

YOU & ENERGY DEMOCRACY WORKSHOP

FACILITATION GUIDE

Accessible, Inclusive, & Trauma-Informed

MODULE 2

The following facilitation guide was co-developed in collaboration with Pueblo Planning. (2021-2022)



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WORKSHOP 2 GUIDE

Purpose/Intention

Provide communities with shared language and analysis to **deepen** understanding of the energy system and how it relates to our day-to-day lives, including a specific focus on environmental justice, racial justice, economic justice, and governance.

Key Concepts

Reparation refers to repairing past harms, as defined by the harmed people. This will mean something different for each community.

Regeneration describes what happens when you have the resources you need to grow again after going through a cycle of depletion.

Reinvestment means putting resources back into our communities, rather than seeing them drained away.

ENERGY DEMOCRACY PILLARS

Social Justice addresses issues of racism, inequity, inequitable access, health, and land rights.

- Key question for participants to be able to define this concept: What has been my experience with energy access and energy pollution?

Regenerative Energy addresses the type of energy we use, pollution, and energy policy goals.

- Key question for participants to be able to define this concept: Where do you get your energy?/How does energy get to you?

Moral Economy addresses fair labor and wages, economic ownership, workforce development and training, finance, and adequate training and transitional assistance for those formerly employed by exploitative institutions (ex. coal miners).

- Key question for participants to be able to define this concept: Who makes getting energy to you happen and what is their experience?

Co-Governance/Good Governance addresses how decisions are made, who controls the energy and political process, and where ownership ultimately lies.

- Key question for participants to be able to define this concept: Who makes decisions about your energy source, access, and utility bills?

ENERGY ECONOMY SPECTRUM

Energy Democracy Thriving community and healthy environment - This type of energy economy represents a shift completely away from an extractive economy, energy, and governance system to one that is regenerative, provides reparations, transforms the power structures, and creates new governance and ownership practices. *(This term will be further explored in Module 3.)*

Better, But Not Great This type of energy economy signifies some shifting away from fossil-fuel extraction and maybe even creating some community processes and green job solutions, but without any racial equity or environmental justice focus (for example, all the solar panels in the city could be on wealthy white households). *(This term will be further explored in Module 3.)*

Extractive Harms the community and environment - This type of energy economy is where the dignity of labor, people's health, and the planet's wellbeing are exploited solely for profit in violent and polluting ways. *(This term will be further explored in Module 3.)*

Audience

- Frontline Communities (the communities confronting the direct consequences of extractive, polluting industries.)

Logistical Considerations

- 30-50 people (breakout groups have no more than 4 people)
- Self-facilitated in breakout rooms
- Time: 2 hours
- Via Zoom with a call-in option (Note: not all participants may see slides)

Resources

- At least 2 facilitators
- Slide Deck
 - Welcome slide
 - Movement & Regrounding prompts
 - Plan for the Day slide with intention and activities listed
 - 4 Energy Democracy Scorecard activity slides (one for each Pillar)
 - Co-Create Your Energy Democracy Vision jamboard slide
- **For Virtual Workshop:**
 - Link to Survey Platform
 - Survey Questionnaire
 - Vision Board (Jamboard) from Module 1
- **For In-Person Workshop:**
 - Hard-copy Survey
 - Writing Tools
 - Vision Board (Jamboard) from Module 1
- **Take Home Items**
 - ① Synthesized version of share back and connection to energy democracy
 - ② Visioning board
 - ③ Completed survey/scorecard questionnaire

Workshop 2 Agenda

1. Welcome (25 min)

- When people enter the space (whether virtual or in-person) there will be a welcome slide on screen with background music. **Facilitator 2** will greet people as they come into the room.
- **Facilitator 1** will inform participants that the first few minutes will be used to help with setting up for the meeting (i.e. cameras, audio, interpretation, etc.) - (Facilitator 2 can assist with this task while **Facilitator 1** continues with language interpretation set up, grounding, and housekeeping).

a. Language Justice (5 minutes)

