



2023 PORTFOLIO SUMMARY

- VISION:** We envision the region's homes, buildings, and communities transformed into efficient, affordable, low-carbon, resilient places to live, work, and play.
- MISSION:** We seek to accelerate regional collaboration to promote advanced energy efficiency and related solutions in homes, buildings, industry, and communities.
- GOAL:** Assist the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region to reduce building sector energy consumption at least three percent per year and carbon emission at least 40 percent by 2030 (relative to 2001).

Decarbonizing the building sector requires continued innovation *and* rapid scaling of existing solutions. In order to decarbonize with equity, marginalized communities must be prioritized in the transition and solutions that reduce energy and carbon must also improve the health, safety, comfort, and affordability of homes and buildings while also creating valuable, well-paid local jobs. This work requires new partnerships, program models, and goals.

Many of the solutions to get to scale are available now. NEEP focuses on the components key to rapid, equitable decarbonization of the regional buildings sector – strong policies and regulations to address building emissions, market transformation for electric space and water heating, community-led solutions, a diverse and experienced workforce, and replicable program and business models for low-carbon retrofits. NEEP works through strategic regional collaboration¹, engaging state and local governments, industry and manufacturers, efficiency programs, and other leaders across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region to innovate, develop the right tools, scale up public policy and market solutions, and access the knowledge needed to reduce building sector energy consumption and emissions while transitioning to a robust, equitable clean energy economy.

NEEP is uniquely able offer an approach that combines national expertise with local implementation knowledge to assist states in reaching their climate and clean energy goals. For 25 years, NEEP has worked to transform the energy efficiency market in areas where industry, the workforce, program administrators, and other segments of the marketplace benefit from a collaborative, multi-state approach. The combination of cross-cutting skillsets, experience, and existing relationships – typically only available through multiple vendors – makes NEEP uniquely capable to deliver this ambitious project scope and workforce efficiencies.

¹ NEEP serves 13 Northeast states and jurisdictions including ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, CT, NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, DC and WV.

NEEP's Approach

Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration: NEEP forges partnerships and brings stakeholders together to develop, advance, accelerate, and integrate energy efficiency solutions to decarbonize the buildings sector, leveraging resources and fostering regional learning.

Tracking, Analysis, Tools, and Reports: NEEP conducts independent analysis and develops actionable toolkits, web-based resources, online policy- and program trackers, and reports to support and advance regional market transformation initiatives that drive innovative and integrated energy efficient solutions.

Technical Assistance: NEEP serves as a technical expert on energy efficiency potential, best practices, impacts, evaluation, and integration with other low-carbon demand side resources essential to a low-carbon future. NEEP provides customized technical assistance that includes presentations, briefings, research, reports, responses to public comments, and model language.

Thought Leadership: NEEP helps influence the narrative around energy efficiency and building decarbonization by positioning itself and its partners as consistent, reliable expert sources of information and resources and by championing leadership across the region and beyond.

NEEP's Programs

NEEP's 2023 program portfolio offers six initiatives to engage regional leaders in collaboration to equitably transform our homes and buildings to be efficient and low-carbon through innovative public policy, technology, market, and consumer engagement solutions.

Public Policy and Programs – A successful transition to zero carbon buildings will require equitable and fair policy mechanisms such as comprehensive state policy, local building regulation, federal regulation, and alignment between policy and regulatory mechanisms. Decarbonizing the building stock requires an all-inclusive set of actions, occurring in parallel and phased in over time, across different sectors and levels of government. NEEP works with stakeholders to identify and disseminate best practice policy solutions, to conduct research and analysis to identify innovative ways to expand access to building energy efficiency programs, to increase electrification to meet state decarbonization goals, and to create a more resilient and flexible grid.

Building Energy Codes and Appliance Standards – Building energy codes and appliance standards ensure that buildings and homes meet and exceed minimum energy efficiency performance, are low-carbon emitters, and lock in priorities like electrification from the onset of the building's lifecycle. Intentionally written codes and standards, with appropriate metrics, can ensure that building performance and resiliency is equitably implemented throughout the building sector. Adopting updated codes and standards is essential to ensure that our communities are comprised of healthy and resilient homes, avoiding costly and disruptive retrofits in the future. NEEP supports states and communities to advance the adoption, implementation, and compliance of advanced codes and appliance and building standards that meet climate and affordability goals.

Solutions for Low-Carbon States and Communities – While statewide programs present the greatest opportunity for far-reaching impact, community-level initiatives are often more innovative, nimble, and better equipped to engage disadvantaged populations in the process. NEEP deploys a two-pronged approach to assist state and local governments with their climate goals. The first focuses on accelerating the uptake of effective decarbonization policies and programs at the state and local levels through regional action and consistency. The second focuses on advancing innovative decarbonization strategies through pilot programs and strategic partnerships.

Retrofit Models – Addressing emissions from the existing buildings stock remains one of the greatest challenges, and presents one of the greatest opportunities, to meeting 2050 climate goals. Completing retrofits of existing buildings at scale can be complex, disruptive, and expensive, and therefore requires a suite of solutions to make progress. These solutions must address, and positively impact, housing affordability, indoor health, occupant comfort, and resiliency in order to achieve an equitable and clean energy future. Replicable technical solutions, program and business models, financing options, and a trained workforce must be scaled rapidly to successfully accelerate building retrofits. NEEP identifies key barriers to program adoption, and provides analysis, research, tools, and technical assistance to deploy successful solutions.

Heating Electrification Market Transformation – Replacing building technologies that use fossil fuels with those that use electricity is critical for states to achieve their aggressive long-term greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals. Heat pump technologies offer households and businesses important solutions to reduce and eliminate these emissions. Electrifying heating also improves indoor air quality, and reduces risks related to combustion, creating safer and healthier buildings. NEEP works to accelerate market adoption of high-efficiency residential and commercial heat pumps for space and water heating through multi-sector stakeholder collaboration.

Grid-Interactive Homes and Buildings – With broad commitment to economy-wide decarbonization, the region will need to build a flexible, clean grid that optimizes energy usage and increases deployment of distributed energy resources to ensure that the transition is affordable, equitable, and cost-efficient. Grid-interactive buildings have the ability to shed, shift, or modulate energy use in response to grid conditions. Using homes and buildings as flexible sources of energy will reduce operating costs, improve comfort and resiliency, and provide increased grid reliability and security. NEEP engages stakeholders to identify policy barriers to adoption of grid-interactive homes and buildings and then support development and uptake of innovative policies, regulatory action, and residential and commercial programs.