CEDMC Federal Policy Call

September 10, 2025

The Council participates in monthly calls with REEOs hosted by Cascade Associates.

Typical Agenda Format

Date: July 16, 2025

1. Congressional
    1. Reconciliation Outcomes
        - 25C will be terminated after 12/31/25
        - 179D will be terminated on 6/30/26
        - 45L will be terminated on 6/30/26
        - 25D will be terminated after 12/31/25
    2. Appropriations

        i. DOE FY25 Budget Allocations Document

        ii. GAO Letter to Congress re Future-Years Energy Program

        1. Murray/Kaptur Statement Response

        iii. FY26 Appropriations

        1. House E&W Sub Approves FY26 Bill
            1. House E&W Bill (summary, text)
        2. Full House Approps Markup 7/17 at 10AM
2. Administration
    1. DOE Final Rule Delaying Manufactured Housing Standards Deadline
    2. HUD-USDA Notice for Comment: Review of 2021 IECC/ASHRAE 90.1-2019 Final Determination
    3. Congressional Letter to Trump re Performance Contracting (attached)
    4. Status of Key Programs
3. Reframing Efficiency & Forward-Looking Advocacy
4. Other Business
    1. 2025 Congressional Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency EXPO – July 24

Our next REEO call is Wednesday, **September 17.**

Current Activities – The week of Sept. 8 - 12

Washington ramps back up to full speed this week after the shorter holiday week. Today we will see the first bite at the apple of permitting reform when House Resources takes up Chairman Westerman and Democrat Jared Golden's SPEED Act, as well as a couple of other permit reform bills.

Other interesting hearings include tomorrow's House Energy Committee hearing on **Energy Efficiency standards and building codes**. Witnesses include Washington Gas representing AGA, CEI and the Home Builders.

Standards, Building Codes

The House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing on September 9, 2025, titled "Building the American Dream: Examining Affordability, Choice, and Security in Appliance and Buildings Policies". The hearing focused on Republican concerns that Department of Energy (DOE) energy efficiency standards for appliances and buildings are too stringent, increasing housing costs and limiting consumer choice. Democrats, conversely, argued that these Republican criticisms are politically motivated and that the standards are necessary to achieve cost savings and a secure grid.

Republican Arguments

- Full Committee Chair Brett Guthrie (R-KY) and Subcommittee Chair Bob Latta (R-OH) stated in a joint announcement that the DOE standards are "inefficient, ineffective, and harmful to consumers".
- They argue these regulations increase upfront costs for homes and appliances, contributing to the housing affordability crisis.
- Republicans characterize the regulations as "heavy-handed" and "burdensome," which limit consumers' ability to choose their preferred products.

Democratic Counterarguments

- Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) argued that Republican criticism is a distraction from real issues, accusing Republicans of prioritizing certain needs over the needs of everyday Americans.
- Democrats believe that the focus should be on realizing cost savings and enhancing efficiency for consumers and the grid.

At the September 9, 2025, House Energy and Commerce subcommittee hearing, the debate over energy efficiency standards involved a wide range of appliances and equipment, including clothes washers, dishwashers, and refrigeration units. The hearing occurred amid the Biden administration's rollbacks and the introduction of new legislation aimed at weakening or revoking standards.

Key appliance standards discussed

- Clothes washers, dishwashers, and heating and cooling equipment: In March 2025, Republicans applauded the passage of a resolution (H.J. Res 42) to rescind a Department of Energy (DOE) rule that had created new certification, labeling, and enforcement provisions for 20 consumer and commercial products, including clothes washers, dishwashers, central AC, and heat pumps.
- Commercial refrigeration: In late March 2025, resolutions were passed to repeal standards for commercial refrigerators, freezers, walk-in coolers, and walk-in freezers. Republicans argued that these standards would have harmed small businesses by forcing expensive upgrades.
- Other appliances targeted for deregulation: Leading up to the September hearing, the DOE initiated deregulatory proposals covering external power supplies, clothes washers, and portable air conditioners, among others. In May 2025, the DOE announced it was scaling back numerous efficiency rules for appliances, including clothes washers, microwaves, and cooking tops.
- Federal gas appliance ban: Representative Bob Latta, the subcommittee chairman, mentioned the Biden administration's effort to "eliminate the use of fossil fuels in all new and modified federal buildings beginning in 2030," which included military installations and housing. This aligns with broader Republican concerns over the regulations on gas stoves and furnaces.

