



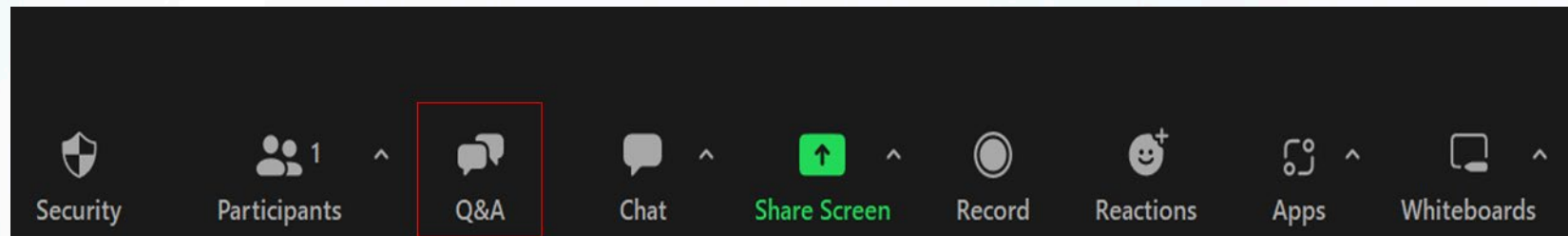
Research Seminar

**Equitable Electrification of Existing Buildings:
A Pathway to Decarbonization**

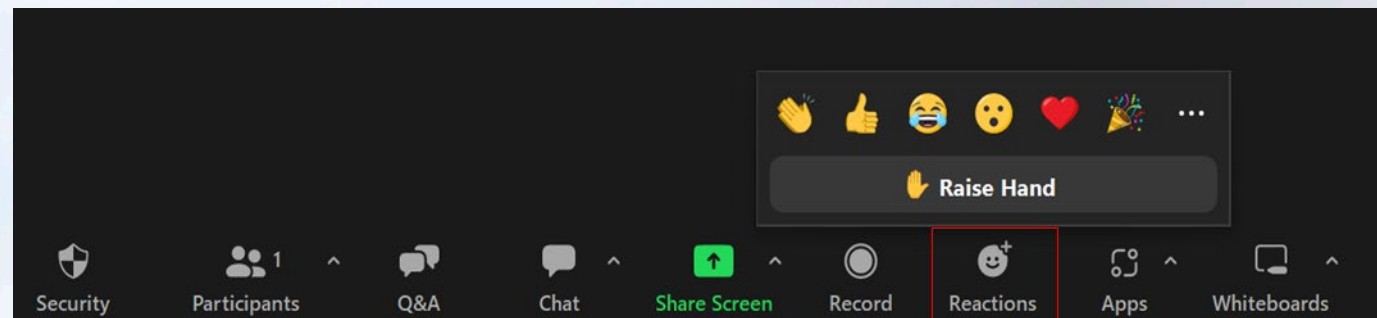
4/21/2026

Housekeeping Items

- If you have a written question, please enter it into the Q&A using the icon at the bottom of the screen.



- If you wish to ask a question verbally, raise your hand using the reactions icon. We will unmute you during the Q&A sessions at the end of the presentation.
- When called on, please identify yourself and your affiliation, and whether you have a question or comment.



Background

- California buildings account for 12% of GHG emissions, along with harmful indoor and outdoor air pollutants.
- Building decarbonization provides major climate, air-quality, and health benefits and is a cost-effective pathway to carbon neutrality by 2045.
- Key barriers include costly electrical panel upgrades, limited data, and disproportionate impacts on under-resourced communities, plus contractor access, performance concerns, and low awareness of benefits.
- Commercial buildings need better data and analysis to guide equitable electrification because of diverse end uses and limited emissions information.

Study objectives

- **Analyze California's current building electrification trends** by compiling spatial data on residential and small commercial buildings, reviewing incentives, and assessing gaps relative to long-term state goals.
- **Address major decarbonization knowledge gaps** through quantifying residential electrical panel capacity needs, assessing retrofit challenges, and evaluating consumer awareness via surveys and interviews.
- **Prioritize commercial subsectors for electrification** by developing a prioritization framework incorporating building characteristics, emissions, equity factors, and feasibility, supported by an interactive tool, and conducting a detailed assessment of a selected priority subsector.

Additional Information

- Project webpage: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/equitable-electrification-existing-buildings-pathway-decarbonization>
 - Final report, project summary, and presentation slides
 - Meeting recording
 - Additional updates
- Contact: melanie.zauscher@arb.ca.gov
qunfangzoe.zhang@arb.ca.gov

Today's Speakers



Eric Fournier

- Research Director at the California Center for Sustainable Communities (CCSC) within UCLA's Institute for the Environment and Sustainability.
- Application of information technologies, and the quantitative methods that they enable, to the resolution of complex environmental problems.



Jackson Guze

- Research Coordinator at the CCSC
- Institutional responses to climate change, including energy policy, the logistics industry, and the successes and failures of the regulatory state



Maya Ofek

- Research Analyst at the CCSC
- Intersection of climate and energy policy and equity.