



## **National Coalition of Clean Energy Incubators (NCCEI) Statement of Principles on the Justice40 Initiative**

The Biden Administration has committed to ensuring that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved and overburdened by pollution. President Biden made this commitment when he signed Executive Order 14008 early in his administration, and again with greater detail on April 21, 2023, when the President signed Executive Order 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All. This is a policy to pursue a whole-of-government approach to environmental justice.

The categories of investment for the Justice40 Initiative are: *climate change, clean energy and energy efficiency, clean transit, affordable and sustainable housing, training and workforce development, remediation and reduction of legacy pollution, and the development of critical clean water and wastewater infrastructure.*

Through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and the American Rescue Plan, federal agencies are making historic levels of investment to advance environmental justice. This investment will help confront decades of underinvestment in disadvantaged communities and bring critical resources to communities that have been overburdened by legacy pollution and environmental hazards.

As the National Coalition of Clean Energy Incubators (NCCEI) represents the most innovative clean technology incubators in the U.S., who are committed to equitable climate action and promoting robust growth of regional energy innovation ecosystems across the nation, *we enthusiastically support the Biden Administration's commitment and efforts to implement the goals of the Justice40 Initiative. The undersigned organizations are committed to wherever possible, prioritizing investments and initiatives that increase support and enhance opportunities for diverse, underrepresented cleantech entrepreneurs, provide job training for at-risk communities, and scale deployment of clean energy solutions in disadvantaged, underserved communities that will provide increased benefits from the clean energy economy for all Americans.*

Each signatory below commits to supporting the following principles wherever and whenever possible via their respective organizational programming:

1. **Support underrepresented founders:** Prioritize recruiting startups run by underrepresented women, Black, Latino and Indigenous founders who are focused on scaling their clean energy solutions. Working with partner organizations focused on underrepresented populations and inclusivity, we will seek input and referrals for participant applications.
2. **Expand access to dedicated funding resources:** Organizations will work intentionally to identify grant and seed funding for underrepresented women, Black, Latino and Indigenous founders who are least likely to receive traditional venture capital funding.
3. **Deliver solutions in disadvantaged communities:** Support deployment and equitable access to innovative technologies that address the needs of underserved communities and reduce pollution for those disproportionately impacted. In so doing, we will seek to create pathways wherever possible for disadvantaged communities to benefit from clean energy solutions through local business growth and employment opportunities.
4. **Support related workforce opportunities training:** Directly or indirectly support via partner organizations the green workforce training needed for the startups we support and others to deploy clean energy solutions.

Signed,

Matt Petersen  
President & CEO  
Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI)

Danny Kennedy  
Chief Energy Officer  
New Energy Nexus

Kate Frucher  
Founder & Managing Director  
The Clean Fight

Nina Axelson  
President  
Grid Catalyst

Rick Stockburger  
CEO  
BRITE Energy Innovators

Isaac Vanderburg  
CEO  
Launch Alaska

Dawn Lippert  
CEO  
Elemental Excelerator

Pamela Fann  
Owner & Principal  
Impact Energy

Rebecca Taylor  
Acting Director  
Austin Technology Incubator

Erik Birkerts  
CEO  
Evergreen Climate Innovations

Kenneth B. Hayes  
Executive Director  
Cleantech Open

Cortney Piper  
Executive Director  
Tennessee Advanced Energy  
Business Council (TAEBC)

Felicia Davis  
Founder  
HBCU Green Fund

Laura Teicher  
President & Executive Director  
FORGE

Aina Abiodun  
President & Executive Director  
VertueLab

Douglas Davenport  
Founder, CEO  
Prospect Silicon Valley

Kevin Knobloch  
Chief Executive Officer  
Greentown Labs