

J-PAL North America

Economics of Decarbonization

Working Group Members

Michael Anderson



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Affiliation: UC Berkeley

EoD aligned topics: Transportation

Bio: Michael Anderson is Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Anderson's research interests include the areas of transportation economics, environmental economics, health economics, and applied econometrics, especially relating to questions of causal inference.

Dr. Anderson received his Ph.D. in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2006) and a B.A. in Economics from Swarthmore College (1999). He has published in a range of economics, scientific, medical, and statistical journals, including the American Economic Review, Review of Economic Studies, Journal of the American Statistical Association, BMJ, Annals of Internal Medicine, and Science.

Patrick Baylis



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EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Climate risk and adaptation (e.g., wildfire risk)

Bio: Patrick Baylis is an assistant professor and environmental economist at the Vancouver School of Economics at the University of British Columbia (UBC). He studies how people respond to environmental threats like wildfires, air pollution, and extreme temperatures. Some of Dr. Baylis' recent work includes evaluating the effectiveness of wildland building codes on home survival

during wildfires, assessing the implicit subsidy of federal wildfire suppression, and measuring demand for air quality improvements in Delhi.

Judson Boomhower



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Affiliation: UC San Diego

EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Energy markets

Bio: Judson Boomhower is an assistant professor in the Department of Economics at the University of California San Diego and a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). His research focuses on environmental economics, energy markets, climate risk and adaptation, and the design of environmental and energy policy.

Judson is a contributor to the U.S. National Climate Assessment, an invited researcher at the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) and a faculty affiliate at the E2e initiative. He joined UC San Diego after a postdoctoral fellowship at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research. He earned his PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of California, Berkeley and BA and MS degrees from Stanford University. He is an Andrew Carnegie Fellow, a former Fulbright Scholar, and an award-winning undergraduate teacher.

Stefano Carattini



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Affiliation: Georgia State University

EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Climate risk and adaptation (e.g., wildfire risk), Energy markets, Equity and distributional impacts, GHG regulation (e.g., emissions pricing), Transportation

Bio: Stefano Carattini is an Assistant Professor in Economics in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. He is interested in policy evaluation, to examine how policies work, as well as their political economy, in particular people's understanding of and support for (ex-ante) unpopular policies. His research in this space aims at generating new evidence while also providing methodological contributions. He also studies the implications of the transition to a cleaner economy for workers, firms, as well as the economy more in general, including questions of asset stranding and systemic risk. His research also examines the diffusion of pro-environmental and pro-social behaviors, practices, and technologies and the role of cooperation in local and global social dilemmas at large.

His research combines applied microeconomic techniques for observational studies and, when causal identification in the current state of the world is not possible, field experiments. His research also relies on surveys to uncover what is on people's minds and otherwise invisible to the researcher. Theoretical models are also used when thinking about policies that are not yet in place.

Prior to joining Georgia State, he was an Associate Research Scientist at Yale University, where he was also a Lecturer in the School of Public Health. He obtained a PhD in Economics from the University of Barcelona and a MSc in Economics from the University of Lausanne. He also holds a BA in Socio-economics from the University of Geneva.

Peter Christensen



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Affiliation: UC Santa Cruz

EoD aligned topics: Agriculture and land use, Air pollution co benefits, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Equity and distributional impacts, GHG regulation (e.g., emissions pricing), Transportation, Urban Growth

Bio: Peter Christensen is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of California, Santa Cruz and the J-PAL North America Economics of Decarbonization Working Group Scientific Lead. He is an applied microeconomist who studies how public policy and technological interventions can be used to improve social and environmental outcomes in cities around the world. Specifically, Peter is interested in questions around energy and environmental economics, public economics, and urban economics. He is also the Director of Big Data for Environmental Economics and Policy (BDEEP).

Peter received his PhD in Environmental and Resource Economics from Yale in 2015.

