, reliable, resilient and equitable

Mission

To accelerate the transformation to a carbon-free electricity system through actionable solutions

Who Are We?



A membership organization



Staff of <100



No Lobbying – 501c3



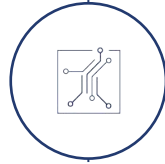
Founded in 1992



Unbiased



**Research, Education,
Collaboration
and Standards**



Technology Agnostic



**Local, State and
National Focus**



Membership



SEPA is a **membership organization** comprised of utilities, industry partners, regulators and other stakeholders.

1,000+

Total Members

18

Consumer Advocate Offices

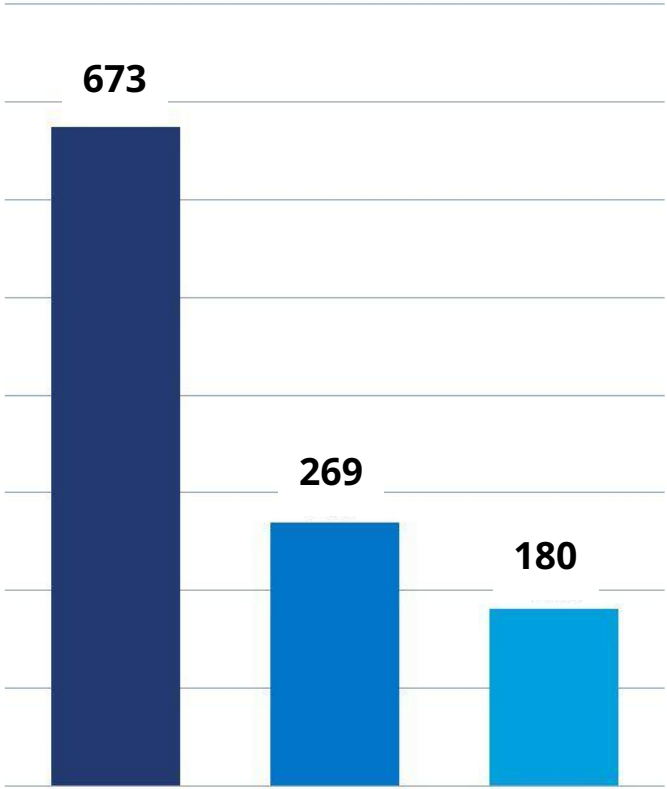
67%

Of U.S. customer accounts served

84%

Of utility commissions

- Utilities
- Corporations
- Government / Non-profit Education



Consumer Advocate Members



- **California** Public Advocates Office
- **Colorado** Office of Consumer Counsel
- **Delaware** Division of the Public Advocate
- **District of Columbia** Office of the People's Counsel
- **Georgia** Watch
- Citizens Utility Board of **Illinois**
- Office of Consumer Advocate - **Iowa**
- **Kansas** Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
- **Maryland** Office of People's Counsel
- The Office of the **Massachusetts** Attorney General
- **Montana** Consumer Counsel
- National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (**NASUCA**)
- **New Hampshire** Office of the Consumer Advocate
- Public Staff, **North Carolina** Utilities Commission
- **Oregon** Citizens' Utility Board
- **South Carolina** Office of Regulatory Staff
- **Tennessee** Attorney General - Consumer Protection & Advocate Division
- **Wisconsin** Department of Justice

Board of Directors



Alice Jackson
Senior Vice President,
System Strategy and Chief
Planning Officer, Xcel Energy
Executive Committee



Bryan Hannegan
President & CEO, Holy
Cross Energy



Carlos Restrepo
Chief Technology Officer,
Sion Power



Caroline Choi
Senior Vice President,
Corporate Affairs, Southern
California Edison



Chris Roe
Head of Energy and
Sustainable Operations,
Amazon



Elaina Ball
Chief Strategy Officer, CPS
Energy



Hannah Bascom
Chief Market Innovation
Officer, Uplight
*Nominating Committee
Chair*



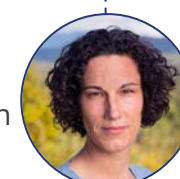
Jeff Guldner
CEO, Pinnacle West
Capital Corporation &
Arizona Public Service