- **Facilitator 1** will introduce the point person to explain how to use the interpretation or ASL features for the workshop. (Allow time and space for the interpreter to walk participants through any interpretation set up. If in person this can include setting up a portable translation device. If virtual this can include set up of interpretation streaming on platforms such as Zoom.)

b. Grounding & Housekeeping (15 minutes)

- **Appreciation:** Thank everyone for taking the time to participate and be present.
- **Acknowledgment:** Provide acknowledgment of the traumas people have/are experiencing due to _____ (pandemic, hurricane, floods, etc.) and pause for a moment.
- **How to Participate:** Inform participants of different ways to actively participate during the workshop whether virtual or in-person:

If virtual, is there a preference for participants to use the chat box during the meeting for side conversations? Hand raising? Etc.

If in-person, will folks call out to share? Raise hands? Etc.) Keep in mind that whatever methods chosen should be inclusive and accessible (literacy, comfort with tech platform, etc.)

Sample Script

Good morning/afternoon everyone. Before we get started, I want to take a moment to acknowledge and thank everyone. I know it isn't always easy to make time and space to be present especially when it feels tough to be present [whether that is due to (...the pandemic, floods, hurricane, a tough day at work, or everyday stress) so I am really grateful to see you all here today. Today we will be engaging in the 2nd workshop and we will be continuing to talk about our experiences with energy; trying to see similarities, differences or patterns; taking new information learned and applying it to what we know, and learning ways to take action and apply what we learn here, out in our communities. But before we dive in, I would like to take a moment for us to just get grounded a little, so if you are comfortable, I invite you all to join me in a short exercise.

- **Meditation/Self Check-in Exercise:** *The facilitation team will pick an exercise such as the following:*
 - [Liberate Meditation](#) – app that allows you to pick the meditation guide best for you
 - [Affirmation Journal](#) prompts could be used as a meditative question guide
 - [Creativity Affirmations Video](#) – about 7 min
- **Land Acknowledgment:** *Share details about whose ancestral territory the workshop is taking place in/ being broadcast from.*
 - Use <https://native-land.ca/> to identify Indigenous territories.
- **Consent to Photography and Video:** *Disclose if facilitators would like to take pictures and/or video throughout the workshop at the beginning. If participants do not feel comfortable with being photographed or recorded, let them know they can turn off their cameras during the virtual workshop, or detail how they can opt out if in-person.*
- **Take Home Items:** *Let participants know they will be provided an overview of what was discussed after the workshop. If contact information was not gathered at registration, ask for emails via chat or sign-in sheet.*
- **Potential Risks:**
 - If virtual,*** explain that Facilitator(s) understand there can be interruptions or technical difficulties that cannot be predicted when in virtual meetings. In the case this happens, let participants know to please send a message in the chat and to feel free to log out and back in.
 - If in person,*** explain that Facilitator(s) understand there can be interruptions, emergencies, or difficulties that cannot be predicted when in meeting spaces. In the case this happens, let participants know where they can go and to feel free to step outside if they need to take a self-care moment.
- **Confidentiality/Community Agreements:** *Share the expectations for respecting the community and culture of the workshop, such as:*
 - * Leave the details, keep the learning,
 - * Don't speak for others without explicit permission²,
 - * Don't share something communicated in a private or safe space³.
 - Please refer to <https://nesawg.org/conference/community-agreements> for a longer list of Community Agreements.
 - It is important to also ask and allow space for participants to add any agreements that are important to them to have in this space. Keep in mind, these will be included in the remainder of the Workshops if any agreements are added, so Facilitator(s) will need to make note of them. For Facilitators' reference, any additional generated agreements can be added below:
 - *
 - *
 - *

² Garcia Polanco, V., Spiller, K., & Potts, A. (2021, November 3). Community Agreements. NESAWG. Retrieved Dec 2021, from <https://nesawg.org/conference/community-agreements>

³ Garcia Polanco, V., Spiller, K., & Potts, A. (2021, November 3). Community Agreements. NESAWG. Retrieved Dec 2021, from <https://nesawg.org/conference/community-agreements>