Sara Constantino



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Affiliation: Stanford University

EoD aligned topics: Agriculture and land use, Air pollution co benefits, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Climate risk and adaptation (e.g., wildfire risk), Equity and distributional impacts, Transportation

Bio: Sara Constantino is an assistant professor at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability in the Department of Environmental Social Sciences and a visiting research scholar at Princeton's School of Public and International Affairs. She is also a faculty affiliate at SPARQ and the King Center for Global Development and a center fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment. She has an interdisciplinary background at the intersection of economics, psychology, and environmental policy and politics. Her research focuses on understanding the interplay between individual, collective, and institutional factors in shaping both the impacts of climate change on communities and individual and collective efforts to address climate change. In recent studies, she uses surveys, lab experiments, RCTs, and computational models to examine the role of incentives, behavioral factors, education, social norms, and governance in stimulating or stifling climate action and energy transitions. She also works on the impacts and politics of guaranteed income and other cash transfer programs, including their potential to increase resilience and ease transitions. Prior to starting at Stanford, she was an assistant professor in the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs and the Department of Psychology at Northeastern University and an associate research scholar at Princeton's School of Public and International Affairs. Before this, she was a senior research fellow in guaranteed income with the Jain Family Institute, a founding editor at Nature Human Behavior, and a research coordinator with the Institute for Fiscal Studies. She received her bachelor's degree in economics from McGill University, a master's degree in economics from University College London, a Ph.D. in cognitive and decision sciences from New York University, and a postdoc focused on environmental policy, politics and decision-making at Princeton University.

Teevrat Garg



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EoD aligned topics: Agriculture and land use, Air pollution co benefits, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Climate risk and adaptation (e.g., wildfire risk), Equity and distributional impacts, Electric Vehicles

Bio: Teevrat Garg (he/him) is an associate professor of economics in the School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) at UC San Diego. His research focuses on environmental policy and energy transitions in low- and middle-income countries. His current portfolio of research involves working directly with regional governments and utilities in understanding climate adaptation and decarbonization. In recent years, he has conducted research in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Uganda, United States and Vietnam.

Garg's work has been published in leading academic journals and covered by prominent media outlets such as The New York Times and Science magazine. His policy engagements include serving as an academic advisor to the Green Growth Initiative at the International Growth Center and serving as a technical contributor to the fifth National Climate Assessment. He currently serves as editor at the Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists.

Prior to joining UC San Diego, Teevrat was a postdoctoral fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He received a B.A. in economics (with honors) and a B.S in mathematics from Lafayette College in 2010, and a Ph.D. in applied economics and management from Cornell University in 2015.

Kenneth Gillingham



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Affiliation: Yale

EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Energy markets, Equity and distributional impacts, GHG regulation (e.g., emissions pricing), Transportation

Bio: Professor Gillingham is the Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the Yale School of the Environment and a professor of economics at Yale, with a primary appointment at the School of the Environment and secondary appointments in the Department of Economics and School of Management. He is also a faculty research fellow at the National

Bureau of Economic Research. In 2015-2016, he served as the Senior Economist for Energy and the Environment at the White House Council of Economic Advisers. He is an energy and environmental economist drawing from the fields of applied microeconomics, behavioral economics, industrial organization, and integrated assessment modeling of climate change. He has published widely on consumer decisions and policy in transportation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. His work has been published in top-tier journals such as Science, Nature, PNAS, Journal of Political Economy, AEJ: Economic Policy, RAND Journal of Economics, Quantitative Economics, Management Science, Marketing Science, Journal of the Association of Environmental & Resource Economists, and the Journal of Environmental Economics & Management.

Prior to joining the Yale faculty, he worked at the California Air Resources Board, White House Council of Economic Advisers, Stanford Energy Modeling Forum, Resources for the Future, and Joint Global Change Research Institute of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. He was also the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship to New Zealand. His Ph.D. is from Stanford University, where he studied management science & engineering and economics. Before beginning a career as an economist, he was a wilderness ranger in Wyoming and New Hampshire.

[Danae Hernandez-Cortes](#)



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Affiliation: Arizona State University

EoD aligned topics: Equity and distributional impacts, GHG regulation (e.g., emissions pricing)

Bio: Danae Hernandez-Cortes is an Assistant Professor at ASU, with a shared appointment between the School for the Future of Innovation in Society and the School of Sustainability and a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Her research contributes to the following areas: 1) the distributional consequences of environmental policy, 2) analyzing some of the causes of environmental inequality, and 3) heterogeneous responses to environmental risk. Her research uses a combination of causal inference methods and remote sensing/pollution transport models.