Joe Hoagland
Vice President, Innovation
and Research, Tennessee
Valley Authority



Linda Ferrone
Chief Customer Officer,
Orlando Utilities Commission
Executive Committee



Mari McClure
CEO, Green Mountain
Power



Marion Gold
Senior Advisor, National
Association of State Energy
Officials (NASEO) and
President, Northeast Energy
Efficiency Partnership (NEEP)



Melissa Lavinson
Executive Director, MA Office
of Energy Transformation



Melissa Washington
CCO and Senior Vice
President, Customer
Operations, ComEd
Secretary



Paul Lau
CEO & General Manager,
Sacramento Municipal
Utility District
Chair



Peter Muhoro, PHD
Chief Strategy, Technology
& Innovation Officer,
Rappahannock Electric
Cooperative
Chair Elect



Scott Harden
CTO of Innovation,
Schneider Electric



Seth Frader-Thompson
President & Co-Founder,
EnergyHub
Treasurer

Recently joined:

Andrew McCallister, Ph.D.
Commissioner
California Energy Commission

Darryl Willis
Corporate VP of Energy & Resources Industry
Microsoft



Education

- Workshops
- Basic Trainings
- Bootcamps
- Webinars
- Blogs

Events

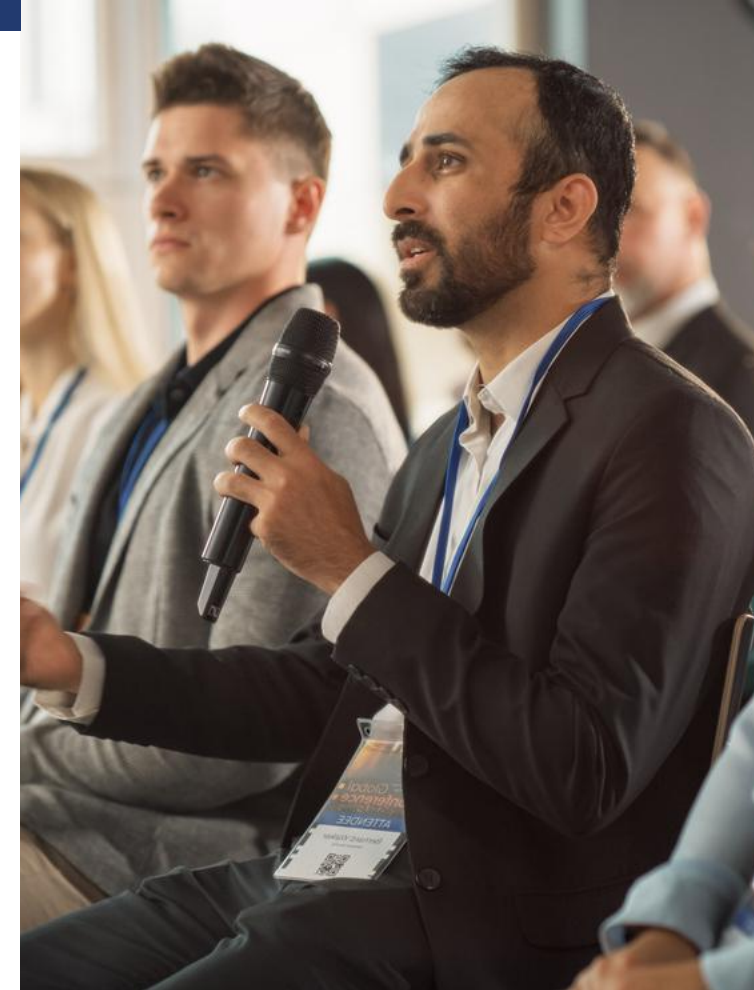


<https://sepapower.org/events/>

Awards



Surveys





Facilitation

- Community/Network Building
- Expert and Technical Assistance
- Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration
- Custom Projects

- Working Groups
 - 8 Main Working Groups
 - 13 Subsidiary Working Groups
 - 2,500+ Members
 - 480+ Companies Represented
 - 200+ Meetings per Year





Creation

- Standards
- Carbon Reduction Strategies
- Surveys
- Thought Leadership

- Industry Reports, Whitepapers, and Briefings
- Strategy Frameworks
- SEPA Snapshots and Power Player Awards





Research & Resources

Prior SEPA & NASUCA Engagement

Renovate Initiative (2019-2020)

- *Mission:* To spur the evolution of state regulatory processes and practices to enable innovation, with a focus on scalable deployment of new technologies and operating models, to meet customer needs and increasing expectations while continuing to provide all with clean, affordable, safe, and reliable electric service.

