

Q3

July – September 2025

be
ex

building
energy
exchange

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Evana Said
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● recent programs

July 23, 2025

**Cheers to WISE: 10 Years of
Impact & Luminary Support**

In July, nearly a hundred members of our Women in Sustainability and Energy (WISE) community—both new and old—convened at the Exchange to celebrate the tenth anniversary of our WISE series!

During the program, we highlighted major milestones, heard from WISE Luminary speakers who emphasized the need for a strong and passionate community, and raised a glass to all that we've accomplished and to many more years of impact.

This quarter we brought industry leaders together for impactful Climate Week programming, held primer trainings for commercial building stakeholders, and strengthened our community through thoughtful, mission-driven engagement.



► <https://be-exchange.org/2025-cheers-to-wise/>



September 4, 2025

Future Housing: A New Approach to Evaluating Building Performance

BE-Ex and Bright Power held an online moderated panel discussion and live Q&A session on the Future Housing Initiative, an endeavor to incorporate the resident experience and impacts into how we assess building performance.



► <https://be-exchange.org/future-housing-new-approach/>

September 30, 2025

Thermal Energy Networks in New York and Sweden: Lessons across the Atlantic

Following the excitement of Climate Week, BE-Ex, in collaboration with the Swedish Energy Agency (SEA), held a moderated panel on thermal energy networks (TENs).

At this event, local, regional, and international leaders engaged in a timely discussion on this innovative solution for dramatic carbon reduction.

► <https://be-exchange.org/thermal-energy-nyc-sweden/>

insight: Climate Week Recap

A Week of Connection & Climate Action

by Amanda Biscoe

Associate, Education & Engagement
Building Energy Exchange

"I'm so grateful that a place like Building Energy Exchange exists in New York City. This place is truly a community center for the region's climate community, where academics, architects, engineers, building owners, real estate professionals, developers, industry leaders, policymakers, innovators—carbon hustlers—come together, not to play bingo or basketball, but to figure out how to solve the city's most pressing climate issues."

*- Joe Chavez,
NYC Mayor's Office of Climate & Environmental Justice*

BE-Ex had an action-packed Climate Week this September, full of thoughtful discussions, new connections, and inspiring presentations. Over the course of the week, we hosted over 300 guests at the Exchange, including industry peers, partners, and climate leaders, who came together to exchange ideas and move the conversation forward on climate action in the built environment.

The energy and enthusiasm displayed throughout the week was contagious, and reinvigorated our collective commitment to making meaningful progress in combating climate change.

We kicked off the week by delving into the Guide to Strategic Decarbonization Planning, in collaboration with ASHRAE, USGBC, and RMI. This event provided attendees with valuable insights into the resource and how it integrates with the broader ecosystem of tools, case studies, and planning resources available on RetrofitPlaybook.org.

Overall, the event was a tremendous success, uniting industry leaders and professionals to educate participants on effectively applying the SDP framework and other practical resources for achieving low-carbon, future-ready building retrofits.

Climate Week Recap

A Week of Connection & Climate Action

Later that evening, we hosted our Smart Buildings and Emerging Tech Showcase, led by Paul Rivers. During the event, Industry Leadership Council (ILC) members Rockwool, Carbon Clear, URBS, JB&B, and Lutron Electronics delivered engaging presentations on cutting-edge developments in high-performance building and retrofit technologies.

Following opening remarks from our event sponsor, Energy by 5, the presentations covered a variety of topics, from advanced building management systems to insulation innovations, providing attendees with valuable insights into these technologies shaping the industry. The evening also included informative displays from each presenter, allowing attendees to interact directly with representatives and connect with experts about innovations transforming the industry. The night concluded with refreshments and networking in the space.

The fun continued on Thursday the 25th, as we kicked off the day with the Building Performance Partnerships' Advancing Local Climate Leadership panel, led by Hailey Moll. This discussion provided an in-depth exploration of local strategies for scaling building decarbonization across the United States, offering guests a topical discussion about the extent of local action to scale building decarbonization in the U.S.

To illustrate this, the event showcased a snapshot of local building performance policy progress and a moderated discussion featuring hub directors and leading real estate professionals, who explored the state of hub development, real-world success stories, and strategies for scaling local hubs to enhance building energy efficiency.