2. Movement and Regrounding Full Group Activity (5-10 min)

For the purpose of this activity, the facilitator will introduce a series of “yes”, “no”, or “I don’t know yet” statements which will help with re-grounding into the Four Core Pillars and will set the groundwork of what to expect content wise in the workshop. As a response to the statements, participants will be asked to share their responses via movement. The facilitator will describe the movements that will be used to answer and will explain that the chat can also be used to respond. This could include full movements, modified movements, etc

Examples:

- Raised arms over head motion signifies a “yes” response,
 - Self hug motion signifies a “no” response,
 - Shrugging motion with arms/hands signifies an “I don’t know yet” response.
- For those who prefer not to or are unable to engage in a movement activity, give an option to participate by responding “yes”, “no”, or “I don’t know yet,” using the chat box.
 - The Facilitator will model the activity for the participants with the first statement.
 - **Utilize the chatbox to share the prompt and have the prompt up on the screen. Keep in mind to periodically repeat the prompt as people join.**

Statements:

- i. I have access to clean and renewable energy.
 - ii. My energy is affordable and accessible.
 - iii. The people who make sure we have energy have safe working conditions and are fairly paid.
 - iv. I know how decisions around energy are made and I have an opportunity to be involved in the decision making process.
- After each person shares their responses within the group(s), the facilitator can highlight common themes expressed during the movement activity and can then introduce the next breakout activities that will take place.

3. Plan for the Day (5 min)

- a. **Intention:** State the purpose of our time together today and the intention of ongoing conversations with the community. Explain how we will use our time in this space. Keep in mind that the focus of Module 2 is the Scorecard, and it is broken up into the four pillars.

We intend to provide communities with shared language and analysis to deepen understanding of the energy system and how it relates to our day-to-day lives, including a specific focus on environmental justice, racial justice, economic justice, and local governance.

- b. **Energy Democracy Scorecard Activity Part 1:** Participants will engage in an interactive activity to complete the Energy Democracy Scorecard. The first part will cover Social Justice and Regenerative Energy.
- c. **Break (10 minutes)**
- d. **Energy Democracy Scorecard Activity Part 2:** The second part will cover Moral Economy and Co-governance/Good Governance.
- e. **Close -- Co-Create Your Energy Democracy Vision (10 minutes)**

4. Energy Democracy Scorecard Activity Instructions (5 min)

(Pop-Ed Spiral Stage- 1. Sharing Experience and Knowledge)

- ① Share your screen so that participants can see the survey and discussion activity while you explain the activity.
- ② Create groups of 4-5 people to complete the scorecard questions in a survey platform.
- ③ Bring the group back together to review everyone's responses collectively.
- ④ **Let participants know that the process will be repeated for each of the Four Core Pillars.**
- ⑤ This activity will be self-facilitated by participants with facilitators popping into breakout rooms.

*****The facilitator will need to instruct participants to keep the survey link up for the entire activity (the same survey link will be used for all four pillar break out groups) to ensure the survey does not reboot.*****

Virtual Sample Script

We will now be transitioning into our breakout group activity. For this activity, we will need to split into groups of 4-5 people. Every group will be completing the Scorecard Questionnaire which relates to the four pillars and ultimately helps us determine where on the road towards energy democracy we are. This can mean we have reached a level of Energy Democracy (which means we are a thriving community with a healthy environment), our energy systems are doing Better, But Not Great (which signifies that has been some shifting away from fossil-fuel extraction and maybe even creating some community processes and green job solutions, but without any racial equity or environmental justice focus), or if our energy systems are Extractive (which means it harms the community and environment). From there we will be inputting our answers in the survey link provided. It is very important, once you open the link please DO NOT close the link page as the survey will then reboot and it will start over. After everyone has put their answers in the survey platform we will come back together as a group and discuss.)