Task Force membership

- Christopher Ayers | Executive Director, North Carolina Utilities Commission Public Staff
- David Kolata | Executive Director, Citizens Utility Board of Illinois
- D. Maurice Kreis | Consumer Advocate, New Hampshire Office of the Consumer Advocate



Renovate INITIATIVE
Regulatory • Process • Innovation

SOLUTION SET
IDENTIFYING PROMISING PRACTICES,
PROCESSES AND STRUCTURES TO
ENABLE INNOVATION

The mission of the Renovate Initiative is to spur the evolution of state regulatory processes and practices to enable innovation, with a focus on scalable deployment of new technologies and operating models, to meet customer needs and increasing expectations while continuing to provide all with clean, affordable, safe, and reliable electric service.

What is the objective of the Renovate Solution Set? This set of solutions showcases a menu of promising regulatory practices, processes and structures to address barriers to innovation. The solutions are actionable and provide demonstrated roadmaps for change. They can be adopted and/or adapted to address environments and objectives within each state.

Why a focus on innovation? New technology, approaches and customer preferences are disrupting the ways utilities and other organizations provide electricity products and services. Without innovation, the current energy system is at risk of not capturing the benefits of system efficiencies for customers, including those driven by customer and competitive solution provider deployment of technologies and distributed energy resources (DERs). Without innovation now, the system will require bigger changes later.

Who are these solutions for? These solutions can be adopted and adapted by a variety of stakeholders. Proposed solutions could include a new commission process, a utility proposal filed with a commission, a legislative change, or an advocate's initiative.

How to use the Renovate Solution Set? The Renovate Task Force and Partners (see Appendix) identified four problems standing in the way of achieving the mission of enabling innovation and scalable deployment of new technologies and operating practices to benefit customers: I. People and knowledge (about the capabilities, benefits and costs of new technologies and operating practices), II. Managing risk and uncertainty, III. Managing increased rate of change, and IV. Complexity of objectives / cross-coordination to address in reaching this goal state.

The problems and potential solutions are complex and interrelated, and circumstances differ in the states where they might be adopted and adapted. The description of each solution includes some of the specific problems it could address, where to start, resources for further reading, and examples of where the solution is being tested or used.

The solution set is organized along two dimensions: the **problem statement** and the **solution type**. Solutions organized by problem statement allow the reader to see a list of tools to address a particular problem. Solutions organized by solution type allow the reader to see solutions that might already be part of the conversation or an approach being used in their jurisdiction/service territory/operating market.

www.sepower.org/renovate

February 2020

NASUCA Member Resource Engagement

- **Industry Reports**

- [Utility Carbon-Reduction Tracker](#)
- [Embedding Equity in Utility Transformation](#)
- [Utility Best Practices for EV Infrastructure Deployment](#)
- [Managed Charging Programs: Maximizing Customer Satisfaction and Grid Benefits](#)
- [Non-Wires Alternatives: Case Studies from Leading U.S. Projects](#)

- **Webinars**

- [The State of EV Managed Charging](#)
- [Microgrids: The Benefits of Including Energy Storage](#)
- [SEPA Connect Case Study Club: The Rhode Island BCA Framework](#)

- **Working Groups**

- Monthly virtual meetings
- Annual in-person Working Group Meeting



5 Focus Areas by 2025



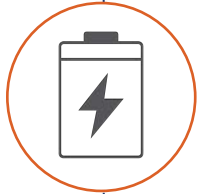
Resilience

The importance of resilience will only increase as grid disruptions from extreme weather events become more common and more severe. Our energy system must be able to withstand flooding, heatwaves, hurricanes and wildfires.



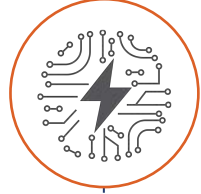
Transportation

The popularity of electric vehicles (EVs) and other low or no- carbon vehicles are transforming the transportation sector. Bringing together solar and other clean resources with vehicles, charging stations, and other vehicle-grid-integration technology will be critical to realize the potential of carbon-free electric mobility.



