

# DONATE TO NECEC

# Accelerate the Northeast's Transition to a Clean Economy

## NECEC is the Voice of the Northeast Clean Energy Sector

We drive innovation by supporting the cleantech ventures tackling our biggest climate challenges. We build connections between business leaders and stakeholders that propel the clean energy industry forward. And we advocate for a just transition to a clean economy that benefits all communities and populations equally.

Started in 2006, NECEC includes the Northeast Clean Energy Council, a nonprofit business member organization, and NECEC Institute, a charitable nonprofit focused on industry research, innovation, policy development, and communications initiatives. NECEC depends on support from members, sponsors, strategic partners, and philanthropy to deliver the programs and initiatives that drive change and prove solutions for our climate challenge.

Your support will allow us to deliver new initiatives and programs that will drive inclusive clean energy growth across the Northeast.



#### **NECEC Innovation Programs and Networks**

NECEC Institute programs help make the Northeast one of the best places in the world to start, build, and scale cleantech ventures. We help cleantech startups accelerate, connect early-stage entrepreneurs to resources and investors, and engage global energy corporations as innovation partners and drivers of clean energy solutions. Our innovation programs include:

- Cleantech Open Northeast: NECEC runs the Northeast program of Cleantech Open, an annual regional accelerator that connects cleantech startups with education, mentoring, and guidance. Since it launched in 2005, 68 percent of Cleantech Open Northeast startups are still in business, employing more than 3,300 people, generating nearly \$280 million in revenue, and raising more than \$650 million in funds. As a pillar of the Northeast's cleantech innovation ecosystem, Cleantech Open Northeast is well positioned to deepen its impact in the year ahead.
- Cleantech Navigate Northeast: Through this signature program, NECEC provides cleantech startups with curated connections to mentors, experts, test sites, leading-edge customers, corporate partners, and investors. Navigate accelerates commercialization milestones and helps early-stage companies form relationships across NECEC's seven-state region. Navigate leverages resources to foster the connections needed to grow the cleantech innovation ecosystem.

#### **Policy Planning and Strategic Communications**

NECEC is a leader in developing policy, regulatory planning, analysis, education, and strategic communication efforts that advance public and stakeholder engagement in the Northeast's clean energy sector.

Our policy areas of focus cover:

- **Distributed Energy Resources**: We are advancing policy around energy efficiency, demand response, solar and other clean energy sources, energy storage, microgrids, and other advanced technologies.
- Grid-Scale Renewables: We are creating market opportunities, removing barriers, and driving acceptance of grid-scale resources, with a particular emphasis on offshore wind.
- Grid Modernization: We are supporting policy and innovation that reenvisions our electrical grid to ensure that interconnection issues won't stand in the way of clean energy projects.
- Clean Transportation: We are promoting a regional Transportation Climate Initiative, supporting investments in electric vehicle infrastructure and adoption, and more.

Donor support of our policy and communication efforts helps fund dynamic educational events, stakeholder convenings, and publications that impact policy and spur investment in clean energy infrastructure and projects.

#### **Academic Partnership and Best Practices Network**

NECEC has a rich network of collaborators in the Northeast and across the country. To solve climate change and deploy clean economy solutions, we are turning that network into a global asset.

We are building new partnerships with leading universities, studying best practices of climate solutions, and sharing our findings with national and international groups to create a far-reaching thought leadership network focused on solving climate change and advancing clean energy. This new effort is a timely area for support in the 2020s.

#### **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Projects**

Climate change and racial injustice are entwined, and NECEC is committed to building a clean energy future that addresses historic inequalities and benefits all communities equally, supporting critical work to increase opportunities for Black and Brown people and women to join our sector.

NECEC has partnered with groups like the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE), New England Women in Energy and the Environment (NEWIEE), and Browning the Green Space (BGS), a coalition of organizations focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Northeast clean energy community. This collaboration includes events that educate our sector and raise awareness about implicit bias and race and gender-based barriers to entry within the clean energy industry. We are also looking inward at our own structure and culture to ensure we're living up to our goal of promoting inclusion and environmental justice awareness in the transition to a clean economy. Donations to these projects will support events, projects, and collaborations in these critical areas.

## **Browning the Green Space Diversity Partnership**

The Browning the Green Space (BGS) initiative was formed in 2020 with NECEC as a partner to operate at the intersection of environmental justice, economic justice, and social justice with a focus on clean energy. As the fiscal sponsor of the initiative, NECEC is working to support BGS's mission to increase the participation and leadership of Black and Brown people and women in the Northeast clean energy space and beyond.



By convening dedicated leaders across the education, business, government, and nonprofit sectors, we hope to break down barriers and implicit biases leading to the underemployment of people of color in the clean energy space and lack of clean energy solutions in our disadvantaged communities. We also hope to assist small businesses and startups led by founders of color with securing capital and contracts. Donations to BGS through NECEC will fund new efforts coordinated by the Browning the Green Space initiative.

For more information on how to support NECEC's mission to accelerate the Northeast's clean energy economy, visit **necec.org/give**.

NECEC Institute is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit corporation and all donations are tax deductible. While NECEC Institute's affiliate, the Northeast Clean Energy Council, engages in legislative lobbying, NECEC Institute does not engage in legislative lobbying or political activities.