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Energy Democracy: Advancing Equity in Clean Energy Solutions

Edited by Denise Fairchild and Al Weinrub

A reader that captures the historical and conceptual framework, as well as the underlying values and principles of the emerging energy democracy movement, as told by its leaders.

Assembles in one place the current and growing body of renewable energy strategies and practices for shifting the extractive, U.S. fossil fuel economy towards a decentralized renewable energy economy, one that is equitable, sustainable, resilient and democratic.

Contents and Contributors

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From Commodification to the Commons: Charting the Pathway for Energy Democracy Cecilia Martinez, Center for Earth, Energy, and Democracy

The Case for a Just Transition Michelle Mascarenhas-Swan, Movement Generation Justice and Ecology Project

Energy Democracy Through Local Energy Equity Strela Cervas, California Environmental Justice Alliance, and Anthony Giancatarino, Just Community Energy Transition Fellow

Base-Building and Leadership Development for Energy Democracy: APEN's Work in East Bay Asian Immigrant and Refugee Communities Vivian Yi Huang and Miya Yoshitani, Asian Pacific Environmental Network

Organizing for Energy Democracy in Rural Electric Cooperatives Derrick Johnson and Ashura Lewis, One Voice

Conflicting Agendas: Energy Democracy and the Labor Movement Sean Sweeney, Trade Unions for Energy Democracy

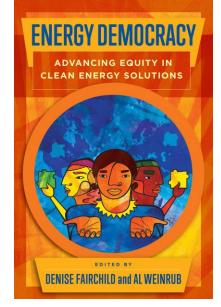
Democratizing Municipal-Scale Power Al Weinrub, Local Clean Energy Alliance

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Conclusion: Building an Energy Democracy Movement Denise Fairchild, Emerald Cities Collaborative





Critical Acclaim for Energy Democracy: Advancing Equity in Clean Energy Solutions

"As we transition off fossil fuels, we have a once-in-a-century opportunity to build a fair and democratic economy that works for everyone. In this marvelous collection, you'll hear directly from many of the inspiring leaders who have been theorizing, organizing, and laying the policy groundwork for that leap forward—and you might just be moved to join them."

-Naomi Klein, Author of No Is Not Enough and This Changes Everything

"Want to know how to address climate change, structural racism, and economic inequality at the same time? Start by reading this book. This is a critical read for those seeking to build a broader movement for economic equity, environmental justice, and planetary health."

---**Manuel Pastor**, Director, Program for Environmental & Regional Equity, University of Southern California

"Energy Democracy is a call to action and a powerful tool for activists and grassroots leaders seeking to create a new energy paradigm that empowers our most vulnerable communities and fosters equitable, resilient economies."

-Angela Glover Blackwell, CEO, PolicyLink

"From the Flint water crisis to calamities like Super Storm Sandy, it is becoming more evident that our nation must get serious about addressing environmental injustice. *Energy Democracy* advances a conversation about the climate crisis and deepening racial inequality at a time when these issues are in the forefront of our political landscape."

-Gerry Hudson, Secretary-Treasurer, Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

"Energy Democracy draws upon some of the most exciting voices in the growing movement for a new energy economy. It offers a clear vision of the clean energy future—pluralist, community-sustaining, and deeply democratic—that might just be possible if we learn to recognize and fight for it."

—Gar Alperovitz, Co-founder, The Democracy Collaborative and Co-chair, The Next System Project

"True Energy Democracy places us on a path where all communities, and especially our most vulnerable, have a chance to authentically participate in a holistic process focused on equitable, sustainable, resilient and democratic changes that will benefit those who have often been overlooked, marginalized and forgotten. This exceedingly important book connects the dots, and shares strategies on how we win on climate, how we win on renewable energy, and how we win on empowering vulnerable communities!"

-Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior Vice President, Hip Hop Caucus

"There's no topic on the planet more important right now than democratizing energy—that's the precondition for the massive buildout of renewable energy that should be the chief occupation of a warming planet for decades to come. This book does a fine job of helping readers understand the perspectives and undercurrents that make breaking with the disastrous status quo both difficult and urgent."

-Bill McKibben, Author of Deep Economy