To conclude our Climate Week, we hosted the "Lessons from Women in the Field" event, led by our own Evana Said, as part of the Women in Sustainability & Energy (WISE) series. This panel featured four exceptional female leaders from various roles in the construction industry, who shared candid insights into the realities of advancing energy efficiency in New York City. They discussed the unique challenges and opportunities faced in this traditionally male-dominated field. The event highlighted the importance of fostering open dialogue in collaborative environments and emphasized key takeaways: nurturing relationships, practicing intentional listening, and looking out for one another.

As we look back on this unforgettable Climate Week, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all our attendees, partners, and sponsors. Your contributions made a significant impact, and we can't wait to see you again next year! Learn more about the festivities [here](#). ■



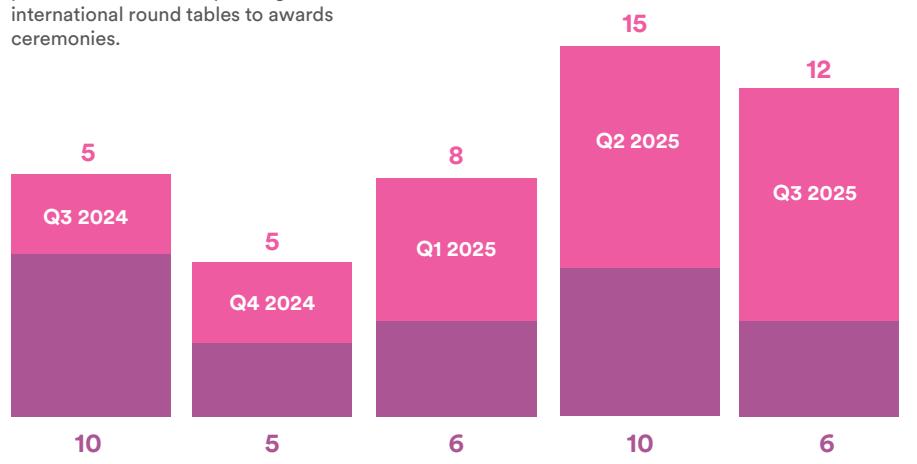
● programs

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This quarter was full of momentum—driven by packed events, deepening partnerships, and standout moments like our Climate Week programming and the Cheers to WISE ten-year celebration. The energy and engagement from our community continue to propel our work forward in meaningful ways, and we look forward to bringing that momentum into Q4.

BE-Ex developed events

BE-Ex hosted an exciting mix of partner events in Q3, spanning international round tables to awards ceremonies.



BE-Ex hosted events

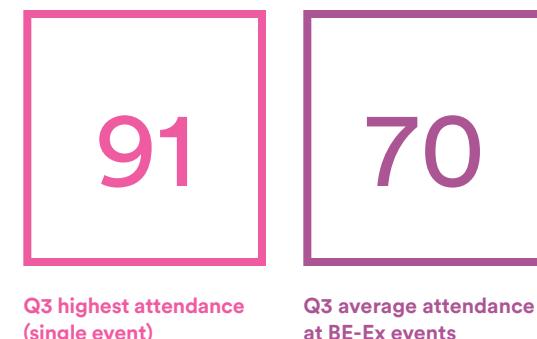
diversity goals

1. No all male panels

All male panels in Q3: 0

2. 50% female speakers across all BE-Ex events

Percentage of Female Speakers at Q3 events: 62%

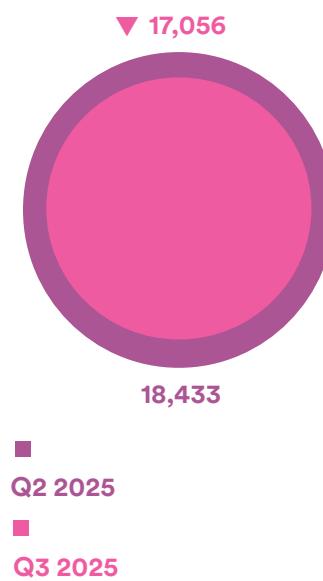


● audience

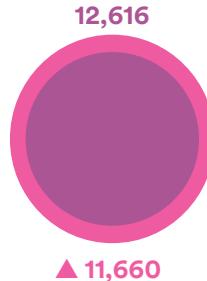
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In terms of audience activity, Q3 has been particularly vibrant, with an uptick in both online and in-person engagement. It's a clear indication that our outreach efforts are resonating! By focusing on creating content that is not just informative but also engaging and accessible, we've navigated another successful quarter.

