

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 clean energy market opportunities.

In 2021, targeted opportunities exist to accelerate Minnesota’s economic recovery by removing red tape that will open up market opportunities for energy efficiency and clean energy development. In addition to supporting the Walz-Flanagan Administration’s “*One Minnesota Path to Clean Energy*,” CEEM will pursue the following Goals and Actions in 2021:

## 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:** Support the Energy Conservation and Optimization (ECO) Act to ensure the cost-effective reduction of energy use and lowering of energy bills and GHG emissions across Minnesota.

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

**Action:** Support use of enhanced building performance standards to unlock clean energy markets and reduce GHG emissions in Minnesota’s built environment.

**Action:** Support efforts to rebuild resilient, driving efficiency and economic opportunities within businesses and communities impacted by public health disparities and civil unrest - primarily in impacted black, indigineous, and people of color communities.

## SOLAR & CLEAN ENERGY POLICY

**Goal:** Defend existing solar programs and accelerate the growth of Minnesota’s solar industry.

**Action:** Modernize Minnesota’s community solar garden program by removing arbitrary red tape policies like the contiguous county provision.

**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:** Continue to strengthen the importance of market and business opportunities in regulatory proceedings, focusing on planning for Minnesota's clean energy future.

**Action:** Raise awareness of business impacts due to extended interconnection queues (PUC) and the implementation of interconnection standards.

**Action:** Support regulations including rate and tariff valuations that better compensate distributed energy resources for their full benefits and value, to empower consumer investments.

**Action:** Support efforts to address demand-driven opportunities for commercial and industrial (C&I) solar.

**Action:** Support efforts to expand market deployment of advanced transportation options, accelerating low and zero emission vehicles and associated infrastructure.

## ENERGY STORAGE

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

**Action:** Advocate for improvements to energy storage policy by asserting the market opportunities in policy and regulatory discussions.

## BIOENERGY

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

**Action:** Increase funding of programs that expand utilization of sustainable biomass and emerald ash borer waste.

**Action:** Support extension and additional funding for AGRI Bioincentive Program to expand the commercial-scale production of advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals, and biomass thermal energy.

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