Energy Storage

Advancements in battery technologies and applications, including long duration storage, will allow us greater flexibility to align generation with load profiles, and to deliver clean energy when, where, and how it is needed.



Emerging Technology

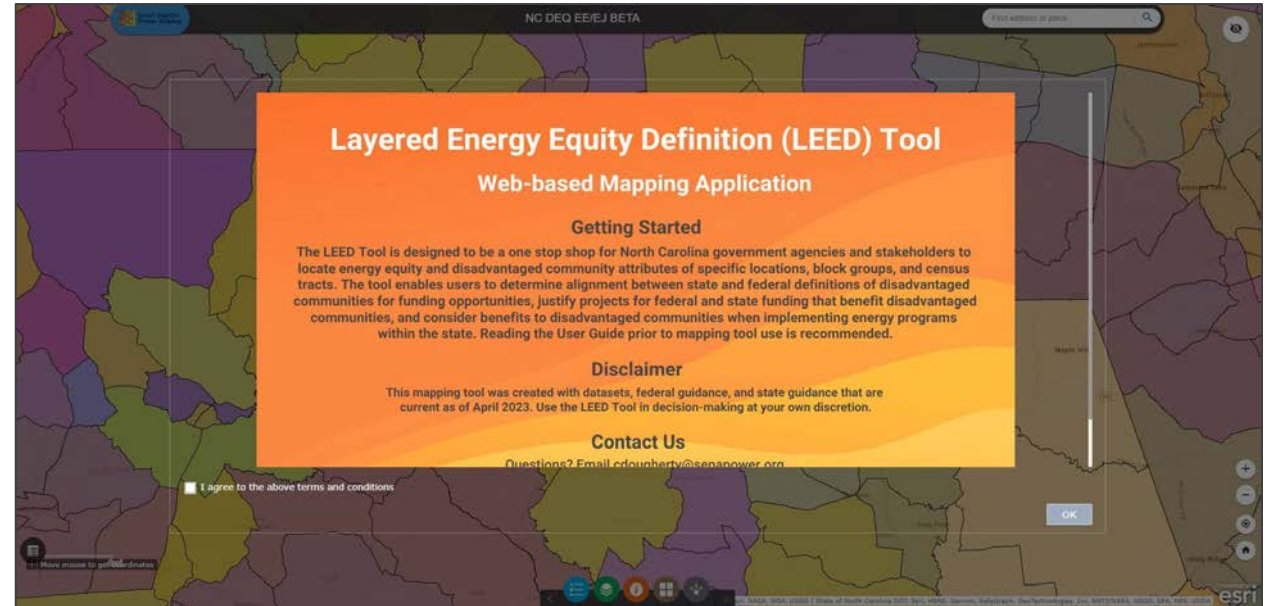
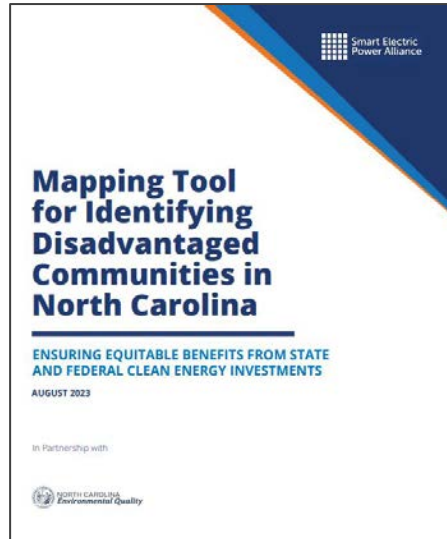
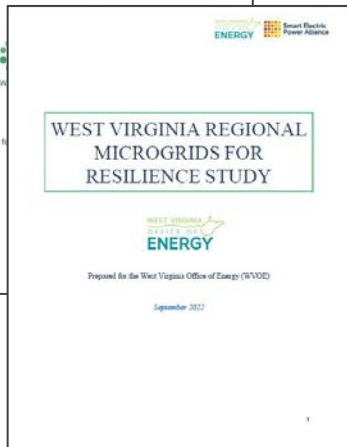
Emerging energy technologies are required to play a critical role in a fully decarbonized electric power system. These technologies span nearly all power system sectors and applications and include the advanced analytic techniques needed to make the best use of ever-expanding data sets.



