

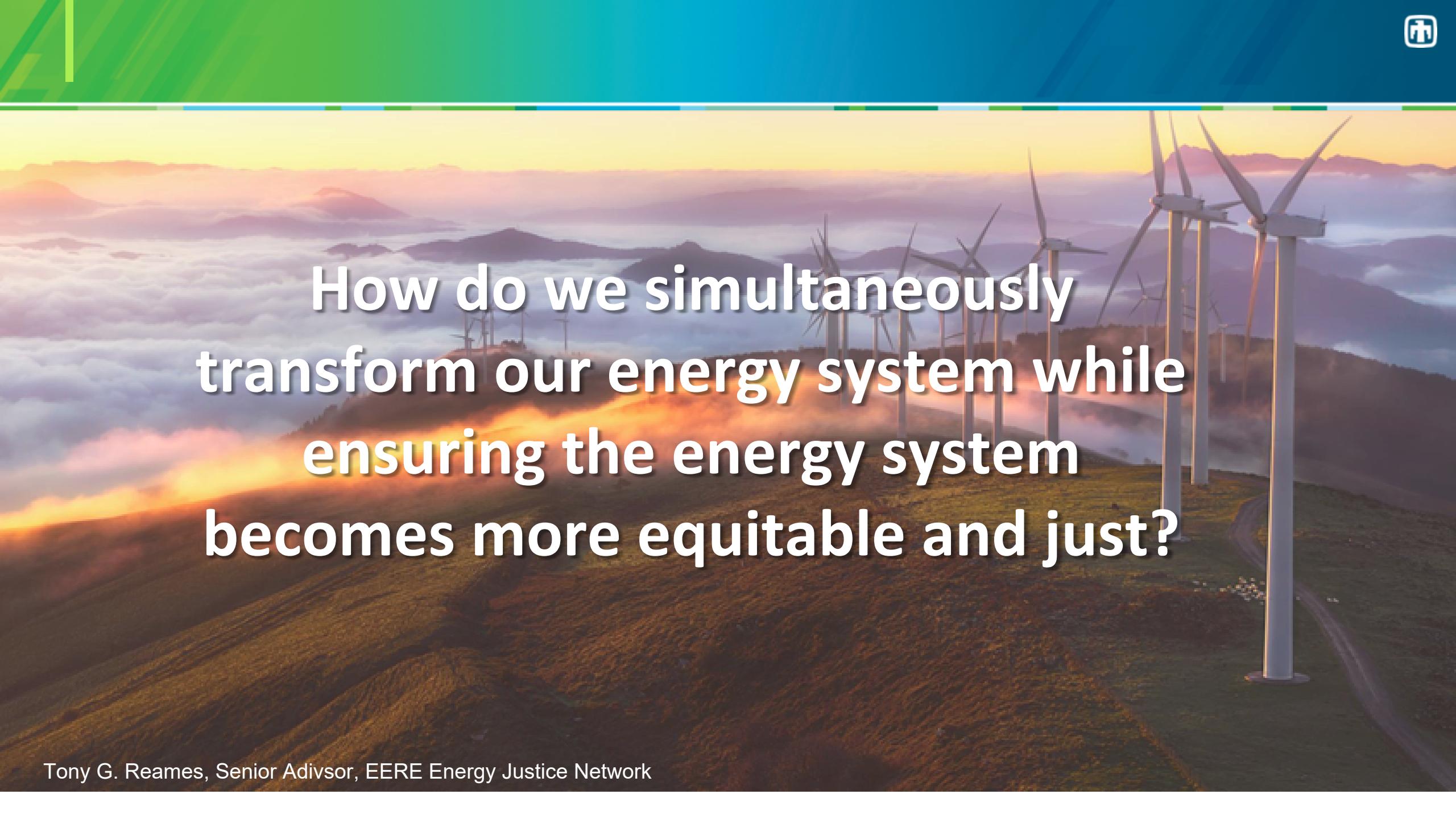


Energy &
Homeland Security

Overview : Energy Equity & Environmental Justice

Abraham Ellis
Senior Manager for Renewable Energy Technologies

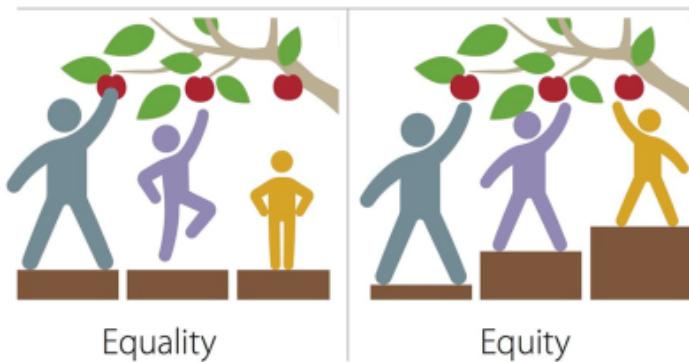
Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525. SAND2022-XXXX



