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*Welcome to BPI's monthly newsletter. Each month we'll give a deep dive into important goings-on at BPI and around the industry, plus roundup of essential news, publications, and resources. We'd love to elevate your work, so please share your news!*

## BPI Joins National Clean Energy Workforce Alliance

This month BPI joined the [National Clean Energy Workforce Alliance](#), a cross-sector effort to improve clean energy education, training, and job placement outcomes.

The Alliance is dedicated to expanding clean energy job opportunities that are inclusive of diverse candidates and underserved communities. Starting in January 2022, the Alliance will virtually convene employers, training providers,

community-based recruitment and support organizations, and energy justice organizations.

It's important that the building performance sector is represented in the Alliance. In the U.S., buildings account for 40% of energy-related emissions, so more efficient buildings and homes are critical to our future. A highly effective, full-staffed building performance industry can improve health and reduce energy costs for millions of Americans while moving the country toward decarbonization. We hope you can join us in making it happen.

"This is important work," says BPI's CEO Larry Zarker. "We all need to pitch in to help build a more diverse and inclusionary workforce that can meet the nation's ambitious clean energy goals." As experts in home energy efficiency, BPI Certified Professionals and GoldStar Contractors are ideally suited to help our country make the change.

The Alliance is committed to advancing economic opportunity through clean energy jobs. Clean energy jobs offer strong wages, paying 25% more than the national median. Workers in renewable energy, energy efficiency, grid modernization and storage, clean fuels and clean vehicles earned a median hourly wage of \$23.89 in 2019, compared with the national median wage of \$19.14.

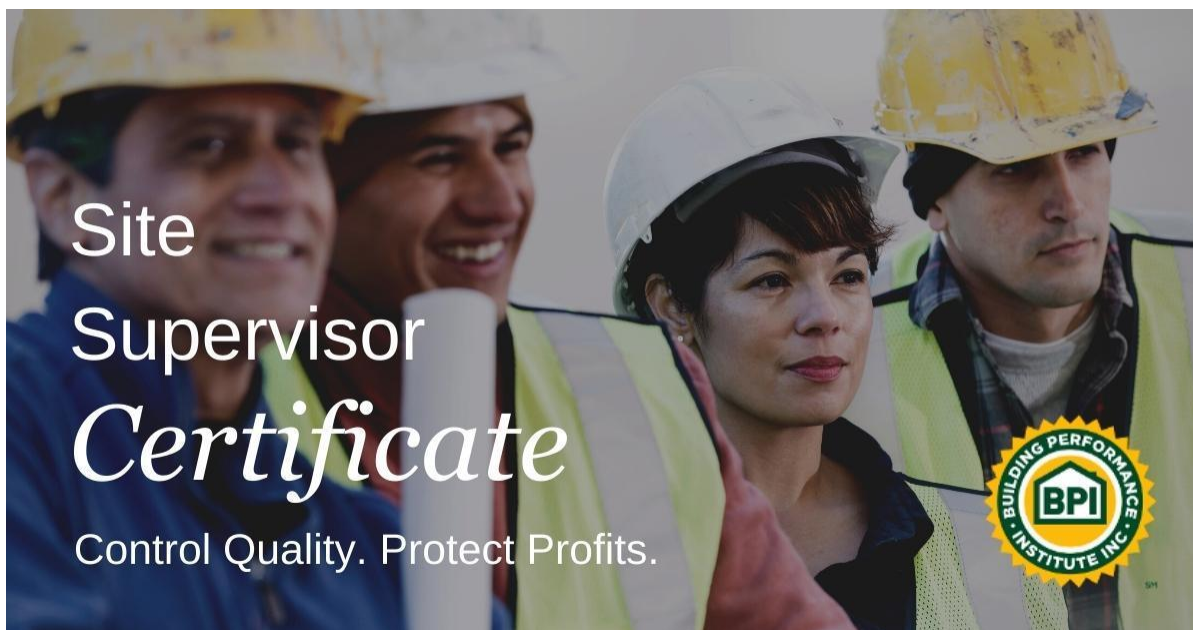
Energy efficiency, the largest employer in the nation's energy sector, supports a median hourly wage of \$24.44, about 28% above the national median. Connecting women, people of color, and people from underserved communities to these opportunities can radically change their economic prospects.

The [kickoff](#) on January 31 will bring together employers from every sector of clean energy, including building performance and energy efficiency. We invite everyone who employs others to join us there.

Attendees will be invited to share their experiences and needs during this interactive session. Your input will shape the Alliance's work on innovative solutions and support to grow an inclusive and effective workforce. Broad participation is needed to make sure the Alliance is fully informed and moving in the right direction. Women and minority owned businesses and employers serving disadvantaged populations are most especially invited to share their expertise.

Please bring your expertise as energy efficiency employers to the National Clean Workforce Alliance. Thank you for joining us in developing more resilient, healthy, and prosperous communities through improved workforce development for clean energy technology and jobs.

The January meeting will specifically focus on the employer experience and needs. [Please RSVP to join us on January 31, 2022 at 2 p.m. ET!](#)



BPI's newest certificate was developed to prevent costly callbacks and ensure customer satisfaction.