Policy

Policy plays a crucial role in shaping the direction and pace of the clean energy transition through supportive federal and state legislation and regulations. Business models and regulatory frameworks, along with the underpinning policies, must evolve to further embrace innovation that is needed to reach a sustainable future.

Focus Area: Resilience



Locational Resilience Studies

- Pennsylvania (in development)
- North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
- Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet Office of Energy Policy, with the U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program (SEP)
- Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation's Critical Infrastructure Microgrid and Community Resilience Centers Pilot Grant Program

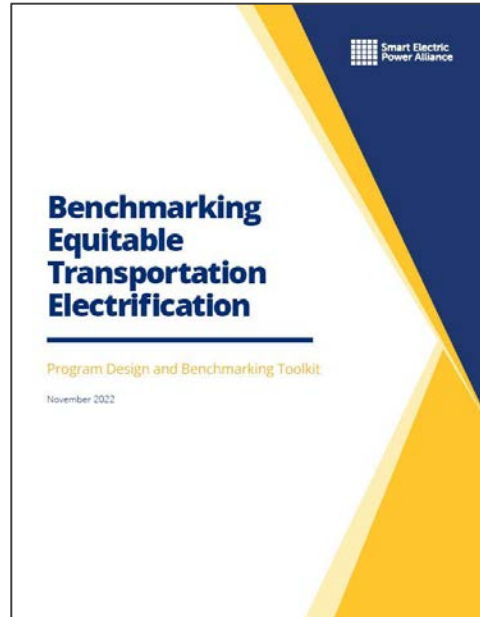
Layered Energy Equity Definition Tool

- Identify equity-related characteristics of communities across the state and compare their need for various types of support.
- Justify project sites for application and funding by identifying quantitative and qualitative benefits to disadvantaged communities.
- Select and implement sites within disadvantaged communities.
- Use the tool as a baseline to identify how well state programs are serving targeted communities.

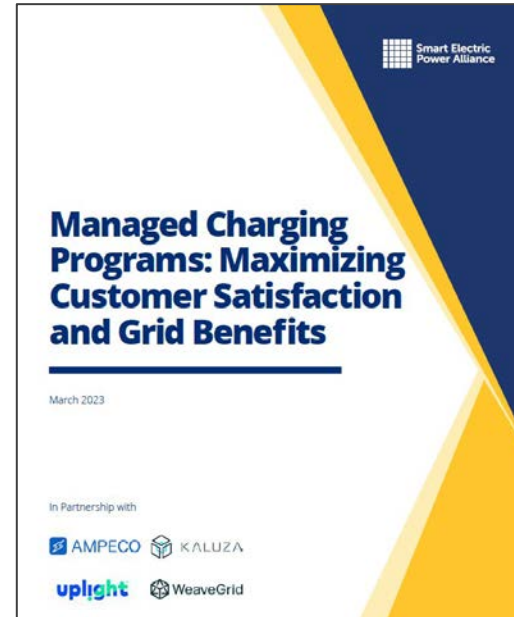
Focus Area: Transportation



- **Report:** Survey results and case studies
- **Forthcoming update in 2024**



- **Report:** Comprehensive toolkit with metrics and best practices
- Insights from community-based organizations

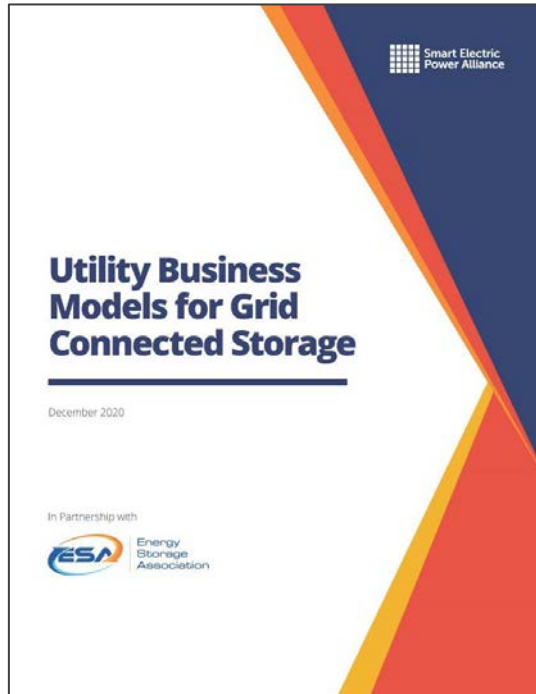


- **Report:** Program best practices to increase participation and customer value.



