



American Association of Blacks in Energy

# AABE General Principles

1. AABE recognizes that minority communities contain higher concentrations of low- and fixed-income households and are therefore more sensitive to changes in energy and environmental policy.
2. AABE recognizes the need for increased participation in the discussion of global energy and environmental policy by the African American community and the important need for enhancing current and future business opportunities, which sound energy and environmental policy provide.
3. AABE recognizes that access to reliable and affordable energy is essential to low- and fixed-income households, and it is an important element for sustaining business development and economic growth both domestically and internationally.
4. AABE supports efforts to enhance U.S. energy development and energy awareness.



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# AABE Climate Change Principles

1. AABE supports mechanisms to achieve cost-effective GHG reductions and recognizes that market mechanisms such as cap & trade, tax, a mixture, or other approaches are currently being discussed.
2. AABE supports the inclusion of all sectors of the economy and all sources of GHG in initiatives to reduce GHG emissions.
3. AABE supports consistency of GHG regulatory compliance timetables with expected development and deployment of needed technologies.
4. AABE supports policies that balance environmental improvements with economic development.
5. AABE supports policies that ensure that low- and fixed-income consumers do not shoulder a disproportionate impact as a result of efforts to address GHG emissions.
6. AABE supports cost containment measures designed to minimize the impact of the cost of compliance with GHG on low income consumers.
7. AABE supports policies that do not result in negative impact on jobs, trade balances, and the cost of goods and services.
8. AABE recognizes that there is no silver bullet for addressing the GHG issue. Options that must be pursued include but are not limited to the development, commercialization, and deployment of:
  - a. Advanced clean coal technologies,
  - b. Carbon capture and storage,
  - c. Advanced nuclear energy generation,
  - d. Energy efficiency, and
  - e. Renewable energy technologies.

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9. AABE supports fostering public-private partnerships for increasing research, development, and deployment in:
    - a. Technologies aimed at reducing GHG emissions,
    - b. Hydrogen fuel technology,
    - c. Conventional hybrid vehicles,
    - d. Plug-in hybrid vehicles,
    - e. Vehicle-to-grid technologies, and
    - f. Electric vehicles.
  
  10. AABE recognizes the importance of CAFÉ standards in achieving higher fuel economy and efficiency in vehicles.
  
  11. AABE supports the use of alternative fuels and the development of the needed infrastructure to facilitate the transition to new technologies utilizing alternative fuels.



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# AABE Energy Efficiency Principles

1. AABE supports enhancements to U.S. energy infrastructure through the development and implementation of technologies for energy efficiency, which optimize the utilization of domestic and foreign energy resources while promoting energy security, economic prosperity, and environmental solutions.
2. AABE is a resource for providing information and educating energy consumers from all sectors of society, with emphasis on low- and fixed-income households and small businesses, about ways to improve their efficient use of energy.
3. With increasing energy costs projected over the next twenty years and the understanding that rising energy costs hit low- and fixed-income households and small businesses the hardest, AABE believes there must be a focused national, regional, and local effort to educate and make available to all consumers a broad range of options to encourage energy efficiency.
4. AABE recognizes that in order for a broad range of energy efficiency options to be available to all consumers, governmental and commercial entities that provide residential and commercial property services to many low- and fixed-income households and small businesses will be responsible for making necessary efficiency upgrades.
5. AABE supports an aggressive campaign for promoting energy efficiency technologies, which include smart buildings, smart appliances, smart grid, and smart electric meters.
6. AABE believes that “smart technologies” can
  - a. Allow consumers to control their energy usage to save money,
  - b. Avoid wasting energy,
  - c. Control how and when appliances do their jobs,
  - d. Help utilities efficiently operate their systems and maintain reliability,
  - e. Help keep supply and demand in balance, and
  - f. Support more efficient use of generating resources.
7. AABE supports accelerated commercialization of alternative fuel vehicles, including plug-in hybrid and fully electric vehicles.
8. AABE recognizes that the transition cost of smart technologies and alternative fuel vehicles is a factor that many consumers, most notably low- and fixed-income households and small businesses, will consider before implementing a full efficiency upgrade strategy.

9. AABE supports tax credits and other incentives for energy efficiency.
10. AABE recognizes success on energy efficiency programs involves a partnership among energy companies, consumers, and public-policy decision-makers through continued research and development initiatives and associated funding. AABE also recognizes that such partnership involves making energy efficiency a viable, sustainable business for utilities and other energy companies.



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## AABE Renewables Principles\*

1. AABE supports renewables as part of an overall energy strategy for meeting energy and climate change challenges.
2. AABE believes that renewable programs must carefully balance the
  - a. Availability of renewable technologies,
  - b. Cost effectiveness of such technologies, and
  - c. Environmental benefits.
3. AABE recognizes that the renewable portfolio standards being adopted by the various states addresses such local issues as the availability of renewables, the importance of fuel diversity, the impact on and benefit to the African-American community and other consumers created from the use of renewables, and the importance of stimulating renewable energy technologies.
4. AABE supports the development of renewable technologies as an essential element for enhancing economic developments in parts of the nation.
5. AABE recognizes that extension of the federal production tax credit and the investment tax credit is helpful in accelerating the development of renewable technologies and understands that Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs) can also stimulate the development of renewables.
6. AABE supports research, education, and training for African-Americans to expedite the development of renewable energy solutions.
7. AABE is committed to working with regional and local communities in the administration and implementation of renewable programs.
8. AABE seeks to become a resource for the development of renewable programs in the international community.
9. AABE recognizes that some renewable technology exists in remote areas and may require the enhancement of infrastructure in order for those technologies to be available to meet growing energy demands.

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10. AABE supports the development of a sustainable renewable fuels industry, including liquids and gaseous fuels, insofar as it provides entrepreneurial opportunities for minorities, supports economic growth for minority farmers, enhances energy security, and addresses the nation's climate change objectives.
  
  11. AABE supports renewable liquid and gaseous fuels as a means for the transportation industry to reduce carbon emissions.