Context of the debate

The hearing followed a May 2025 announcement by Energy Secretary Chris Wright to roll back Biden-era efficiency rules in what he called "the largest deregulatory effort in history". The debate focused on the overall regulatory approach rather than just one or two appliances, highlighting fundamental disagreements over whether efficiency standards increase costs for consumers or lead to long-term savings.

In the Future

National Clean Energy Week to Target New Clean Energy Environment – Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions and a host of groups will hold National Clean Energy Week from September 15th to 19th in Washington, DC.

Energy Dominance

Today, House Resources also holds a hearing on energy dominance.

The 9th annual National Clean Energy Week just a week away, more bipartisan governors from North Dakota, Wisconsin, Georgia, Maine and Michigan are the next group of five governors to

issue proclamations recognizing **September 15-19th** as Clean Energy Week. These proclamations were made by Govs. Kelly Armstrong (R-ND), Tony Evers (D-WI), Brian Kemp (R-GA), Janet Mills (D-ME) and Gretchen Whitmer (D-MI), joining 10 others including Idaho, Mississippi, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia and DC.

Climate Week NYC – Climate Week NYC will be held on **September 21st to 28th**. The event brings together inspiring heads of government and leaders from the world of business, tech, academia, and civil society. Some events for next week:

Monday September 22nd

What Now, What Next: Tackling Spent Nuclear Fuel for a Sustainable Future – 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM – A hybrid panel hosted by The City College of New York will explore technical, political, and community-centered solutions for managing spent nuclear fuel in support of U.S. climate goals.

Uncharted Waters: Examining the Risks of Marine Geoengineering – 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM – A virtual panel hosted by Friends of the Earth will assess the ecological, ethical, and political risks of marine geoengineering techniques such as ocean fertilization and alkalinity enhancement.

U.S. Clean Energy & Industrial Innovation – Report Launch & Climate Week Kick-Off – 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by The New York Climate Exchange will launch a new report on U.S. clean energy and industrial innovation, featuring key findings, expert panels, and networking on technologies shaping resilience, security, and competitiveness.

POWER: Bring it on! – 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by the Business Council for Sustainable Energy with K&L Gates and Hydro Québec will feature discussions on U.S. energy and finance, covering federal clean energy incentives, major project development, and evolving standards for sustainable investing.

API - ClearPath Carbon Innovation Forum – **1:00 PM – 6:00 PM**- The Carbon Innovation Forum will cover exciting developments in American-made low carbon technology, explore ways to remove unnecessary regulatory barriers, and critically examine the investments needed to scale up the energy technologies required to bolster U.S. geopolitical strength.

Beyond Barriers: Unlocking Home Electrification for Everyone with Inclusive Utility Investment – 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM – An in-person panel hosted by CET will examine how Inclusive Utility Investment programs can accelerate residential decarbonization, expand access to clean energy upgrades, and address challenges to scaling nationwide.

The Ocean Awakens – 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by Plastic Odyssey aboard the Wavertree at South Street Seaport will convene corporate, nonprofit, and startup leaders for panels, screenings, and networking on ocean action, covering sustainable supply chains, restoration, innovation, and storytelling.

Systemic by design: scaling circularity through culture, innovation, and infrastructure – 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM – An in-person session hosted by Arc'teryx will bring leaders from fashion and design to discuss embedding circularity into global supply chains through cultural change, innovation, and systems-level infrastructure.

Powering progress - grid innovation, AI, and the next US energy transition – 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM – An in-person session hosted by Climate Group will explore how AI, data infrastructure, and advanced manufacturing are reshaping U.S. energy demand, with leaders discussing grid modernization, permitting reform, and investment models to build smarter and more resilient clean energy systems.

From volatile to viable - the new playbook for energy security – 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM – An in-person session hosted by Climate Group will highlight how governments and businesses can align energy security with climate goals, showcasing strategies where efficiency and renewables strengthen independence, resilience, and economic growth.