- **Report:** Overview, interviews, and case studies on opportunities and barriers for wide-scale adoption

Focus Area: Energy Storage



– [Report](#): Key factors impacting utility business models for storage, and case studies.

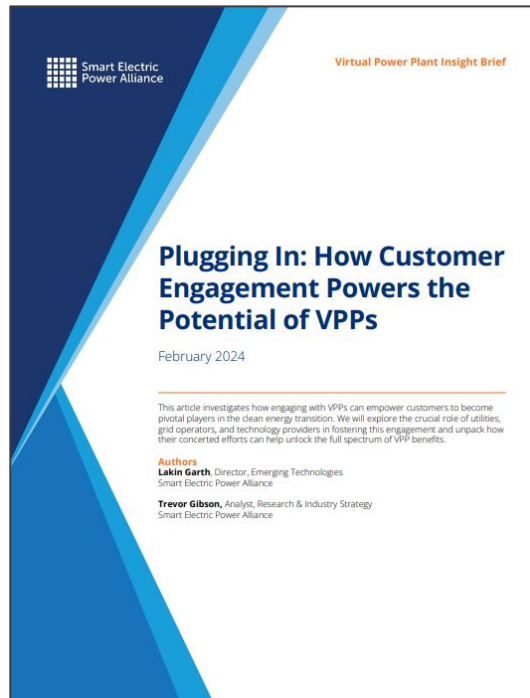


– **Energy Storage Working Group**:
450+ members
– Monthly virtual meetings for peer-to-peer convenings and case studies