In-Person Sample Script

We will now be transitioning into our breakout group activity. For this activity, we will need to split into groups of 4-5 people. Every group will be completing the Scorecard Questionnaires that are on the tables which relate to the four pillars and ultimately help us determine where on the road towards energy democracy we are. This can mean we have reached a level of Energy Democracy (which means we are a thriving community with a healthy environment), our energy systems are doing Better, But Not Great (which signifies that has been some shifting away from fossil-fuel extraction and maybe even creating some community processes and green job solutions, but without any racial equity or environmental justice focus), or if our energy systems are Extractive (which means it harms the community and environment). After everyone has written down their answers we will come back together as a group and discuss.

5. Energy Democracy Scorecard - Social Justice (15-20 min)

Social Justice addresses issues of racism, inequity, inequitable access, health, and land rights.

- Participants will input their answers in the following survey link:
- **[Insert Link]**

Survey Questions

1. I or someone I know in my community experiences:

Choose best answer

- a. A lot of health issues (asthma, cancer, heart disease, etc.) **[1]**
- b. A few health issues **[2]**
- c. Generally good health **[3]**
- d. I don't know yet **[0]**

2. In my community:

Choose best answer

- a. It seems like everything is polluted (air, water, soil, etc.) **[1]**
- b. Some elements are polluted **[2]**
- c. There is clean air and water **[3]**
- d. I don't know yet **[0]**

3. In my community:

Choose best answer

- a. A lot of people face financial challenges (trouble making ends meet, utility shut-offs, etc.) **[1]**
- b. Some people face financial challenges **[2]**
- c. People are generally financially secure **[3]**
- d. I don't know yet **[0]**

4. I live near:*Choose best answer*

- a. Many polluting energy facilities and infrastructure such as a power plant, fracking well, pipeline, railroad track, highways and anything else that impacts your ability to live a healthy life **[1]**
- b. Some polluting energy facilities and infrastructure **[2]**
- c. No polluting energy facilities or infrastructure **[3]**
- d. I don't know yet **[0]**

5. Government entities and/or businesses in my community:*Answer Yes [3], Partially [2], No [1] or I don't know yet [0]*

- Ensure Indigenous sovereignty
- Engage in inclusive decision making regarding where and how I get my energy
- Ensure that new developments come with community benefits such as good-paying jobs or amenities like parks and libraries
- Steward community ownership of public assets

6. I have access to...*Answer Yes [3], Partially [2], No [1] or I don't know yet [0]*

- Renewable energy
- Rooftop solar
- Tax credits for renewable energy systems like rooftop or community solar
- Energy efficiency
- Guarantees of public investment in green development in my community
- Accessible, reliable, and affordable public transportation

7. ___% of my household income is spent on energy*Choose best answer*

- a. 10% or less **[3]**
- b. 15% **[2]**
- c. 20% **[1]**
- d. 25% or more **[0]**
- e. I don't know yet **[0]**

0-25
Extractive

25-35
Better, but Not
Great

35+
On the Pathway towards
Energy Democracy

**TOTAL
SCORE:** _____

Regroup & Discuss (5 min)

- Bring everybody back into the same room/into one group.
- Ask participants to share what was discussed.
- The facilitator will present the collective responses from the survey and showcase the connectedness of the group.
- **Note: Any items that were identified by the group with “I don’t know yet” will need to be addressed by the facilitator for Module 3.**

6. Energy Democracy Scorecard - Regenerative Energy (15-20 min)

Regenerative Energy addresses the type of energy we use, pollution, and energy policy goals.

- Participants will input their answers in the following survey link:
- **[Insert Link]**

Survey Questions

1. I feel that my energy source and energy systems:

Answer Yes **[3]**, Partially **[2]**, No **[1]** or I don't know yet **[0]**

- Represent my culture
- Are guaranteed rights for me to access
- Are reliable and resilient, with energy sources that are easy to access in cases of grid failure
- Are community-managed, community-benefiting, or community-owned

2. My local/state/federal government has the following policies:

Answer Yes **[3]**, Partially **[2]**, No **[1]** or I don't know yet **[0]**

- Renewable energy goals
- Significant investments in electric public transportation
- Cap and trade carbon markets
- Regulatory ban on all extractive energy systems by 2030
- Phasing out nuclear or fossil fuels

