



California Climate and Energy Collaborative Local Energy Resources Network (LERN) Additional Resources

LERN Meeting #52:

Featuring - Ben Stapleton, USGBC California; and Eric Fournier, CCSC UCLA

Tuesday, May 12th | 11:00 - 12:00 PM PT

LEARN Meeting: Funding and Updates

Angie led the 52nd LEARN meeting, welcoming participants and highlighting recent community events across California. She provided updates on legislative developments, including ongoing energy-focused bills and potential changes to the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Several funding opportunities were discussed, including Caltrans' Active Transportation Program, the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation's Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program, and the Strategic Growth Council's Transformative Climate Communities and Community Resilience Center programs.

Data Access Working Group Report

Eric Fournier presented a draft report from the Data Access Working Group, which has been examining data needs for distributed energy resources (DERs) as part of CPUC proceeding R22-11-013. The working group identified key themes, including data for customer programs, rate setting, load forecasting, grid reliability, and climate planning, while highlighting differences between consented and non-consented data access pathways. The public comment period for the draft report closed on May 15th. The feedback from those comments will be incorporated into the final report to be published in the rulemaking docket.

California Building Performance Initiatives

Ben Stapleton, CEO of the U.S. Green Building Council of California, presented on building performance policy and sustainability initiatives across the state. He discussed the organization's work with over 50 municipalities to develop aligned building performance standards, particularly for buildings 20,000-50,000 square feet, and highlighted their California Building Performance Hub as a resource for benchmarking

and support. Ben announced an opportunity to support 10 multifamily buildings in getting finance-ready, with applications due by the end of the year, and mentioned upcoming free content, including a recap of their advocacy day in Sacramento and information on compliance and benchmarking tools.

USGBC Building Performance Initiatives & Building Performance Standards Funding Discussion

Ben discussed USGBC's efforts in building performance and community engagement through initiatives like the Build Smart Trailer, which has reached over 550 properties. He announced an upcoming conference focusing on advocacy and policy, inviting attendees to register using a provided discount code. The discussion that followed the presentation included questions about building charging hubs for electrified mobility and the intersection between buildings and transportation electrification. Ben emphasized the need for a stable electrified grid and addressing energy costs in California.

The discussion moved on to related funding opportunities. Ben explained that SOMA funding could be layered into financing for electrification retrofits, and discussed the challenges and resources available for small cities implementing building performance standards. The group also discussed the state's focus on buildings 50,000 square feet and above, while encouraging local jurisdictions to handle smaller buildings.

CCEC Forum Announcements

Kelsey announced that registration for the CCEC Forum is open and introduced new award categories called "CCECies", nominations are open and have been extended to May 27th. She also highlighted that the room block for the host hotel is in high demand, so book your stay at the host hotel while you can! The final deadline for the block is June 6th but we anticipate it selling out before then.