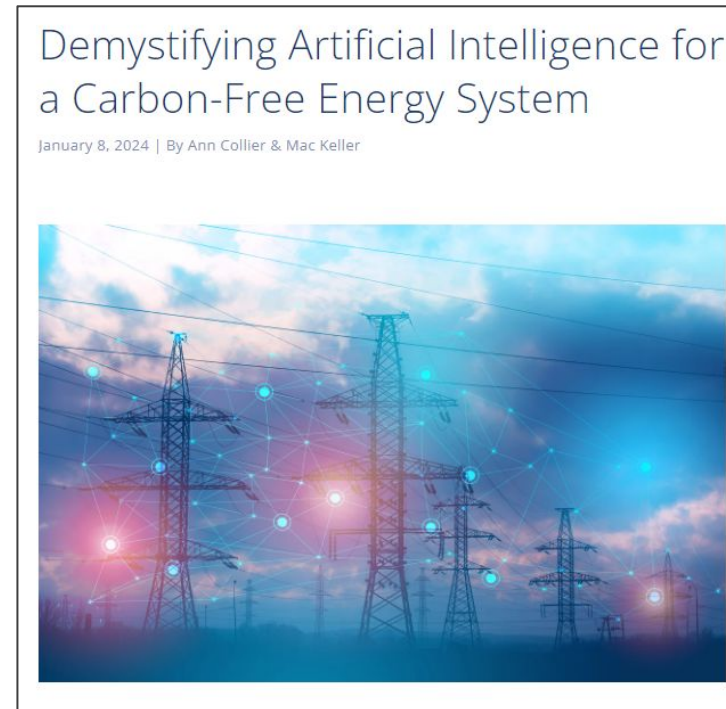
2024 Projects

- **Energy Storage 101 Primer**
- *Long-Duration Energy Storage* report

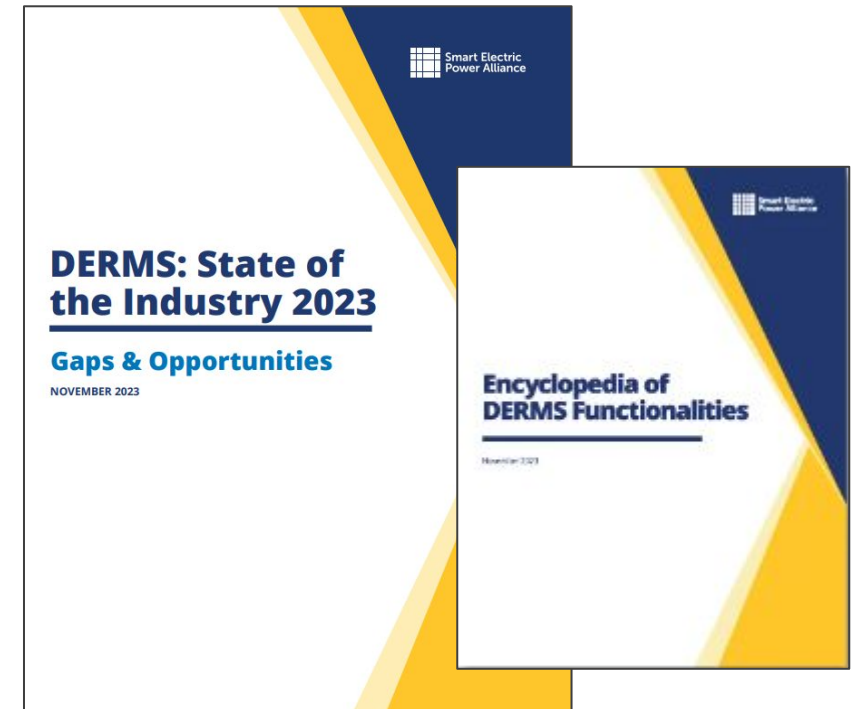
Focus Area: Emerging Technologies



- **Insight Brief:** Virtual Power Plants (VPPs)
- 3 interactive workshops with NARUC and DOE Loans Programs Office

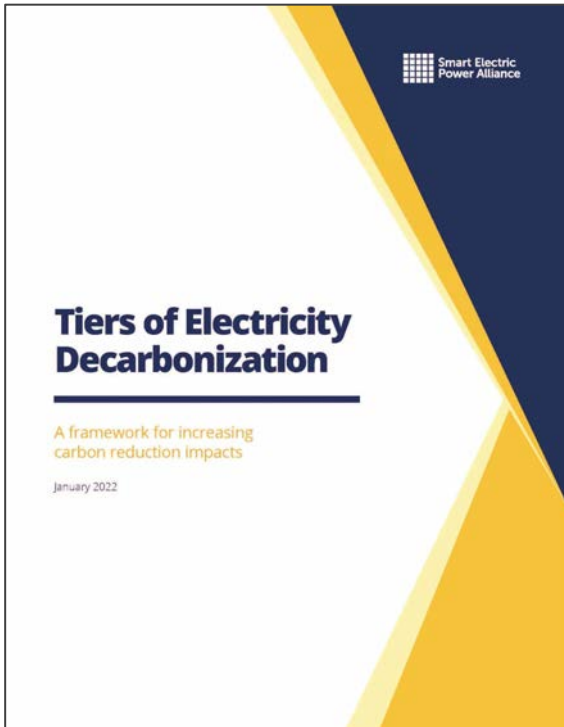


- **Blog:** Insights into A.I. and its impact on the electric power industry

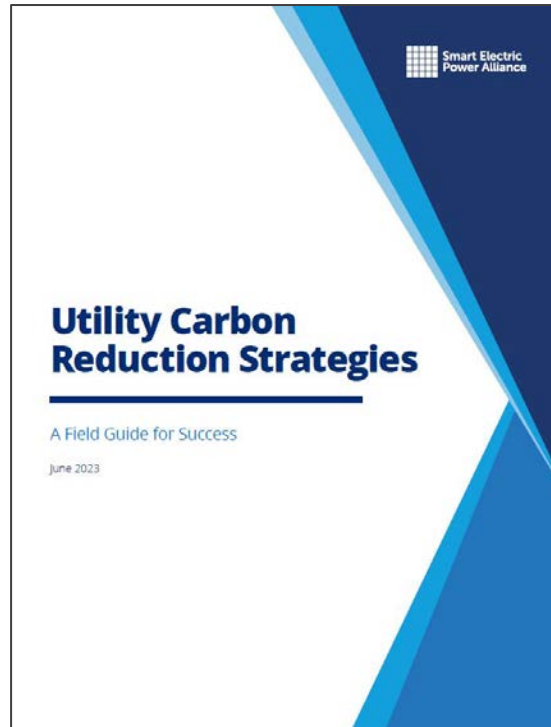


- **Report:** Encyclopedia DERMS capabilities
- **Insight Brief:** Overview of industry opportunities and challenges