Katrina Jessoe



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Affiliation: UC Davis

EoD aligned topics: Agriculture and land use, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Climate risk and adaptation (e.g., wildfire risk), Equity and distributional impacts

Bio: Dr. Katrina Jessoe is an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Davis, where she specializes in environmental and energy economics. Much of her research centers on the design and evaluation of pricing and conservation policies in the water and electricity sectors. She often collaborates with electric and water utilities, as well as state agencies. Some recent and ongoing projects include a framed field experiment to understand the water and energy impacts of water conservation instruments, the estimation of the price elasticity of demand for agricultural groundwater and land use, the external costs of climate change adaptation as measured through access to drinking water, and tools to reduce price volatility in water markets. She received a BA from Princeton University in 2002 and a PhD in Environmental and Resource Economics from Yale University in 2009.

Hyuk-soo Kwon



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EoD aligned topics: Energy markets, Transportation

Bio: Hyuk-soo Kwon is an Assistant Professor at the Harris School of Public Policy. His research interests lie at the intersection of Empirical Industrial Organization and Environment and Energy Economics. His studies focus on designing policies to correct environmental externalities in the presence of inefficiencies such as imperfect competition, market frictions, and political constraints. He has a particular interest in the role of government incentives in the electric vehicle and battery industry. Prior to joining Harris, Hyuk-soo was a Postdoctoral researcher at the Stanford Institute of Economic Policy Research. He earned his Ph.D. in Economics from Cornell University in 2023 and his MA and BA in economics from Seoul National University.

Shanjun Li



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EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Energy markets, Equity and distributional impacts, Transportation

Bio: Shanjun Li is a Professor of Applied Economics and Policy and holds the Kenneth L. Robinson Chair in the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell University. Shanjun also serves as the Director of the Cornell Institute for China Economic Research (CICER) and a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).

His research interests include environmental and energy economics, urban and transportation economics, empirical industrial organization, and Chinese economy. Recent research examines the global implications of sustainability issues in China to inform evidence-based policy-making.

Shanjun received a PhD in Economics from Duke University in 2007.

Joshua Linn



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EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Energy markets, Equity and distributional impacts, GHG regulation (e.g., emissions pricing), Transportation

Bio: Josh Linn is an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Maryland and a senior fellow at Resources for the Future. His research centers on the effects of environmental policies and economic incentives for new technologies in the transportation, electricity, and industrial sectors. His transportation research assesses passenger vehicle taxation and fuel economy standards in the United States and Europe. He has examined the effects of Beijing's vehicle ownership restrictions on travel behavior, labor supply, and fertility.

His work on the electricity sector has compared the effectiveness of cap and trade and alternative policy instruments in promoting new technology and reducing emissions of carbon dioxide and local air pollutants. Recent studies have compared the roles of natural gas prices and environmental regulation in explaining coal mine closures and the shift away from coal-fired

generation in the United States. He has examined the implications of low-cost storage and renewables for reducing electricity sector emissions.

Linn's research on the manufacturing sector has investigated the roles of energy prices in driving the adoption of energy-saving technology and the effects of carbon pricing on industrial competitiveness. He has published in leading general interest and field journals in environmental, energy, and health economics.

Linn was a senior economist at the Council of Economic Advisers from 2014–2015. He is serving on a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine committee on light-duty fuel economy. He is a co-editor for the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management. He received a BA in Astronomy and Physics from Yale in 2000 and a PhD in Economics from MIT in 2005.

Gordon McCord



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EoD aligned topics: Agriculture and land use, Building energy use and energy efficiency, Transportation, Renewable energy production

Bio: Gordon McCord is an Associate Professor at the University of California, San Diego in the School of Global Policy and Strategy, and he works on economic development, public health, and environmental sustainability. He has extensive experience providing technical advising to governments in meeting sustainable development goals. In the decarbonization space, he was co-author of the U.S. Zero Carbon Action Plan, and Director of the San Diego Regional Decarbonization Framework, pioneering ways to translate national and state-level energy system models into policy-relevant pathways to decarbonization that can inform climate action planning at county and city level.