- Regulations to ensure clean drinking water
- Water cannot be used for fossil fuel generation, fracking extraction, or cooling of nuclear power plants
- Recognition of Indigenous water rights
- Water is a human right and is not commodified
- Energy is a human right and is not commodified

3. Where does my energy come from?

Select all that apply

- a. Natural gas or oil [1]
- b. Coal or coal waste [1]
- c. Nuclear [1]
- d. Wind [2]
- e. Solar [2]
- f. Geothermal [2]
- g. I don't know yet [0]

4. I have access to or use:

Select all that apply

- a. Energy efficient appliances or smart home [1]
- b. Electric vehicle (private) [1]
- c. Electric transit (public) [1]

5. My household uses _____ energy per year:

Choose best answer

- a. Over 12,000 kWh [1]
- b. Around 5,000 to 10,000 kWh [2]
- c. Less than 5,000 kWh [3]
- d. I don't know yet [0]

0-15
Extractive

15-25
Better, but Not
Great

25+
On the Pathway towards
Energy Democracy

TOTAL
SCORE: _____

Regroup & Discuss (5 min)

- Bring everybody back into the same room/into one group.
- Ask participants to share what was discussed.
- The facilitator will present the collective responses from the survey and showcase the connectedness of the group.
- **Note: Any items that were identified by the group with “I don’t know yet” will need to be addressed by the facilitator for Module 3.**

>> BREAK (10 minutes) <<

7. Energy Democracy Scorecard - Moral Economy (15-20 min)

Moral Economy addresses fair labor and wages, economic ownership, workforce development and training, finance, and adequate training and transitional assistance for those formerly employed by exploitative institutions (ex. coal miners).

- Participants will input their answers in the following survey link:
- **[Insert Link]**

Survey Questions

1. In my community:

Answer Yes [**3**], Partially [**2**], No [**1**] or I don't know yet [**0**]

- There are ample living wage jobs available
- Low-income/low-wealth and BIPOC communities have green workforce training and job opportunities in sustainability fields
- Minority-owned businesses can successfully bid and benefit from local and larger government and corporate contracts
- There are programs that train workers in the skills they need to transition from polluting industries to sustainable ones
- There are pension guarantees and retirement resources
- I have the ability to influence a plan to transition away from polluting industries

2. How close is your community to achieving this vision?

Answer we've achieved this vision [3], there is some action towards this vision [2], there is talk but no action [1] or I don't know of anyone talking about this [0]

- _____ The community controls, manages, and owns local energy systems
- _____ Community-scale renewable energy projects are funded through public funds, non-extractive capital, or community-controlled funds
- _____ Investments by government and big corporations benefit the community, are designed and defined by the community, and are publicly and transparently managed
- _____ If there are energy utilities, they are publicly owned/managed, they use renewable sources of energy, and they create revenue for the residents, prioritizing Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and Environmental Justice (EJ) communities

Regroup & Discuss (5 min)

- Bring everybody back into the same room/into one group.
- Ask participants to share what was discussed.
- The facilitator will present the collective responses from the survey and showcase the connectedness of the group.
- **Note: Any items that were identified by the group with “I don't know yet” will need to be addressed by the facilitator for Module 3.**

0-15
Extractive

15-25
Better, but Not
Great

25+
On the Pathway towards
Energy Democracy

TOTAL
SCORE: _____

8. Energy Democracy Scorecard - Moral Economy (15-20 min)

Co-Governance/Good Governance addresses how decisions are made, who controls the energy and political process, and where ownership ultimately lies.