The Site Supervisor Certificate is an affordable, accessible way to identify workers with the skills and knowledge to be worksite leaders.

Site Supervisors are qualified to maintain quality control and worksite documentation and to confirm that all work is completed to applicable industry standards and specifications. They also demonstrate the skills to lead client interactions and manage personnel.

Learn more about how to set a site supervisor on your crew [here](#).



Congratulations to [Carla Walker-Miller](#) on receiving a Leadership Award from the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance. Carla is a visionary who has molded Walker-Miller into one of the largest African American and woman owned energy waste reduction companies in the country. As a [BPI Test Center](#), Walker-Miller Energy Services brings many highly qualified technicians into this industry every year. Walker-Miller is also a [BPI GoldStar Contractor](#), committed to the very best in quality management and business management. We are grateful for Carla's service to the industry and her incredible accomplishments.

A deadly New York City [residential fire](#) was likely caused by a space heater used to boost the building's comfort during ordinary regional winter temperatures. The tragedy highlights the safety risk of inefficient residential buildings. The Twin Parks West Building has served as income restricted housing for low and moderate income people since its construction in the 1970s. 16 people died in the fire, including 9 children. New York is currently working on [multiple fronts](#) to improve efficiency and safety in its housing stock.

A Maine company has secured \$85 million in [financing](#) to begin the production of wood fiber insulation in a former paper mill. GO Lab will be the first manufacturer of wood fiber insulation in North America. The plant is currently under rehabilitation and will begin producing board, batt, and blown-in [insulation](#) for the residential and light construction market in 2023.

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (PUC) issued an order that drastically curtailed funding for New Hampshire's energy efficiency program in November. The order negatively impacts energy-burdened people with low incomes and energy efficiency companies employ more than 10,000 workers in the state. On January 9th the NH House of Representatives passed [House Bill 549](#), a first-step in re-establishing funding for the popular program NHSaves. The bill passed with unanimous bipartisan support, 343-0, and will next face the New Hampshire Senate.





ACEEE published a December 2021 [report](#) that deep retrofits can halve home emissions. It analyzed retrofit packages based on the most common pre-2000 home type in each major U.S. climate zone. The analysis shows that completing retrofits in stages can be an effective strategy for scaling deep retrofits and achieving energy and carbon savings. Check out this [graphic](#) for an illustration of suggested stages.

2022 will be the first year that an all-electric pickup truck will be available for purchase in the US. Anticipation for the Ford F-150 Lightning is running high in [Texas](#), which has the highest concentration of Ford pickups in the country. Check out [this assessment](#) of what the vehicle may offer to contractors.

In 2019 Ithaca, NY made a bold commitment to eliminate all carbon emissions from buildings. Take a look at [this podcast](#) from Canary Media to learn more about how they're working to achieve it.

Minority owned businesses generate \$1.4 trillion in annual receipts to the US economy. Learn more in [this report](#) and connect with the Minority Business Development Agency for support in growing your business [here](#).

A Brooklyn owned company has developed a business model to rapidly electrify large and multifamily buildings. [BlocPower](#) helps buildings transition away from fossil-fuel-powered boilers and toward electric heat pumps, without paying large sums of money upfront. The company and its investors are repaid from the savings on buildings' utility bills. The model has worked for over 1,000 New York City buildings, with 24 ongoing projects in other U.S. cities. Read the case studies [here](#).



BPI's homeowner educates the public on the importance of the "house as a system" approach and increases the demand for home performance contractors. Share with your friends and neighbors!

In this month's issue, we share how smart technology can make your home more comfortable while driving down energy costs and look at exciting new products entering the market. Check it out here!



*Find details on these positions and many more on our [Jobs](#) page*

### **Field Engineer In Training - PEG, LLC**

Perform Home Energy Audits, prepare an electronic written report of audit findings, communicate with clients throughout the process, and complete any necessary paperwork required for internal reporting. BPI certification(s) preferred. Richmond, Virginia

### **Insulation Crew Chief - Energy Management Solutions**

Energy Management Solutions is growing fast and we are looking for experienced and qualified "Insulation Crew Chiefs" to start work immediately! BPI certification(s) preferred. Valley Cottage, New York

### **WAP Field Technician - Resources For Seniors**

Assist auditors to conduct home energy assessments, assist with performing energy conservation testing consisting of blower door testing, combustion appliance testing, and duct leakage testing, attend trainings provided by agency, and obtain required certification in timely period. BPI Certification Required. Raleigh, NC

[Find a Job](#)



BPI's Healthy Housing Principles provide knowledge of how the different components of a home interact to affect occupant health.

Authored by Kevin Kennedy, director of the Environmental Health Program at Children's Mercy Hospital, Healthy Housing Principles gives a comprehensive background in how environmental problems in the home can damage health. Anyone who works with families in homes should consider earning the [Healthy Housing Principles Certificate](#).



BPI certification comes with great benefits, including free membership in Home Depot's ProXtra rewards program. With no spend minimum, you can sign up today and start earning cash back at dollar one.

Get [certified](#) today and earn 2% on everything you spend in 2022.



BPI sets national standards for improving comfort and energy efficiency for creating and maintaining safe and healthy home environments. BPI's professional certifications for home contractors ensure quality service and workmanship. BPI is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.