**How do we simultaneously
transform our energy system while
ensuring the energy system
becomes more equitable and just?**

DEFINING ENERGY EQUITY

Equity implies fair, rather than “equal”, assistance to disadvantaged groups to level the historically unequal playing field.



Energy Equity includes policies intended to:

- Ensure that disadvantaged **communities (DACs)** receive the social and economic **benefits** resulting from energy sector activities, and
- Ensure that **DACs do not disproportionately incur social, economic and health burdens** for energy sector activities, particularly those that do not result in direct benefits to their communities.

Put another way...

Energy Equity refers to the fair distribution of the benefits and burdens across the lifecycle of energy sector activities



Credit: Shalanda Baker

https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-04/Justice-40_Baker_SEAB%20Berkeley.pdf

DEFINING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

- **Fair treatment** means that no group of people should bear a **disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences** resulting from industrial, governmental and commercial operations or policies.
- **Meaningful involvement** means:
 - ✓ People have an opportunity to **participate in decisions** about activities that may affect their environment and/or health;
 - ✓ The public's contribution can influence the regulatory agency's decision;
 - ✓ **Community concerns will be considered** in the decision making process; and
 - ✓ **Decision makers will seek out and facilitate the involvement** of those potentially affected



Source:
<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/learn-about-environmental-justice>



A company accumulated about 400 old wind turbine blades near Ellsworth. They were removed starting in late 2021.

(Photo by Jared Strong/Iowa Capital Dispatch)

Source: <https://iowacapitaldispatch.com/2022/08/17/utility-regulators-might-close-investigation-into-wind-turbine-disposal/>



FEDERAL POLICY FRAMEWORK

Executive Order 13985 (January 2021) – Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

- Ensure that Federal agencies missions advance racial equity and support for underserved communities
- Identify **gaps** and establish **action plans** to address unequal barriers to opportunity in policies and programs

OMB Guidance on the implementation of EO 13985, December 2021

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/M-22-03.pdf>

Executive Order 14008 (January 2021) – Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

- Whole-of-government approach to addressing climate change
- **Energy Communities** – “to revitalize the economies of coal, oil and gas, and power plant communities”
- **Justice40 initiative** (Section 223) – “to ensure that 40% of the benefits flow to disadvantaged communities”
- Created the WH Environmental Justice Interagency Council (WHEJIC) and
WH Environmental Justice Advisory Council (WHEJAC)

WHEJAC Interim Final Recommendations for the implementation of the Justice40 Initiative, July 2021

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/M-21-28.pdf>

FEDERAL POLICY FRAMEWORK – DEFINITIONS

A **Community** is defined as...



a group of individuals living in geographic proximity to one another, or ...



a geographically dispersed set of individuals ...

where either type of group experiences *common conditions*.

A **Disadvantaged Community** is one that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Low income, high poverty; unemployment or underemployment; jobs lost due to energy transition
- High cost burden or low access to: energy, transp., water, sanitation, healthcare, housing
- Disproportionate or high cumulative impacts due to pollution or climate change
- Racial & ethnic residential segregation
- Linguistic isolation



FEDERAL POLICY FRAMEWORK – SCOPE

Programs covered

- ✓ Climate change
- ✓ Clean energy and energy efficiency
- ✓ Clean transportation
- ✓ Affordable and sustainable housing
- ✓ Remediation of legacy pollution
- ✓ Clean water and waste infrastructure
- ✓ Training and workforce development related to the above

