

Tuesday, October 20

ALL = ALL BALLROOMS **A** = BALLROOM A **B** = BALLROOM B **C** = BALLROOM C

8:00 AM • BREAKFAST

9:00 AM • WELCOME

ALL Welcome

Welcome remarks by **UC Davis Chancellor Gary S. May**.

9:10 AM • OPENING PANEL

ALL Affordability in the Transition to California's 2045 Energy Market

Speakers from CARB, CEC, and SCE will open the summit by discussing how their organizations will help meet energy transition goals over the next two decades.

*Moderated by **Will Vicent**, Deputy Director, Building Standards, California Energy Commission.*

*Framing remarks provided by **Commissioner J. Andrew McAllister**, California Energy Commission*

- **Deana Carrillo**, Director, RREDI Division, California Energy Commission
- **Larry Chung**, Vice President, Customer Solutions, Southern California Edison
- **Annalisa Schilla, Ph.D.**, Chief, Sustainable Transportation & Communities Division, California Air Resources Board

10:15 AM • BREAK

10:45 AM • BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1

A Industrial Efficiency 2.0: Efficiency, Decarbonization, and Flexibility

Learn how industrial energy efficiency is evolving beyond traditional energy savings to become a critical driver of decarbonization, innovation, and grid flexibility as California advances "Efficiency 2.0."

*Moderated by **Kelly Kissock**, Faculty Director, UC Davis Energy and Efficiency Institute.*

- **Akruti Gupta**, Research and Development Project Manager, California Energy Commission
- **Leanne Hoadley**, Head of Section, Energy Efficiency Planning and Forecasting, Energy Division, California Public Utilities Commission
- **Ammi Amarnath**, Principal Technical Executive, Electric Power Research Institute

B CalNEXT: Connecting Emerging Technologies to the EE Portfolio

Learn how CalNEXT research helps identify opportunities to meet evolving energy efficiency portfolio needs and how project types contribute to driving market and portfolio adoption.

*Moderated by **Abhijeet Pande**, Vice President, Research and Consulting, TRC.*

- **Abby Wiseman**, Senior Engineering Consultant, VEIC (CalNEXT)
- **Akane Karasawa**, CEO and Principal Engineer, ASK Energy, Inc. (CalNEXT)
- **Amanda Shorin**, Project Manager II, Energy Solutions (CalNEXT)

C Data-Driven Decarbonization

Hear how climate and building data are leveraged to improve demand forecasting, advance the BIG Database, inform HVAC design, and support equitable energy planning.

*Moderated by **Quentin Gee**, Advanced Electrification Analysis Branch Manager, California Energy Commission.*

- **Lakemariam Worku**, Climate Data Specialist, California Energy Commission
- **Randall Higa**, Consulting Engineer, Southern California Edison
- **Tony Lee**, Adviser, Codes & Standards, Southern California Edison

11:45 AM • LUNCH

12:45 PM • BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2

A Building Affordable, Low-Carbon Communities: Addressing Operational and Embodied Carbon

This session explores emerging policies, RESNET methodologies for quantifying embodied carbon, and strategies to accelerate adoption of low-carbon building materials.

*Moderated by **Derek Okada**, Senior Fellow, Energy Solutions (CalNEXT).*

- **Charles Kim**, Senior Engineer, Southern California Edison
- **Shelby Gatlin**, Executive Director, RESNET
- **Brandon Wray**, Senior Director, Building Innovations, National Ready Mixed Concrete Association

B Shifting Load Made Easy: Just Add Water

Explore how Code Readiness research, field demonstrations, and real-world building data are accelerating the deployment of advanced air-to-water heat pump technologies.

*Moderated by **Kristen Driskell**, Director, Energy & Utilities, West Monroe.*

- **Kyle Garske**, Senior Consultant, West Monroe
- **James Linwood Haile, P.E.**, Senior Engineer, Frontier Energy Inc.
- **Emma Conroy**, Senior Consultant, West Monroe

C Next-Gen Infrastructure: Navigating the AI Boom in Buildings and Data Centers

Catch up on emerging applications of AI, from evaluating energy impacts and improving data center performance to delivering scalable, data-driven pathways for residential energy upgrades.