Tuesday September 23rd

SAF Investor New York – All day – An in-person event hosted by SAF Investor will gather leaders from aviation, energy, and finance to focus on financing, scaling, and commercializing sustainable aviation fuel, covering capital markets, corporate strategy, regulation, and infrastructure.

Scaling Clean, Firm Power: The Role of Multi-Day Storage in Enabling Data Center and Industrial Load Growth – 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM – An in-person event hosted by Noon Energy at The Cornell Club will explore how multi-day energy storage can support industrial growth, improve grid reliability, and deliver round-the-clock renewable energy in an era of rising AI and electrification demand.

EDP Executive Roundtable: Powering Resilience: How Renewables Drive Energy Security and Competitive Advantage – 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM – An in-person executive breakfast hosted by EDP will convene energy, technology, and financial leaders to discuss how renewables can meet power demand while strengthening U.S. economic and national security.

Reuters@ Climate Week NYC – September 23–26, multiple sessions daily – An invitation-only series hosted by Reuters at 3 Times Square will feature exclusive forums,

high-level dialogues, and curated networking with policymakers, CEOs, and global leaders, focusing on climate action, energy, resilience, and the role of AI in shaping business and society.

Abundance in action: how to frame the next clean energy transition – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM – An in-person session hosted by Climate Group will convene leaders to define the "abundance ethos" and discuss how to translate it into equitable, scalable action for the clean energy transition.

Rystad Energy: Clean Energy Forum – 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by Rystad Energy at 50 Vanderbilt Ave will feature keynotes and panels on hybrid power grids, fuels for net zero, and the evolving energy transition, followed by a networking reception.

AI + the Future of Sustainability Reporting – 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by Sustainserv Inc. at 350 5th Avenue will feature corporate, communications, and technology leaders discussing how AI and emerging tools are transforming corporate sustainability reporting and shaping future practices.

Tackling the energy trilemma – security, affordability, sustainability – 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM – An in-person session hosted by Climate Group will bring industry leaders together to discuss how businesses can balance energy security, affordability, and sustainability amid geopolitical volatility, highlighting tools like 24/7 clean energy procurement, smart grids, and flexible demand.

Wednesday September 24th

Resilience breakfast at Climate Week NYC – 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM – An in-person breakfast hosted by Resilience at the Javits Center will launch the *Climate and Nature Risk Report 2025*, with CEO Dr. Andrew Coburn presenting insights on how major corporations are responding to climate and nature risk amid geopolitical and economic uncertainty.

The New York Times Climate Forward 2025 – All day – An in-person event hosted by *The New York Times* at The Times Center will convene global leaders, experts, and innovators for a full day of discussions on the most pressing climate challenges and solutions shaping policy, business, and society.

Pillars of the Green Transition – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by *Newsweek* at One World Trade Center will feature corporate and climate leaders discussing how maturing technologies, ESG reporting, and smart innovation are shaping the next phase of the global green transition.

Nuclear Symposium 2025 – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by Nuclear New York on Roosevelt Island will bring together leaders from policy, finance, and technology to

explore how nuclear energy can meet rising electricity demand through scalable, cost-effective deployment.

Tidal Shifts: Clean Energy Investment State of Play – 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM – An in-person executive roundtable hosted by the Business Council for Sustainable Energy and CleanCapital, in partnership with White & Case, will examine long-term clean energy investment trends amid a shifting U.S. political landscape.

The Race to Fusion Energy: International Cooperation and Competition – 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by Columbia Engineering in partnership with the Fusion Industry Association will examine how global cooperation and national competition are shaping the push to commercialize fusion energy, with panel discussions, a reception, and lab tours.

CLIMATE COMMS FOR CREATORS + COMMUNICATORS: Live Workshop! – 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM – An in-person workshop hosted by the Earth Public Information Collaborative will train creators and storytellers in practical strategies from the new Climate Communications Toolkit, featuring speakers from COP30, Conspirators, and H&M Foundation.

