

Clean Energy Economy MN (CEEM) develops and supports public policy that promotes the growth of clean energy jobs and the economic opportunities provided by clean, affordable, and reliable energy. Working with the Walz-Flanagan Administration, state legislature, and before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, CEEM provides “the business voice of clean energy” to influence policy decisions and grow equitable and inclusive clean energy market opportunities.

In 2022, we believe bipartisan opportunities exist to build on the significant energy policy success of the 2021 Minnesota legislative session. Rapid decarbonization across all sectors of our state’s economy is required to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate as well as pragmatic solutions that deliver economic benefits and prosperity for all Minnesotans. Enactment of the ECO Act of 2021 was a significant policy accomplishment and CEEM will continue to support the Walz-Flanagan Administration’s remaining **set of policy proposals** that will lead Minnesota to 100 percent clean energy in the state’s electricity sector by 2040. In addition, CEEM will also pursue the following Goals and Actions in 2022:

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Goal: Expand the availability and use of energy efficiency technologies and programs to reduce energy waste, save businesses and consumers money, and improve the productivity of Minnesota’s economy.

Action: Ensure clear and timely implementation of the ECO Act of 2021.

Action: Modernize the Guaranteed Energy Savings Program (GESP) to address current barriers and spur further implementation of energy conservation measures.

Action: Support building energy optimization, including net-zero, building performance standards, and grid-interactive buildings.

CLEAN ENERGY POLICY

Goal: Defend existing programs and accelerate the growth of Minnesota’s clean energy industry.

Action: Modernize the Community Solar Garden (CSG) program by removing arbitrary red tape policies like the contiguous county provision.

Action: Extend and secure additional funding for Solar*Rewards.

Action: Direct or leverage state funding to support clean energy technology commercialization.

Action: Secure funding to create a clean energy workforce development plan for the state.

Action: Direct funding for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure to evaluate integration with buildings, the grid, and renewable energy sources.

Action: Support solar panel recycling efforts that advance rather than limit market opportunity while enhancing Minnesota’s competitiveness and attractiveness for development.

Action: Support efforts to implement a clean fuels standard in Minnesota.

Action: Deter threats to renewable energy siting in order to continue to expand our clean energy economy, reduce energy bills, and strengthen local economies.

REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Goal: Assert the business voice of clean energy in regulatory proceedings.

Action: Grow the business voice in regulatory proceedings with emphasis on planning for Minnesota's clean energy future.

Action: Continue to raise awareness of business impacts due to extended interconnection queues and the implementation of interconnection standards.

Action: Provide Governor's office with insights and recommendations for PUC Commissioner appointment to deliver a thriving and equitable clean energy future.

Action: Support MISO and state level transmission development, market design, and business opportunities for distributed energy resources (DERs) to benefit consumers.

Action: Support regulations and standards that allow third-parties to access aggregated or anonymized customer energy use data to reduce energy waste, save money, and slash emissions.

ENERGY STORAGE

Goal: Advance market opportunities for energy storage to provide resiliency, security, and cost savings.

Action: Address and eliminate policy and market barriers to further expansion of energy storage.

BIOENERGY

Goal: Strengthen Minnesota's bioenergy sector through funding to expand markets.

Action: Support full funding for AGRI Bioincentive Program.

Action: Support efforts to increase funding of programs that expand utilization of sustainable biomass and emerald ash borer waste.

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