Moderated by **Bach Tsan**, Senior Engineer II, Southern California Edison.

- **Mudit Saxena**, CEO & Founder, XeroHome
- **Amy Droitcour**, Senior Manager, West Monroe
- **Ammi Amarnath**, Principal Technical Executive, Electric Power Research Institute

1:45 PM • BREAK

2:00 PM • BREAKOUT SESSIONS 3

A The Future of Heat Pumps: Multifunction and Ultra-Low-GWP Refrigerants

Discover how early field demonstrations of CO₂ heat pump systems progressed to the next generation of multifunction heat pumps using ultra-low-GWP refrigerants.

Moderated by **Cheryl Winfield**, Air Resources Engineer, California Air Resources Board.

- **Scott Adler**, Senior Project Associate, Association for Energy Affordability
- **Adam Jue**, Project Manager, ProspectSV
- **Meghan Duff**, Senior Manager, R&D Projects, Association for Energy Affordability

B CalMTA: Market Transformation: Innovation and Leverage to Achieve California's Decarbonization Goals

Join our speakers from CalMTA, NEEA, and Minnesota's Efficient Technology Accelerator in exploring Market Transformation activities in three regions that will impact California's decarbonization efforts.

Moderated by **Rick Dunn**, Senior Manager, Emerging Technology, Resource Innovations (CalMTA).

- **Jeff Mitchell**, Principal, Market Transformation, Resource Innovations (CalMTA)
- **Mike Smith**, Senior Manager, Emerging Technology, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
- **Isaac Smith**, Director of Market Transformation Technologies, Center for Energy and Environment

C Advancing Equitable Building Electrification in California Homes and Buildings

This session presents research, tools, and innovative program designs that are helping expand access to electrification for low-income households and multifamily buildings.

Moderated by **Aanchal Kohli**, Air Resources Supervisor, California Air Resources Board.

- **Eric D. Fournier**, Research Director, California Center for Sustainable Communities
- **Yu Hou**, Manager, California Energy Commission
- **Jenny Low**, Director, Build It Green/POWER Group

3:00 PM • BREAK

3:30 PM • BREAKOUT SESSIONS 4

A How Low Can You Go? Refrigerant Limbo!

Examine the latest research, policy developments, and deployment of low- and ultra-low-GWP refrigerants as well as the opportunities driving the transition to more sustainable systems.

Moderated by **Ram Narayanamurthy**, Program Manager, Existing Buildings, California Energy Commission.

- **Chris Martinez**, Staff Air Pollution Specialist, California Air Resources Board
- **Paul Raftery**, Professional Researcher, Center for the Built Environment, University of California, Berkeley
- **Danielle Wright**, Executive Director, North American Sustainable Refrigeration Council
- **Reginald Wilkins, Ph.D.**, Advisor, Measurement and Evaluation, Southern California Edison

B From Transformer to Toaster: Demand Flex Research Updates from the DRET Collaborative

Through demos and field studies, DRET partners will share how different technologies can work together to coordinate customer loads and DER with real-time grid needs.

Moderated by **Ivy So**, Program Manager, APTIM.

- **Denver Hinds**, R&D Load Flexibility Supervisor, Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- **Albert Chiu**, Product Manager, Load Management Strategy and Policy, Pacific Gas & Electric Company
- **Patrick Mucha**, Haven Energy Services, Inc.

C Understanding Customer Decisions: Barriers and Motivations for Heat Pump Adoption

Drawing on extensive research, this session describes customer decision-making across markets and shares the motivations, business cases, and market barriers shaping heat pump technology adoption.