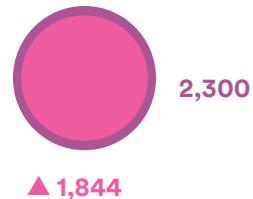
newsletter subscribers



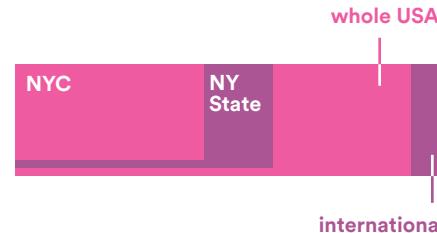
social media followers



resource downloads



program audience geographic distribution



34,679

unique website sessions in Q3 2025

Decarbonizing NYC Offices: Stakeholder Primers



As part of Decarbonizing New York City Offices—an initiative developed in partnership with IMT and NYSERDA aimed at driving sustained decarbonization of leased office spaces—Building Energy Exchange launched a Primer series to showcase the project's resources and playbooks. Each Primer course is tailored for key stakeholders within the commercial real estate industry—building owners, office tenants, and consultants—and spotlights strategic actions and opportunities to collaboratively pursue win-win outcomes.

► <https://be-exchange.org/decarbonizing-new-york-city-offices-project/>



Our two newest additions to the BE-Ex team, Amanda Biscoe & Mohammed Hasan!

Photo Credit: Gilbert Santana

Welcoming New Staff Members

At BE-Ex, each staff member brings a uniquely valuable contribution to our team. Whether it's a talent for problem-solving or a knack for communication, our small and dynamic group of innovative thinkers forms the foundation of our essential work. Recognizing just how vital this foundation is, we're thrilled to welcome two new team members this quarter: Amanda Biscoe, Education & Engagement Associate, and Mohammed Hasan, Educational Resources Associate.

Amanda recently graduated from Columbia's School of International & Public Affairs with a Master's in Environmental Science and Policy and brings a strong background in ecology. Since joining BE-Ex, she has quickly become an integral member of our team, helping amplify our organization's communications efforts and coordinate in-house events like the Room Heat Pump Expo and Let's Decarbonize! Game Night.

Transitioning from a Sustainable Buildings internship with the Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice (MOCEJ), Hasan has taken on a pivotal role at BE-Ex. He's currently contributing to a variety of educational resource initiatives, such as the LL97 Co-ops & Condos and Building Performance compliance workbooks, the Massachusetts Decarbonization Hub, and the Swedish Thermal Energy Network educational exchange.

While Amanda and Hasan joined BE-Ex only a few months ago, their insight, energy, and commitment have already enriched our team, and we couldn't be more excited to have them. To learn more about them read our insight: [Meet Our New Staff Members, Amanda and Hasan!](#)

October 15, 2025

Room Heat Pump Expo

This event, hosted by BE-Ex in partnership with the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA), the Council of New York Cooperatives and Condominiums (CNYC Inc.), Inc., the Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY), and sponsored by NYSERDA, will bring together heat pump manufacturers and industry stakeholders to spotlight current and upcoming packaged terminal heat pump products.



Photo credit: Gilbert Santana

- ▶ <https://be-exchange.org/heat-pump-expo/>

October 28, 2025

Let's Decarbonize! Game Night at Building Energy Exchange

- ▶ <https://be-exchange.org/lets-decarbonize-game-night/>

November 19, 2025

WISE Networking Lunch

This dynamic, new workshop, brought to you this October in our first-ever game night by NYSERDA, Building Energy Exchange, Ember Strategies, University of Cincinnati, and RMI will provide a hands-on introduction to the practice of building decarbonization planning using an engaging, game-based format.

- ▶ <https://be-exchange.org/wise-networking-lunch-2025/>



Photo credit: Giovanni Jackson

● project highlights

completed



Trainings DNYO Primers

Over the summer, BE-Ex launched a series of Decarbonizing NYC Offices Primers, 1-hour courses to introduce Building Owners & Managers, Consultants, and Tenants to the stakeholder playbooks and actionable resources to help commercial real estate stakeholders align on energy efficiency and sustainability efforts in leased office spaces.

► <https://be-exchange.org/decarbonizing-new-york-city-offices-project/>

Resources

New Planning Guides for Building Decarbonization

New planning guides designed to help project teams break down decarbonization into clear, practical actions have been launched on the Retrofit Playbook for Large Buildings. These new guides distill the planning process into manageable sub-steps, giving teams a practical way to translate high-level objectives to concrete actions. Each section outlines a key stage of the decarbonization journey, while offering tips, tools, and examples that make progress achievable. Whether you're just getting started, or refining an in-progress plan, the guides provide a roadmap that can be adapted to your building, team, and timeline.

