



Leticia Colon de Mejias is a nationally awarded building scientist, author, workforce development leader, and environmental and energy equity speaker. She is the founder of the Nationally awarded company [Energy Efficiencies Solutions](#), Co-Chair and co-founder of the nonprofit [Efficiency For All](#), Policy Co-Chair of the National [Building Performance Association](#), Chair of Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs on the Commission for the state of Connecticut [Commission on Women Children Elderly Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs](#), and she is the Founder and President of [Green Eco Warriors](#). She is an awarded published author with several [books](#) on environmental leadership, sustainability, and energy, as well as a line of [educational science based graphic texts](#) which feature a cast of diverse superheroes and align with national science standards (NGSS). She is the recipient of many national awards, including the **United States of**

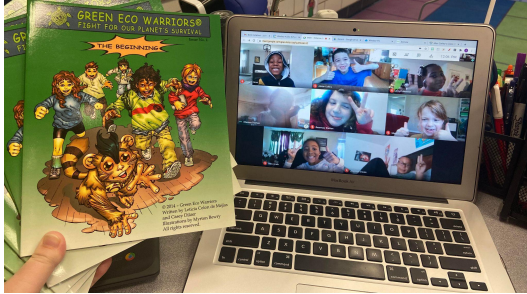
America's Department of Energy Award for work with at risk and minority populations, [National Award Building Scientist Hall of Fame](#), [Minority Small Business of the year award](#), National Department of Education award, and she is a two time Capital Workforce Partners Employer of the Year. Her companies have provided energy [efficiency assessments and upgrades to over 14,000 CT households](#) and completed full energy efficiency retrofits in over 10 million square feet of [multifamily housing](#). Through the nonprofit Green Eco Warriors, she has provided climate and energy education to over 40,000 youth and families.

Congressional Testimony and resources:

Energy Efficiencies Solutions
www.eesgogreen.com

Efficiency For All
www.encyforall.org

Green Eco Warriors
www.gewportal.org



Join our fight to lower carbon emissions and lower energy burdens one home and one community at a time. Save Energy Save Dinero! Switch It OFF!
[Support our mission](http://www.gewportal.org) to help people and the planet at <https://www.gewportal.org/what-we-do/>



Re: Leticia Colon de Mejias, Creating a Culture of Sustainable Thinkers™, An Equity based, Inclusive, Diverse Path to an Affordable Resilient Reliable Accessible Clean Energy Economy, and the upcoming Congressional Hearing, **July 27, 2021 "Wealth for the Working Class: The Clean Energy Economy." Before the Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development.**

Our collective work aims to supports and outline a path forward to grow a reliable, resilient, accessible affordable clean energy grid in our nation. These videos are an educational introduction to our clean energy economy barriers, during the Covid Pandemic.

I hope to engage you and your teams in our upcoming Congressional testimony on July 27, 2021 "Wealth for the Working Class: The Clean Energy Economy." Before the Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development."

June 24 2021 National DOE Better Buildings State of the Covid Economy

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/8769208179771457807>.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8j-YJdbWZY&t=247s>

September 30, 2021 Low-Carbon Small Business and Post-COVID Recovery- EESI Briefing
Briefing Series: Workforce Wednesdays and <https://www.eesi.org/briefings/view/093020workforce>

GC3 and Energy Equity Work can be located here:

<https://efficiencyforall.org/wordpress/2020/02/25/governors-council-on-climate-change-gc3-equity-lens/>

https://efficiencyforall.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/EE-Health_2-18-2019_Flyer.pdf

https://efficiencyforall.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Indoor-Health-Barriers-v6_2-26-2021_rs.pdf

<https://efficiencyforall.org/wordpress/2020/11/22/addressing-health-safety-barriers-in-ct/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8j-YJdbWZY&t=247s>

Solve Climate 2030- International Presentation Video can be located here:

<https://efficiencyforall.org/wordpress/2020/04/07/an-affordable-way-forward-energy-efficiency/>

https://youtu.be/l_7MUIDb2E0

Creating a Culture of Sustainable Thinkers™

www.gewportal.org

<https://www.gewportal.org/magazine/>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/defeating-the-phantom-draw-leticia-colon-de-mejias/1120907458?ean=9780989336451>

<https://www.gewportal.org/story-time-with-leticia-colon-de-mejias/>

<https://youtu.be/gszrhu1wLY>

<https://youtu.be/BOaMWYgWmX4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8j-YJdbWZY&t=247s>

https://www.eesi.org/files/Leticia_Colon_de_Mejias_093020.pdf

HIGHLIGHTS

Leticia Colon de Mejias, Owner, [Energy Efficiencies Solutions](#); Policy Co-Chair, [Building Performance Association](#)

- Energy efficiency can lower burdens on energy grids, lower energy costs, improve energy access, reduce carbon emissions and other environmental impacts, and create jobs.
- In 2018, 2.3 million Americans were employed in energy efficiency. It was the largest and fastest growing sector in energy with a 7.8 percent growth rate in 2019. That same year, 79 percent of energy efficiency companies were small businesses with less than 20 employees. Energy efficiency jobs are available in both urban and rural areas.
- COVID-19 has significantly impacted the energy efficiency industry, with 345,000 jobs lost, nearly 15 percent of all employees. Job growth was only 0.4 percent in August, and 40 states have double-digit unemployment numbers in the industry.
- Economic stimulus directed at energy efficiency would have many benefits. \$60.7 billion in stimulus from Congress would add \$254.7 billion to the economy and create 737,200 full-time jobs, according to a [report](#) by E2.
- Energy Efficiencies Solutions employs 22 people who were previously unemployed or underemployed, and has trained over 120 people for local workforce opportunities.
- The energy efficiency industry supports long-term careers in a wide range of roles, including installers, technicians, and scientists.

- The energy efficiency industry can be supported with new Department of Labor codes that better recognize the careers and benefits it can offer, and with additional funding resources for training programs.
- Some legislation introduced to Congress could benefit energy efficiency:
 - The *HOPE for HOMES Act* ([S.4052/H.R.7325](#)) provides \$500 million in support for small business. This includes access to online skills training, grants for provider organizations to develop online training, up to \$10,000 to contracting companies to cover training costs, and a \$1,000 stipend for contractors. Its second major component is a \$6 billion rebate for home energy efficiency programs.
 - The *Blue Collar to Green Collar Jobs Development Act of 2019* ([H.R.1315](#)) would establish a workforce development grant program for renewable energy and energy efficiency businesses.
 - Other recent major bills with workforce grant programs include the *Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019* ([S.2393](#)), the *American Energy and Innovation Act* ([S.2657](#)), and the *Green Neighborhoods Act of 2020* ([H.R.8021](#)).
 - The *Weatherization Enhancement and Local Energy Efficiency Investment and Accountability Act of 2019* ([S.983/H.R.2041](#)) reauthorizes Department of Energy funding for the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and supports workforce training.
- Energy efficiency businesses can provide good career paths and more easily hire from local communities when workforce development programs are available.
- Energy efficiency work can help advance underrepresented groups: 20 of the 22 employees at Energy Efficiencies Solutions are people of color.

Congressional Testimony April 20, 2021

Before the U.S. House of Representatives, Select Committee on the Climate Crisis

Making the Case for Climate Action: Creating New Jobs and Catalyzing Economic Growth

<https://www.congress.gov/117/meeting/house/112460/witnesses/HHRG-117-CN00-Wstate-ColondeMejiasL-20210420.pdf>

Congressional Testimony July 27, 2021

Before the Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce

Development Hearing Title: “Wealth for the Working Class: The Clean Energy Economy.”

https://smallbusiness.house.gov/uploadedfiles/07-27-21_ms_colon_de_mejias_testimony.pdf