- Participants will input their answers in the following survey link:
- **[Insert Link]**

Survey Questions

1. My electric utility:

Select all that apply

- Is the only one I have access to **[0]**
- Uses predatory tactics when providing energy to low-income, low wealth-communities (shutoffs, fees to pay bills, etc.) **[0]**
- Is owned by investors **[0]**
- Is a cooperative **[1]**
- Invests sustainably and with local BIPOC/EJ communities leading and owning the project **[1]**
- Is accountable to public input, particularly input coming from EJ/BIPOC communities **[1]**
- I don't know yet **[0]**

2. My public utility commission:

Choose best answer

- Has only political appointees from extractive energy industries **[1]**
- Has some representation from EJ and civil rights groups, but decision-making is dominated by political appointees from extractive energy industries **[2]**
- Have appointees elected by and that represent EJ and civil rights communities **[3]**
- I don't know yet **[0]**

3. My public utility commission:

Choose best answer

- Is accountable to the community first and foremost **[2]**
- Is accountable to industries first and foremost **[1]**
- Provides radically accessible public feedback spaces and work in an equitable

partnership with communities to shape programs and provide clear information and feedback on programs **[3]**

d. I don't know yet **[0]**

4. My public utility commission:

Answer Yes **[3]**, Partially **[2]**, No **[1]** or I don't know yet **[0]**

- Does outreach for public comments and feedback
- Is receptive to public feedback
- Is accountable to public input and feedback
- Hosts accessible public hearings and community meetings
- Has a citizen advisory committee and collaborative planning models
- Shares information with communities and is transparent about its decision making
- Respects and honors tribal sovereignty

5. My electric grid is:

Choose best answer

- a. Centralized (one major company controls energy) **[1]**
- b. There is a mixture of centralized connections and microgrids **[2]**
- c. Majority decentralized grid that connects people to community renewable microgrids and storage with public accountability **[3]**
- d. I don't know yet **[0]**

6. My government:

Choose best answer

- a. Bails out investor-owned utilities with no accountability to ensure funding gets to tax-payers/rate-payers **[1]**
- b. Ensures that energy utilities and energy generators are held financially accountable to the community for any neglect **[2]**
- c. Is aiding in the transition from extractive economies and energy structures, such as investor-owned utilities, and towards community-benefiting, -controlled, and -owned regenerative energy systems **[3]**
- d. I don't know yet **[0]**

0-15
Extractive

15-25
Better, but Not
Great

25+
On the Pathway towards
Energy Democracy

TOTAL
SCORE: _____

Regroup & Discuss (5 min)

- Bring everybody back into the same room/into one group.
- Ask participants to share what was discussed.
- The facilitator will present the collective responses from the survey and showcase the connectedness of the group.
- **Note: Any items that were identified by the group with “I don’t know yet” will need to be addressed by the facilitator for Module 3.**

9. Close -- Reparation, Regeneration, Reinvestment - Co-Create your Energy Democracy Vision (10 minutes)

This activity builds on the vision board created in Module 1.

- *Show the content from Module 1 on the left with space for new ideas on the right.*
- *Re-share the prompt and have everyone finish the sentence to close out.*

“A thriving community and healthy environment looks like....”

- *As folks are sharing, live transcribe on a [jamboard](#) or slide.*
- *Use breakout rooms if there are more than 20 people.*


8. Close -- Next Steps (5 minutes)

- *The facilitators will give a brief recap of what was covered in Module 2 and will briefly share what to expect in Workshop 3.*

Sample Script

Thank you all so much for being here today and sharing your experiences through the questionnaire. As we wrap up, I would like to briefly share what to expect in our next workshop. For Module 3, we will be looking back at everything we have covered the past two modules and will explore how this connects to our day to day life and what we can do to make changes in our community that align with our visions for Energy Democracy.

Post Workshop Follow Up for Facilitators

- A. *After the workshop, follow up with participants by providing:*
1. Synthesized version of share back and connection to energy democracy
 2. Visioning board
 3. Completed survey/scorecard questionnaire
- B. Research and identify resources to share with participants that address/answer questions that were answered with “I don’t know yet,” in Module 2 to be available for Module 3 workshop. This will help to introduce an opportunity for collective learning.
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References

Garcia Polanco, V., Spiller, K., & Potts, A. (2021, November 3). Community Agreements. NESAWG. Retrieved December 2021, from <https://nesawg.org/conference/community-agreements>

History of the Climate Justice Alliance. Climate Justice Alliance. (2012). Retrieved 2021, from <https://climatejusticealliance.org/cja-history/>.