Moderated by **Bryce Dias**, Principal Program Manager, Building Electrification & Efficiency Strategy, Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

- **Eli Alston-Stepnitz, Ph.D.**, Researcher, Market Transformation Research Program, Western Cooling Efficiency Center, University of California, Davis
- **Emma Conroy**, Senior Consultant, West Monroe
- **Jeff Staller**, Principal, West Monroe

Wednesday, October 21

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8:00 AM • BREAKFAST

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ALL Welcome

Welcome remarks by **Kelly Kissock**, Faculty Director, UC Davis Energy and Efficiency Institute.

9:15 AM • OPENING PANEL

ALL Advancing the Energy Transition through Innovation and Strategic Partnerships

Find out how California's universities and research organizations are driving the next generation of energy innovation, advancing technologies, and strategies shaping our clean energy future.

Moderated by **Jonah Steinbuck**, Director, R&D Division, California Energy Commission.

- **Benjamin Finkel**, Executive Director, UC Davis Energy & Efficiency Institute
- **G. P. Li**, Director, CalPlug, UC Irvine
- **Cindy Regnier, P.E.**, Whole Building Systems Department Head, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
- **Andy Satchwell**, Director, Policy Strategy, Pacific Gas & Electric Company

10:15 AM • BREAK

10:45 AM • BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1

A Bridging the DHW Gap with Water Heating Technologies

This session showcases opportunities to improve domestic hot water system design and operation with practical insights aligning hot water systems with actual building needs.

Moderated by **Steven Long**, Director of Engineering, ICF (GET).

- **Yasemin Agi**, Energy Engineer, Lincus, Inc. (GET)
- **Chris Salerno**, Senior Energy Engineer, Lincus, Inc. (GET)
- **Anoushka Grossheim**, Energy Engineer, ICF (GET)

B From Enabling Customer Electrification to Cost-Effective Demand Management

Find out how utilities and technology innovators are moving toward scalable, coordinated load management by using flexible technologies, rates, and customer data while avoiding costly system upgrades.

Moderated by **Nick Fiore**, Clean Transportation Innovation Manager, San Diego Gas & Electric.

- **Charles Kim**, Senior Engineer, Southern California Edison
- **Amruta Khanolkar**, Founder and Principal, EnergiX Innovations
- **Srushti Koli**, Project Engineer, TRC
- **Patrick Varuzza**, Product Manager, Grid Research Innovation & Development, Pacific Gas & Electric Company

C Advancing California's Energy Transition through Coordinated Action and Building Data

Learn how interval meter data, building permit data, program data, and customer-choice modeling can be combined to identify cost reduction opportunities and implementation pathways for California's building-electrification transition.

Moderated by **Chris Malotte**, Senior Manager, Codes and Standards, Southern California Edison.

- **Owen Howlett**, Supervisor, California Energy Commission
- **Samuel Bobick**, PhD Student, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Stanford University

11:45 AM • LUNCH

12:45 PM • BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2

A Heat Pump Performance in California: A Comparison Study for Fuel-Fired Water Heating Applications

Four Statewide Gas Emerging Technologies evaluations highlight the challenges and potential role of advanced fuel-fired heat pump water heating (HPWH) technologies in California buildings.

Moderated by **Jordan Litwin**, Program Manager, Emerging Technology, SoCalGas.

- **Madeline Talebi**, Energy Engineer, ICF (GET)
- **Hardik Shah**, Senior Program Manager, GTI Energy (GET)

B Heat Pump HVAC Systems as Flexible Grid Resources

Learn how heat pumps can become flexible grid resources when thermal storage and smart controls allow energy use to shift without compromising comfort or hot water service.

Moderated by **Caton Mande**, R&D Engineer, Western Cooling Efficiency Center, UC Davis.

- **Chris Stratton**, Senior Research Associate II, Association for Energy Affordability
- **Scott Higa**, Senior Project Manager, Codes and Standards, Southern California Edison
- **Edwin Hornquist**, Senior Principal Team Leader, Electric Power Research Institute

C Boost Your Building's Value: Pathway to Efficiency and Performance in Commercial Buildings

Explore proven strategies, practical tools, and emerging market insights for improving energy efficiency and performance in commercial buildings, and build a compelling business case for action.