Planning Guides

Strategic decarbonization planning (SDP) is a comprehensive approach to retrofitting buildings that aligns decarbonization activities with typical real estate cycles to cost-effectively achieve deep reductions in emissions. By integrating technical solutions with real estate capital plan, project teams can develop holistic, optimized decarbonization roadmaps for the buildings that prioritize flexibility, reduce risk, and unlock long-term value.

This guide distills proven practices from NYSERDA's Empire Building Challenge and the [Guide to Strategic Decarbonization Planning](#), a resource developed collaboratively by ASHRAE, U.S. Green Building Council, and NYSERDA. It is a living document that can be tailored to your building, team, and needs—whether the work is led internally or supported by core partners.

The best practices detailed in this guide illustrate that through careful planning, smart choices, and integrated research, common methods to decarbonization can be leveraged to yield meaningful emissions reductions and increased asset value.

Getting Started

- Establish Clear, Aligned Goals
- Engage Tenants
- Choose the Right Analytic Tools

Step 1: Examine Current Conditions

- Document Existing Conditions
- Establish an Events Calendar
- Review Commercial Leases and Modify as Needed
- Characterize Relevant Policies

Step 2: Design Resource Efficient Solutions

- Reduce Energy Load
- Recuperate Wasted Heat
- Reconfigure Systems
- Replace Fossil Fuel-Burning Equipment
- Manage Peak Demand
- Right-Sized Equipment and Components
- Convene a Design Charrette

Step 3: Build the Business Case

- Define Business as Usual
- Identify Financial Sources
- Use Financial Analysis with Comprehensive and Forward-Looking with Financial Inputs
- Explore Financing Options
- Pressure Test Analysis and Use Insights to Build a Compelling Business Case

Initiating a Strategic Decarbonization Planning project

Early decisions can make or break your decarbonization planning process. Get the right resources by engaging:

► <https://retrofitplaybook.org/planning-guide/initiating-a-project/>

upcoming

Project Features

Future Housing: A New Paradigm for Multifamily Building Performance

This report is part of the Future Housing Initiative, a partnership with Bright Power that aims to expand how building performance is evaluated by incorporating data about residents' lived experiences. Specifically, this report focuses on defining resident experience through the analysis of three metrics: resident experience, health risk, and carbon performance.

Future Housing:
A New Paradigm for
Multifamily Building Performance

FUTURE HOUSING INITIATIVE

Heat Pump Expo

In early October, we were excited to host the Room Heat Pump Expo, partnering with NESEA, CNYC Inc., and RENY, and supported by NYSERDA. The event attracted over 200 attendees and showcased 11 top heat pump manufacturers, offering a great platform for participants to learn about the latest technologies. Industry leaders shared insights on the essential role of heat pumps in building decarbonization and various initiatives underway. We rounded off the evening with a vibrant networking reception, and we truly appreciate everyone who joined us and made the event a success!



Photo credit: Gilbert Santana

programs	project status
<p>Cheers to WISE: 10 Years of Impact & Luminary Support</p> <p>July 23</p>	<p>Q3 2025</p>
<p>DNYO: Tenant Primer Training</p> <p>August 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Future Housing Initiative: Data Tools & Pilot
<p>DNYO: Owner Primer</p> <p>August 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Decarbonizing New York City Office Primer Trainings
<p>DNYO: Consultant Primer Training</p> <p>August 14</p>	<p>ongoing</p>
<p>Future Housing: A New Approach to Evaluating Building Performance</p> <p>September 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Building Performance Partnership: Hubs Support
<p>EBC Training Course 1 Webinar</p> <p>September 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ HPD Passive House Training
<p>EBC Training Course 2 Webinar</p> <p>September 18</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Empire Building Challenge Knowledge Platform
<p>Planning Meets Practice: Resources to Guide Building Decarbonization</p> <p>September 23</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Empire Building Challenge Training Series
<p>ILC Climate Week Showcase: Smart Buildings</p> <p>September 23</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Building Performance Standard Pathway Alternatives & Training Hubs (BPS PATH)
<p>Advancing Local Climate Leadership Through A Community of Practice</p> <p>September 25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Co-ops & Condo LL97 Education Campaign
<p>WISE Climate Week Panel</p> <p>September 25</p>	
<p>Thermal Energy Networks in New York and Sweden: Lessons across the Atlantic</p> <p>September 30</p>	