Robert Metcalfe



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EoD aligned topics: Building energy use and energy efficiency, Equity and distributional impacts, Transportation

Bio: Rob Metcalfe is a Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. His research involves using field experimental methods to understand human behavior in consumer markets and within organizations, with focus areas in energy, environmental markets, transportation, firm and labor productivity, and digital platforms. He is particularly interested in understanding this behavior and the measurement of welfare in the presence of behavioral imperfections and externalities including pollution, climate change, congestion, and market power.

Rob received his PhD in Economics from Imperial College London in 2010.

Erich Muehlegger



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Affiliation: UC Davis

EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Energy markets, Equity and distributional impacts, Transportation

Bio: Erich Muehlegger is a Professor of Economics at the University of California, Davis, and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

His research interests include industrial organization, public finance, economic regulation, and environmental policy.

Muehlegger received his BA from Williams College in 1997 and his PhD from MIT in 2005. He taught at the Harvard Kennedy School from 2005-2014 and has taught at UC Davis since 2014.

Erica Myers



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Affiliation: University of Calgary

EoD aligned topics: Building energy use and energy efficiency, Demand side management and demand response EV charging and smart thermostats

Bio: Erica Myers is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Calgary and holds the Canada Research Chair in Environmental, Energy and Resource Economics. She is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), an invited researcher at the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), and a faculty affiliate at the E2e initiative. Her primary area of interest is in environmental and energy economics. Much of her current work focuses on consumer behavior and the drivers of energy demand, particularly as related to greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction policies. She serves as an editor at the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management and on the editorial board of at Land Economics, the Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, and Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy.

Previously, she was an Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois from 2014-2021 and received her PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from UC Berkeley in 2014.

Adam Osman



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EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Equity and distributional impacts, GHG regulation (e.g., emissions pricing), Transportation

Bio: Adam Osman is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. His work utilizes randomized experiments, machine learning and economic theory to improve our understanding of which policies work best in improving the lives of the poor. His work covers several topics including access to finance, private sector development, labor markets, international trade and transport frictions, with a special emphasis on issues that affect the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

David Rapson



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EoD aligned topics: Building energy use and energy efficiency, Energy markets, Transportation

Bio: David Rapson is a Chancellor's Leadership Professor in the UC Davis Economics Department, Assistant Vice President at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, and Co-Director of the Davis Energy Economics Program (DEEP). The central objective of Professor Rapson's work is to understand and demonstrate how consumers and firms respond to incentives, and what this implies for effective energy, environmental and economic policy. His work examines a central tension of the energy transition. Government intervention can improve outcomes when markets fail and when policies create proper incentives; but poorly conceived policies may undermine goals that they are trying to achieve or inadvertently harm peoples' economic circumstances. Dr. Rapson's research seeks to understand the difference.

Professor Rapson is an expert on electric vehicles, energy markets, climate policy and regulation, and has recently written on the effects of sanctions on Russia. His research appears in the American Economic Review, Science, Nature, and other academic journals. Dr. Rapson is a Co-Editor of The Energy Journal and Treasurer of the Association of Environmental & Resource Economists. He has held various posts in service to the profession and the community including Treasurer of the US Association of Energy Economists, Associate Editor of the Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, and Editorial Council member of the Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economics. He earned degrees from Dartmouth College (AB), Queen's University (MA) and Boston University (PhD in Economics).

Casey Wichman



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EoD aligned topics: Building energy use and energy efficiency, Climate risk and adaptation (e.g., wildfire risk), Equity and distributional impacts, Transportation, Water

Bio: Dr. Casey Wichman is an applied microeconomist working on issues at the intersection of environmental and public economics. His research focuses on how people interact with the natural and built environment, and what that behavior reveals about the value of environmental amenities. Dr. Wichman's research spans water and energy demand

management, climate change impacts and policy, valuation of environmental resources and infrastructure, urban transportation, public good provision, and outdoor recreation.

Ariel Zucker



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Affiliation: UC Santa Cruz

EoD aligned topics: Air pollution co benefits, Equity and distributional impacts, Transportation

Bio: Ariel Zucker is an assistant professor in the Department of Economics at UC Santa Cruz. Her research studies policies to improve health and environmental conditions among underserved communities worldwide. Many of Dr. Zucker's projects focus on countering behavioral biases in personal decisionmaking. Prior to arriving in Santa Cruz, she completed a postdoc at UC Berkeley ARE, and earned her Ph.D. in economics from MIT.