Moderated by **Siva Sankaranarayanan**, Senior Principal Technical Leader, Electric Power Research Institute.

- **Srinivas Katipamula**, Laboratory Fellow, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- **Nick Fiore**, Program Manager, California Market Transformation Administrator (CalMTA)
- **JoAnna Saunders**, Building Performance Specialist, California Energy Commission

1:45 PM • BREAK

2:00 PM • BREAKOUT SESSIONS 3

A Dual Fuels in CA? Electric and Gas Can Co-Exist!

Dual-fuel heat pump systems could provide a cost-effective pathway that combines electric heat pumps with gas heating. This session examines what is available, coming, and needed to deploy these systems effectively.

Moderated by **Eric Kirchhoff**, Manager, Energy Efficiency Technical Services, Customer Programs & Assistance, SoCalGas.

- **Ram Narayanamurthy**, Program Manager, Existing Buildings, California Energy Commission
- **Kyle Gluesenkamp**, Distinguished R&D Scientist, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- **Ryan Kerr**, Director, Emerging Technologies, GTI Energy

B ESWHs: Opportunities and Challenges

Electric storage water heater (ESWH) research is informing how to turn these into optimal flexible demand and decarbonization resources and shaping future intelligent water heating.

Moderated by **Rajiv Dabir**, Branch Manager, Load Flexibility, California Energy Commission.

- **Iain Walker**, Scientist, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- **Andres Fergadiotti**, Senior Advisor, Southern California Edison
- **Peter Grant**, Energy/Environmental Technology Researcher, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- **Aaron Tam**, Research Engineer, Electric Power Research Institute

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C California's AB 130: Impacts on the Next Generation of Energy Codes

This session discusses how California's AB 130 is shaping the 2028 Energy Code and highlights utility and industry responses, including implications beyond building energy codes.

Moderated by **Payam Bozorgchami, P.E.**, Senior Civil Engineer, Building Standards Branch, Efficiency Division, California Energy Commission.

- **Christopher Malotte**, Senior Manager, Codes and Standards, Southern California Edison
- **Kelly Cunningham**, Program Manager, Codes & Standards, Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- **Gina Griffiths Rodda**, Principal, Gabel Energy

3:00 PM • BREAK

3:30 PM • BREAKOUT SESSIONS 4

A Deploying GAHPs in Utility Programs: Opportunities, Challenges, and Lessons Learned

Gain insights into gas absorption heat pumps (GAHPs) in utility programs and greenhouse applications as speakers discuss implementation experiences, barriers, and customer considerations for full deployment.

Moderated by **Anoushka Grossheim**, Energy Engineer, ICF (GET).

- **Chris Salerno**, Senior Energy Engineer, Lincus, Inc. (GET)

B Distributed Energy Storage

Our speaker will discuss the research he plans to conduct under a recent EPIC award and present case studies on applications for distributed energy storage systems.

Moderated by **Rafael Friedmann**, Facilitator, ETCC.

- **Muhammad Saeed**, Senior Electrical Engineer, California Energy Commission
- **Mohammad (Moe) Hoda**, Director, Engineering and Strategic Growth, Viridi

C Non-Residential HVAC Heat Pumps: Collaboration to Solve Rooftop HVAC Challenges

Examine how collaborative initiatives are advancing next-generation rooftop heat pumps, overcoming barriers to adoption, and aligning technology, codes, controls, and demand to accelerate cost-effective decarbonization.

Moderated by **Jerine Ahmed**, Senior Engineer, Southern California Edison.

- **Michael Deru**, Manager, Building and Industrial Equipment Research, National Laboratory of the Rockies
- **Andrew J. Rhodes**, Principal Sustainability Engineer, Worldwide Sustainability, Amazon
- **Habtom Tewelde**, Senior Mechanical Engineer, California Energy Commission



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