

**Advanced Energy Community (AEC) Technology Transfer Workshop
Wednesday, February 28, 2018**

Advanced Energy Community: Project Snapshot
www.advancedenergycommunity.org

In 2016, the California Energy Commission (CEC) awarded an Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) grant to UCLA to accelerate the deployment of Advanced Energy Communities (AECs). In partnership with the County of Los Angeles, the Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN), The Energy Coalition, Day One and LACI, **the UCLA team has developed an innovative and replicable AEC design around existing buildings in disadvantaged communities.**

The goal of the AEC is to provide a **community's energy needs with more efficient, reliable, resilient, cost-effective and clean energy that is produced locally.** The AEC promotes health, social equity, environmental justice and a more livable community overall, and provides direct financial benefits to participating residents, building owners and the community.

The UCLA team's AEC design addresses structural and programmatic barriers to clean energy technology adoption in disadvantaged communities, including: high levels of renters, limited capital, lack of wide-scale meter-level data, insufficient community outreach, inadequate business and financing strategies.

The AEC design provides locally generated GHG-free electricity from **community solar and storage** to offset electricity consumption of participants who "opt in" to the AEC through an enrollment system. Participants also benefit from various **in-home upgrades (energy efficiency retrofits, demand response and energy management tools) at no upfront cost.**

The Project Team created a pilot design for the LA County unincorporated areas of Avocado Heights and Bassett, encompassing approximately 28,000 residents. The community solar system is ~5.9 MW, designed to serve approximately 410 residences, 19 multifamily properties and 7 schools.

A comprehensive community engagement effort provided education on energy issues, outreach about the project plan, and a series of surveys and focus group meetings, to provide feedback to the project design and to lay the groundwork for project implementation.

This AEC workshop will **showcase the team's design, approach, and findings**, and highlight the **bold innovations** that are necessary for California to meet its GHG goals while ensuring that members of **disadvantaged communities are not left behind** in the inevitable and accelerating transformation of our energy future.

