
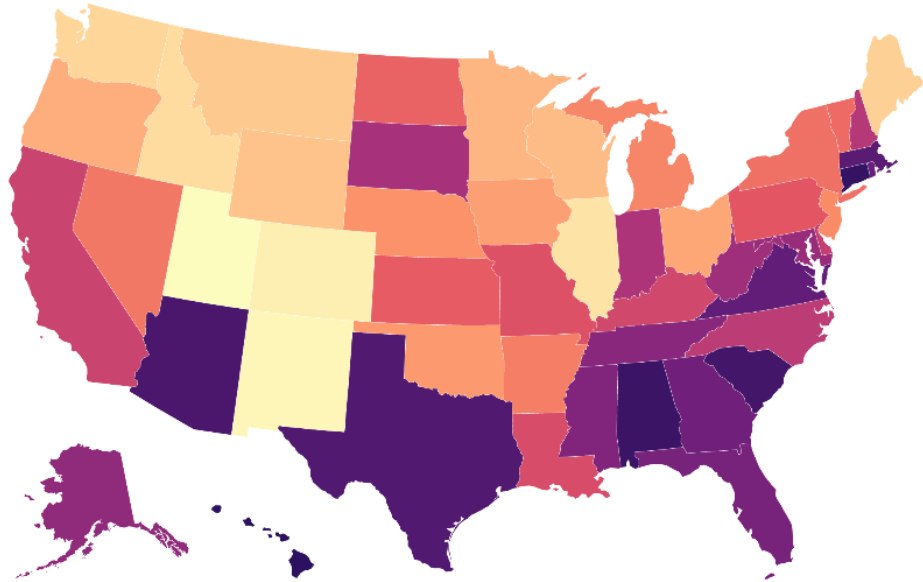


ELI & EDF Webinar: Energy Affordability and the Power of Community Voices

**Jolette Westbrook, Dir. & Sr. Atty,
Regulatory Solutions
Environmental Defense Fund
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Why we can't wait



- Energy prices vary state by state
- Outstanding utility debt could reach a **high of \$25 billion** by the end of the 2025
- Disconnections – **Not all states** have heat-related shut off protections in summer

AFFORDABILITY

True affordability requires a holistic approach

- **Electricity rates**
- **Overall cost of energy**
- **Community input**
- **Real stories regarding rate impacts**

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY



The road to engagement in Massachusetts

- Stakeholder working group process
- Report : [Overly Impacted and Rarely Heard](#)

Recommendations:

- EEA establish an Office of Public Participation and Support
- Amend General Laws to include at least one board member with experience in environmental justice issues
- Establish an intervenor support fund
- DPU Commissioners increase public visibility

PSC Proceedings

Developing the Legal Record

- **Present issues of concern in compelling manner**
- **Pair community expert witnesses with technical expert witnesses**
- **Address what matters to the community**
- **Identify gaps in the record**
- **Present information in clear and concise format**

INTERVENOR COMPENSATION

Enabling more voices to participate in PUC proceedings

States with compensation programs

- MA regulations being promulgated

Requirements

- Vary among states

Reimbursement timelines

- California
- Michigan



THANK YOU

- **Jolette Westbrook**
- jwestbrook@edf.org

**For more information please visit
communityvoicesinenergy.org**