



Photo by Dennis Schroeder, NREL

# Accelerating Clean Energy at Scale in Your Community

## Translate Your Ambitions Into Actions

### Partner with NREL To Illuminate Your Path to Clean, Affordable, Equitable, Secure, and Resilient Energy Systems

Is your city, county, tribe, or village pursuing ambitious clean energy goals? Is your community looking for ways to create a clean and affordable energy transition that works for all?

Translating energy ambitions to actions requires in-depth energy sector expertise and scientific insights to inform critical decision support and enable your path forward.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) has partnered with more than 2,000 tribes, communities, utilities, and businesses to advance energy transitions aimed at developing energy system resilience and equity, reducing emissions, boosting local economies, and increasing energy security and affordability. NREL's holistic modeling and analysis capabilities bring together technical assistance, scientific insights, and decision support expertise to help communities—many of which are historically underserved—identify optimal pathways and plans to address unique challenges and realize energy visions.

### Co-Develop Plans and Set Actionable Goals

Drawing upon decades of experience facilitating community-engaged strategic energy planning, NREL gathers stakeholder perspectives, builds consensus around a vision, and establishes actionable goals based on community needs, values, and priorities.

Tapping into our federal, academic, and industry partner networks, NREL bolsters community capacity while working alongside local stakeholders and energy experts, considering:

- Partnership opportunities
- Investment strategies
- Technology options/scenarios
- Energy and environmental equity.

NREL compounds impact by collaborating with working groups made up of stakeholders that represent the broad community to develop and execute an action plan.

## Chart the Best Course Forward

Effective community energy planning relies on sound decisions backed by accurate, reliable data. As a U.S. Department of Energy research laboratory, NREL offers unbiased analysis and modeling capabilities backed by decades of scientific and applied research. We empower communities to develop optimized energy pathways through collaborative technical assistance that encompasses:

- Decision science
- Data, planning tools, and analysis
- Energy modeling and technology demonstration.

Leveraging these NREL capabilities, communities can better understand the impacts of policy actions and technology options, gain insight into contingencies and trade-offs, and communicate the costs and benefits to stakeholders.

## Prioritize Partnerships

Progress is powered by partnerships. Communities benefit from NREL's understanding of the complex dynamics of energy sector planning and implementation decisions. We serve as a conduit for information and insight, connecting communities to an extensive network of experts.

NREL's deep experience delivering analytic and technical support and our collaborative approach prioritizes partnerships; centers community challenges and goals; and paves the way for a clean, affordable, equitable, secure, and resilient energy future on a national scale.

## Find the Right Resources for Your Community

To learn more about how NREL can help your community translate your ambitions into action, visit [nrel.gov/smartcities](https://www.nrel.gov/smartcities) to:

- See how NREL helps communities prioritize and plan for goals
- Learn about data and planning tools
- Find out more about modeling and analysis support
- Explore community technical case studies
- Contact NREL about partnership opportunities.



Kingston, Hudson Valley, New York.  
Photo from iStock, 911026812

## Equitable Clean Energy Transition

**NREL supported Kingston, New York, in building a community-first approach to 100% renewable energy by 2050.**

The city partnered with a foundation and NREL to explore equity-centered pathways to increase resilience and job opportunities in achieving their 100% clean energy goals.



LA cityscape at dusk.  
Photo from iStock, 635716108

## LA Leads the Way

**To chart a course to 100% renewable energy by 2045, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power partnered with NREL on the landmark Los Angeles 100% Renewable Energy Study.**

A multidisciplinary team of NREL experts ran more than 100 million simulations at ultrahigh spatial and temporal resolution to evaluate a range of stakeholder-driven scenarios for how the LA Department of Water and Power's power system could evolve to a 100% renewable future that will benefit 100% of LA.