

Capacity Building for Energy Assets

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management
Virtual Workshop
November 14, 2024
12 Noon to 5 PM EDT
[Draft Agenda](#)

Objectives:

- 1) **Illustrate challenges and opportunities available to energy communities** to retain/create jobs and economic prosperity by repurposing existing energy assets including mines for new purposes to identify promising technology replacements for energy producers to decarbonize. Illustrative examples include data centers and/or clean energy manufacturing on abandoned mine lands, energy storage facilities on sites of former coal power plants and storing hydrogen in abandoned oil & gas wells. Workforce development coursework development is also an essential part of community building and will be a focus of this workshop.
- 2) **Amplify funding available through the annual appropriations, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding**, particularly through U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and other federal agencies for these purposes.
- 3) Hear from community and technology leaders to discuss **energy asset transition** and **workforce challenges** for communities that have retired or soon-to-be-retired energy assets, including mines. The discussions will explore capacity building through new alternatives such as (but not limited to) **data centers, nuclear power, and critical mineral processing** to maintain jobs and the tax base while decarbonizing the economy, while also highlighting the workforce development challenges and needs. The workshop will spotlight **funding opportunities** through various government agencies for these purposes. **Breakout discussions** will help gather information for future Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) funding for community needs to conduct Pre-Front End Engineering and Design (Pre-FEED) for transitioning and addressing workforce challenges.

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12:00 - 12:45 PM	<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks – Bhima Sastri, Director, Energy Asset Transformation Program, FECM, DOE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brad Crabtree, Assistant Secretary, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, DOE • Dr. Brian Anderson, Director, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization • Neva Espinoza, Vice President, Energy Supply and Low-Carbon Resources, Electric Power Research Institute • Mark W. Menezes, President and Chief Executive Officer, United States Energy Association
12:45 - 2:30 PM	<p>Regions/Communities, Transition Cases and Workforce Development – Activities, Challenges, Opportunities Moderator: Kate Ringness, Senior Advisor to Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, DOE</p> <p><u>Transition Options</u></p> <p>Coal to Nuclear – Speaker to be determined.</p> <p>Fossil to Data Center – Will Payne, Managing Partner of Coalfield Strategies LLC</p> <p>Fossil to Energy Storage – Speaker to be determined, Xcel Energy</p> <p>Critical Minerals – Speaker to be determined.</p> <p><u>Workforce Development</u></p> <p>Workforce Development – Jennifer Worth, American Association of Community Colleges</p> <p>Workforce Development Program for Coal Communities – Missy Henriksen, Executive Director, Center for Energy Workforce Development</p>
2:30 - 2:40 PM	<p>Beta version of a tool for understanding the skill gaps and matches of the fossil fuel workforce, Daniel Raimi, Fellow, Resources for the Future</p>

2:40 - 3:30 PM	<p><u>Federal Panel – Supporting Energy Asset Transition</u></p> <p>Moderator – Bhima Sastri</p> <p>Jon Grosshans, Environmental Protection Agency</p> <p>Dan Cross-Call, DOE Loan Programs Office</p> <p>Davie Nguyen, DOE Office of Policy</p> <p>Zack Valdez, DOE Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains</p> <p>Tiffany Mayville, DOE Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations</p> <p>Speaker Invited, Department of the Interior</p>
3:30 - 4:30 PM	<p><u>Breakout Sessions:</u></p> <p>Part 1 (30 min): Capacity Building – What is needed in the pre-FEED to develop energy assets and move them to being Nuclear, Data Centers, Energy storage. What are the challenges and opportunities.</p> <p>Part 2 (30 min): Workforce development – What is needed for the workforce development so that the transition is smooth for any of these energy assets to move to a sustainable future.</p>
4:30 - 5:00 PM	<p>Summary of Workshop</p> <p>Summary of Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Building • Workforce development <p>Summary and Adjourn – Bhima Sastri</p>