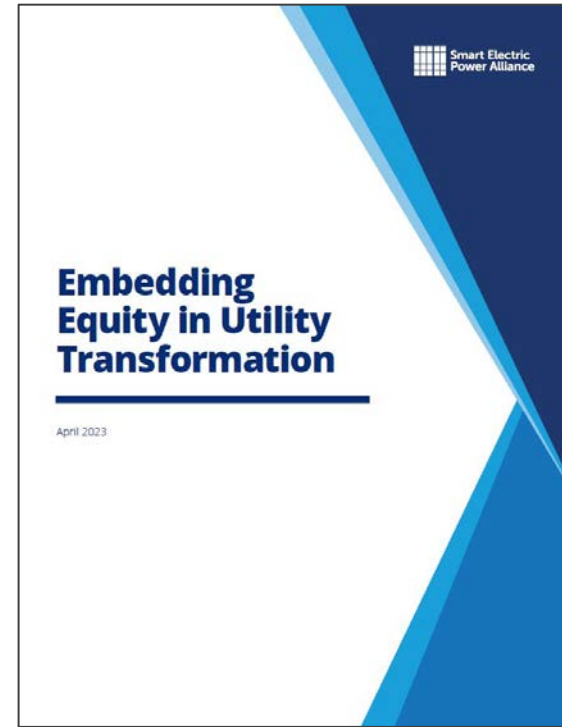
Focus Area: Policy



– **Report:** Framework and strategies to assess carbon reduction impacts, including actor types, objectives, context, and actions



– **Industry Brief:** provides peer examples and key components utilities should consider as they develop carbon reduction strategies and action plans



– **Industry Brief:** Overview of three equity components, peer examples and recommendations to facilitate an equitable transition

SEPA has the tools to help you navigate an equitable energy transition and **take action today**

REPORTS

- [Benchmarking Equitable Transportation Electrification](#)
- [Embedding Equity in Utility Transformation](#)
- [Layered Energy Definition Tool](#)

VIDEOS & WEBINARS

- [Inclusive Utility Investment: Beneficial Electrification, VPPs and Equity](#)
- [Voices of Experience: Developing Utility Mapping Tools to Support Sustainability and Equity](#)
- [Mapping Sustainable Communities for Equitable Electrification](#)

BLOGS

- [Defining and Prioritizing Disadvantaged Communities](#)
- [Inclusive Utility Investment: Expanding Access to Energy Improvements](#)
- [Leveraging Benefits for Equity: Understanding Utility Opportunities Within the IRA](#)

WORKING GROUPS & TASK FORCES

- [Inclusive Utility Investment Task Force](#)
- [Customer Programs Working Group](#)

RE+ EVENTS

- Educational Content Featuring Equity-related Topics:
 - *Paving the Way for Systemic Change: Creating the Clean Energy Future for Everyone*
 - *Equity, Energy Communities, and Expanding Clean Energy Access*
 - *Increasing Community Solar Access Through Innovative Financing & Policy*
 - *QuickTalk: Attracting, Hiring & Retaining a Diverse and Inclusive Workforce*
- Diverse Panelists and Speakers
- Affinity Group Networking and Training Events

*For a carbon-free future, equity is a **must** – not an option*



Research Requests

Member benefit: Research@sepapower.org



Examples of Past Requests

- Provided guidance on how a company can connect with microgrid developers and EPC firms.
- Responded to request for information related to community solar programs, including potential funding sources.
- Provided list of resources addressing reliability and resiliency for system-planning purposes.
- Responded to request for research on business and financing models for energy storage systems.

SEPA members can request help with quick research requests that take 1-2 hours to complete

- Response time is 2-3 business days
- Helps members save time and money
- Subject matter expertise

Join SEPA



- As a reminder, membership is no-fee, complimentary to consumer advocate offices
- Full roster of [SEPA Membership](#)
- Interested in joining SEPA?
 - Email membership@sepapower.org



Questions?



Contact Information

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Membership**

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**Kate Strickland, Sr. Manager, Research
(Policy)**

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