Power On Transformational Leadership: Reinventing Purpose, Strategy & Change for Climate Action – 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM – A virtual masterclass hosted by PURE will feature Neil Gaught, Ian Pallister, and Ana Alonso on embedding purpose, reinventing strategy, and applying change management to drive organizational climate action and sustainable transformation.

Turning Waste to Value: Creating a Circular Energy Future – 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by Bridge Green Upcycle at 116 E 55th Street will bring together experts from energy, cleantech, and finance to discuss how circular economy principles can minimize waste, improve resource efficiency, and support long-term sustainability in the clean energy transition.

Transitioning from EPR Compliance to Innovation to Have More Sustainable and Circular Packaging – 4:15 PM – 5:45 PM – An in-person session hosted by Pure Strategies will feature speakers from Colgate-Palmolive, Ulta Beauty, and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation on how companies can meet packaging EPR laws while driving circularity, cutting emissions, and improving business value through sustainable packaging innovation.

Simplifying Renewable Energy Procurement for Supply Chains: Panel & Happy Hour – 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM – An in-person event hosted by Green Project Technologies at a Midtown rooftop will feature a panel on supplier renewable energy adoption and Scope 3 decarbonization, followed by a networking happy hour.

Heatmap House – All day – An in-person event hosted by Heatmap News at 873 Broadway will convene investors, founders, policymakers, and journalists for a full day of panels and discussions on urgent climate and clean energy challenges and opportunities.

Thursday September 25th

Offshore Wind Transmission US 2025 – September 25–26, full days – An in-person conference hosted by Global Transmission at the New York Marriott Downtown will bring together regulators, port leaders, and industry stakeholders to discuss challenges and solutions for building the transmission infrastructure needed to advance offshore wind and support U.S. climate and energy security goals.

Stop Plastic Pollution at Source - Revolutionary River Technology – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM – A virtual event hosted by PURE will feature Think Ocean founder Hugo Valdes-Vera presenting new river-based technology that prevents plastic from reaching oceans, achieving 90% capture rates using renewable energy with no harm to wildlife.

Rare Earths and Energy Transition – Can We Diversify the Supply Chain for Vital Industries? – 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM – A virtual panel hosted by NY Energy Forum will feature industry leaders discussing U.S. efforts to reduce reliance on China for rare earths and explore strategies to diversify supply chains critical to the energy transition.

Achieving Zero Waste: Moving the Circular Economy from Idea to Practical Implementation – 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM – An in-person event hosted by The New York Climate Exchange at Governors Island will feature experts from the Center for Zero Waste Design, U.S. Green Building Council, and CET on practical strategies for architects, builders, and operators to eliminate waste and implement circular economy principles in the built environment.

12th Annual Alumni in Energy Symposium – Navigating Challenges to the Energy Transition – 1:00 PM – 5:45 PM – A hybrid event hosted at Bracewell will feature leaders including James Von Nostrand, Chair of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, to discuss regulatory, financial, and policy challenges shaping the energy transition.

Riding the Climate Reporting Rollercoaster: Perspectives from Leading Journalists – 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – An in-person session hosted by Antenna Group at 330 W 38th St will feature CBS News producer Tracy J. Wholf and Heatmap News correspondent Matthew Zeitlin discussing how climate and energy reporting is evolving, moderated by Isaac Steinmetz.

Energy Transition and Clean Tech Investment Amid Uncertainty – An in-person event hosted by Freshfields US LLP at 3 World Trade Center will convene senior leaders from capital, technology, and energy sectors to discuss how investors and corporates are addressing regulatory, geopolitical, and financing challenges in scaling clean energy and infrastructure.

Friday September 26th

Port Authority of NY & NJ: Advancing Sustainable Aviation Fuel in the Region – An in-person, invitation-only event hosted by the Port Authority of NY & NJ in Lower Manhattan will convene airlines, policymakers, SAF producers, and corporate buyers to discuss scaling sustainable aviation fuel supply, group purchasing models, and the impact of state and federal policies on regional SAF adoption.

Saturday September 27th

Climate Hackathon: Adaptation & Resilience – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM – An in-person event hosted by Fulton Ring will challenge participants to design solutions that strengthen climate resilience, using new data and mapping tools to help governments, businesses, and communities better assess risks and adapt to extreme weather.