Investments covered

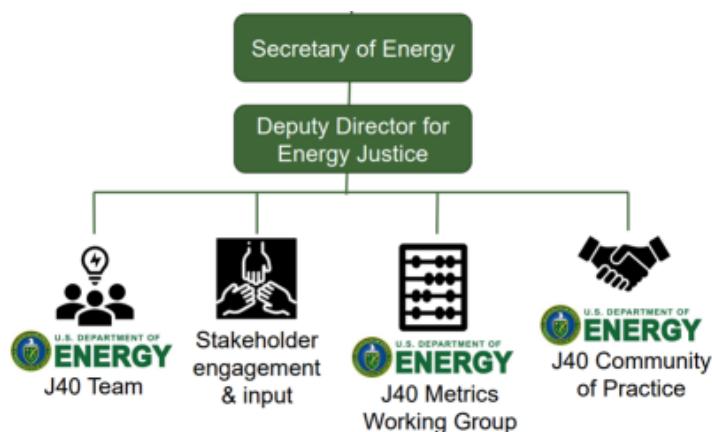
- ✓ Federal financial assistance, including Grants and other financial assistance (loans, credit, guarantees, direct spending/benefits);
- ✓ Direct payments or benefits to individuals
- ✓ Procurement
- ✓ Staffing costs
- ✓ Other as determined by OMB

JUSTICE40 AT THE DOE



Priorities

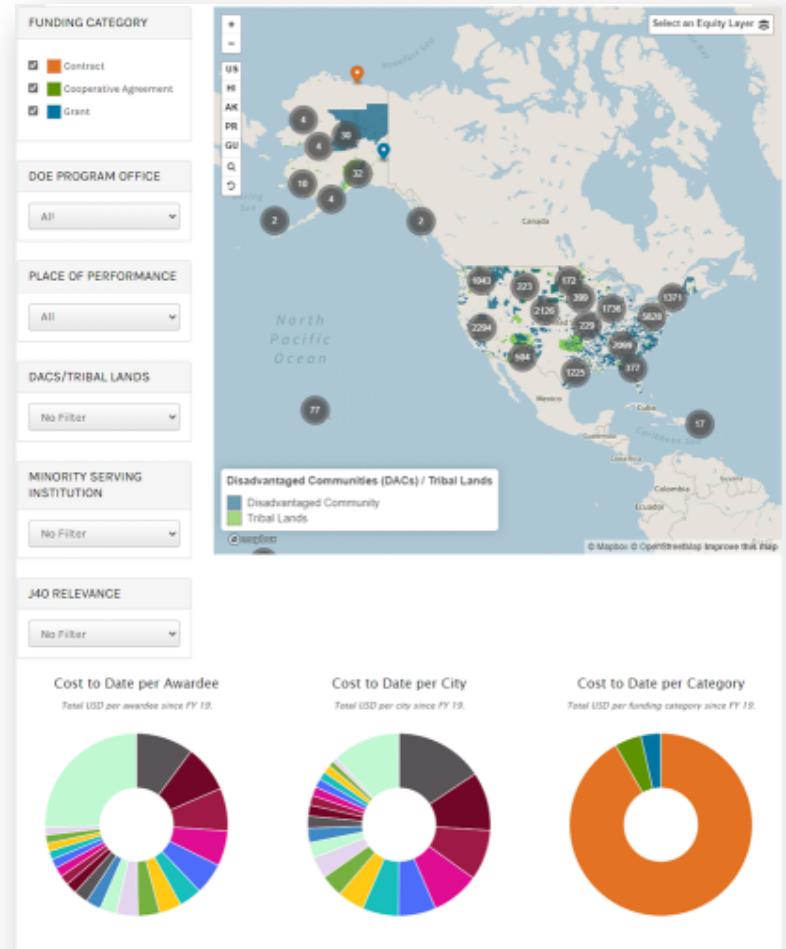
- Decrease **energy burden** in DACs
- Decrease **exposure to pollutants and environmental burdens** in DACs
- Create **solar parity** and increase **clean energy access** in DACs
- Increase **access to low-cost capital** in DACs
- Increase **enterprise creation** in the clean energy sector in DACs
- Increase clean energy **job pipeline and job training** for individuals from DACs
- Increase **energy resiliency** in DACs
- Increase **energy democracy** in DACs



DOE's efforts led by the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity

Credit: Shalanda Baker
https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-04/Justice-40_Baker_SEAB%20Berkeley.pdf

DOE Energy Justice Dashboard



<https://energyjustice.egs.anl.gov/>