Centering Equity and Justice in Energy Policy

A growing number of policymakers around the United States are seeking to increase the share of renewables on the electricity grid, but lack technical policy guidance on how to design and implement energy policy that places equity at the center of policy design, rather than as an ancillary concern considered after the fact. Similarly, traditional frontline environmental justice, social justice, and civil rights organizations have fought to be included in deliberations concerning renewable energy policy, but often find themselves lacking equitable access to the resources (e.g., research, data, model rules, etc.) necessary to participate fully in the policymaking process.

The Initiative for Energy Justice provides law and policy resources to advocates and policymakers to advance state-level transitions to equitable renewable energy.

Objectives

National Energy Justice Hub: IEJ serves as a hub for energy justice at a national level, arming frontline organizations with the academic policy research, best practices, and model frameworks needed for operationalizing an equity-centered just transition to renewable energy in their states.

Adoption of State Frameworks and Models for Energy Justice: Frontline organizations and policymakers are working collaboratively to drive the development and incorporation of actionable energy justice policy frameworks and transactional models in the energy transition.

A Growing Field of Practice: A robust field of energy justice practitioners have the capacity to engage across the technical, policy, and advocacy dimensions of the renewable energy transition.

Vision

We envision a transition across all U.S. states and territories to true energy justice, ensuring that energy is accessible, affordable, clean, and democratically managed for all communities, while also remediating past social, economic, and health burdens on those disproportionately harmed by the current energy system.