



IWG Stakeholder Retreat

EMPOWERING AMERICA'S ENERGY COMMUNITIES

July
23-24

Agenda (all times ET)

tentative and subject to change

Tuesday, July 23

12:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Registration

12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.

Federal and Community Partner Office Hours

1:00 p.m.–1:10 p.m.

Welcome Remarks

Brian Anderson

Executive Director, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities IWG)

1:10 p.m.–1:40 p.m.

Fireside Chat: Helping Communities Make a Comeback

Lael Brainard

*National Economic Advisor
Co-Chair, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities IWG)*

Michael D. Smith

CEO, AmeriCorps

1:40 p.m.–2:15 p.m.

How Are Energy Communities and Workers Doing Today?

Small-group discussions will provide opportunities to network and gather input about what's working and where the gaps remain.

Jack Morgan

Associate Director, National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)

2:15 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

Energy Communities Spotlight: Worker Transition

Jacob I. Hannah

CEO, Coalfield Development



2:30 p.m.–3:15 p.m.

Supporting Workforce Growth and Resilience

This panel will focus on strategies to support dislocated workers and resources for fostering a skilled, adaptable workforce to meet industry needs.

Clemmy Allen

Executive Director, United Mine Workers of America Career Centers Inc.

Ashlee Fitch

Director, Steelworkers Charitable and Educational Organization (SCEO), United Steelworkers

Betony Jones, Moderator

Director, Office of Energy Jobs, U.S. Department of Energy

Additional speakers to be announced.

3:15 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Worker Group Discussion

Facilitated discussion about how the Energy Communities IWG can continue to support training dislocated workers and the transition to job placement. Discussion to focus on the needs of dislocated workers and best practices for helping them achieve their next opportunity.

Noah Brown

Senior Advisor, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education

4:00 p.m.–4:45 p.m.

Energy Communities IWG Rapid Response Team Briefing

This briefing will focus on the latest efforts of the Energy Communities IWG's Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) as RRT representatives share common challenges communities face and how a coordinated, place-based approach is helping low-capacity communities navigate their economic transition.

Carolyn Bryan

Regional Planner, Region 8, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Wyoming Rapid Response Team

Terri Dean

Chief of Staff, Region 3, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Pennsylvania Rapid Response Team



Kevin John

Program Manager, Los Alamos National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy; Four Corners Rapid Response Team

Jon Grosshans, Moderator

Senior Advisor, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

4:45 p.m.–4:55 p.m.

Remarks

Torend L. Collins

Senior Advisor for Infrastructure Strategy, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior

4:55p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Day 1 Closing Remarks

Closing remarks recapping key themes from Day 1.

5:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

Optional Evening Gathering

(Astro, 1306 G St. NW; cash bar)

Wednesday, July 24

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Registration

8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.

Federal and Community Partner Office Hours

8:30 a.m.–8:40 a.m.

Welcome Remarks

Brian Anderson

Executive Director, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities IWG)

8:40 a.m.–9:25 a.m.

Strategies for Attracting Private Sector Investment

Thought leaders with expertise in public and private financing and investment, site-selection, and project development will address how communities can best position themselves to attract new investment and address innovative solutions to common challenges.

Donna J. Gambrell

President and CEO, Appalachian Community Capital

Thomas Minney

Executive Director, The Nature Conservancy in West Virginia



Michael Taylor

Founder and CEO, Vita Nuova

Jigar Shah, Moderator

Director, Loan Programs Office, U.S. Department of Energy

9:25 a.m.–9:35 a.m.

Empowering Energy Communities: The Future of Inclusive Clean Energy Transition

Ali Zaidi

National Climate Advisor

Co-Chair, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities IWG)

9:35 a.m.–9:45 a.m.

Break and Networking

9:45 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

Energy Communities Spotlight: Repurposing Assets

Deborah Pontzer

President, Grow Rural PA

10:00 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Building Resilient Communities: Infrastructure for a Sustainable Future

Panel discussion will focus on efforts to develop and reinforce resilient, sustainable infrastructure in energy communities to support communities and private investment.

Tom Cormons

Executive Director, Appalachian Voices

Colby Hall

Executive Director, Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR)

Leasha Johnson

Executive Director, Mingo County, WV, Redevelopment Authority

Luke McGowan

Director of Federal Initiatives, Government Innovation, Bloomberg Philanthropies



Samantha Silverberg, Moderator

Deputy Assistant to the President for Infrastructure Implementation

10:45 a.m.–11:15 a.m. Infrastructure Group Discussion

Facilitated discussion about how the Energy Communities IWG can support communities in identifying infrastructure priorities and the federal resources available.

Alex Clegg

Rural Transportation Specialist, U.S. Department of Transportation

Doug Lynott

*Director of Economic Development Integration,
U.S. Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce*

11:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m. America’s Bipartisan Approach to Supporting Energy Communities

Discussion with Congressional staff and state officials with a focus on their efforts to support workers and energy communities.

Kaila Hood

Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Rep. Melanie Stansbury (NM-1)

Dru Palmer

Grants Integration Manager, Office of Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon

Jonathan Smith

Senior Chief Deputy Director, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

Brian Anderson, Moderator

Executive Director, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities IWG)

12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.

Lunch and Networking

Lunch will be available for purchase onsite.



12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. Federal and Community Partner Office Hours

1:00 p.m.–1:25 p.m. Crafting Effective Community Benefits Plans

Discussion designed to guide stakeholders through the process of creating impactful Community Benefits Plans (CBPs). This session will explore best practices, strategies and real-world examples to ensure that development projects positively impact energy communities. Participants will learn how to identify community needs, establish meaningful partnerships and measure the success of their initiatives.

Kate Ringness

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

1:25 p.m.–1:40 p.m. Keynote Remarks

Gayle Conelly Manchin

Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission

1:40 p.m.–2:15 p.m. Essential Resources for Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

This session will explore the network of public and private resources available for technical assistance and capacity-building support in energy communities.

Grace Blanchard

Senior Program Manager, Resilient Economies and Communities, National Association of Counties (NACo)

Ruthie Caldwell

Chief Grant Writing & Project Management Consultant, Vison Granted

Rachael Young

Deputy Director of Partnerships, Just Transition Fund

2:15 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Future of America's Clean Energy Transition

Closing group discussions will reflect on takeaways from the retreat and provide input on how the Energy Communities IWG should continue to support low-capacity communities and energy workers to ensure no community is left behind.

Rachel McCleery

Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of the Treasury



3:00 p.m.–3:20 p.m.

Closing Keynote

John Podesta

*Senior Advisor to the President for International Climate Policy;
Co-Chair, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant
Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities
IWG)*

3:20 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Federal and Community Partner Office Hours