



Powered by
AXIOS HQ.

SmartPower Buzz

Lukas Lehmann • Oct 01, 2020
Smart Brevity™ count: 3 mins... 817 words

Welcome back to the Buzz! Are you ready to get energy smart?

SmartPower's Solarize LMI Report: Part of "Supporting underserved communities" Webinar



Sacramento-based non-profit, CleanStart hosted SmartPower President Brian F. Keane on Tuesday evening as part of webinar on bringing clean technology to underserved communities. Keane presented on discoveries made by SmartPower and its research partners on how to expand clean energy — particularly solar power — into low-to-middle income (LMI) communities. The findings have been published into a guidebook by Yale University, which can be found [here](#).

The webinar featured panelists with expertise in public policy, community organizing, and green tech start-up management to provide an in-depth analysis of how the benefits of the green economy can reach underserved

communities. The other panelists included representatives from the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and the Greenlining Institute.

Missed the event? No worries! You can watch the recording [here](#).

[Press release for the event.](#)

Get broadband; Fight climate change...

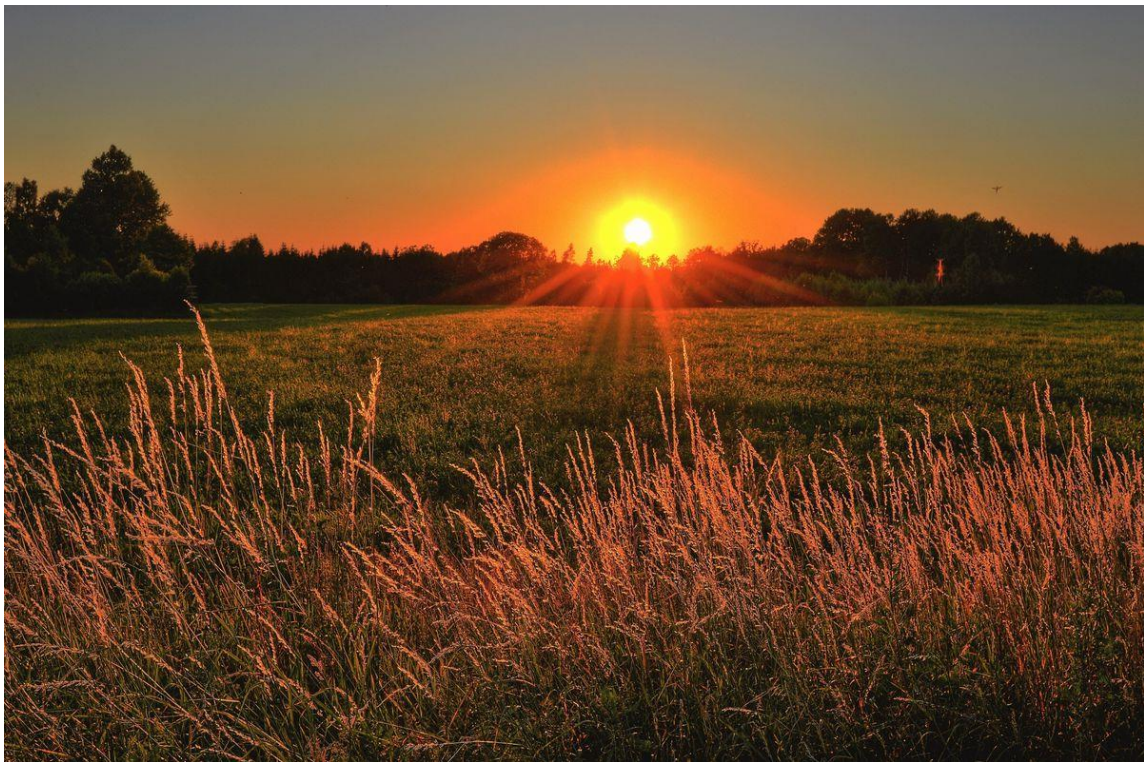


Photo by [Jonathan Petersson](#) from [Pexels](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic is wreaking havoc on the entire country, accelerating remarkable and previously unthinkable change to the way our citizens live, work, learn, and heal. Technology advancements throughout the last 10 years in computers, collaboration software, mobile phones, and broadband networks are enabling this rapid transformation and dramatically mitigating the economic impacts of the virus. COVID-19 underscores the importance of broadband access

in every community as millions of Americans are required to telecommute, attend school virtually, and obtain healthcare via telemedicine.

Today, more than ever before, broadband access is an essential service and the lifeblood of our society. And increasingly, SmartPower has been focused on that fact that Broadband is a key part of the climate solution.

Indeed, a few weeks ago, the Bipartisan Policy Center released a [report](#) on the economic and environmental benefits of deploying broadband technology across rural America.

Here's why you energy wonks might want to take a look:

- Agriculture - broadband technology and precision farming “can enable climate-friendly farming by increasing carbon sequestration in agricultural soils and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural operations.”

Broadband makes it easier to “inform decision-making for improved resource use efficiency, yield, quality, profitability, and sustainability of agricultural production.”

Good for the farmer. Good for the environment.

- Smart Grid and Energy Efficiency - The deployment of smart grid technologies which rely on broadband will benefit electricity consumers of all types - residential, commercial, and industrial!

According to research done by BP, “...by 2050, net electricity demand in the United States [could be lowered by over 25% with the use of digital technologies](#), such as smart meters and condition-monitoring sensors, in conjunction with the deployment of broadband.”

The article also examines the benefits to forestry that broadband access expansion could provide. [Be sure to check it out!](#)

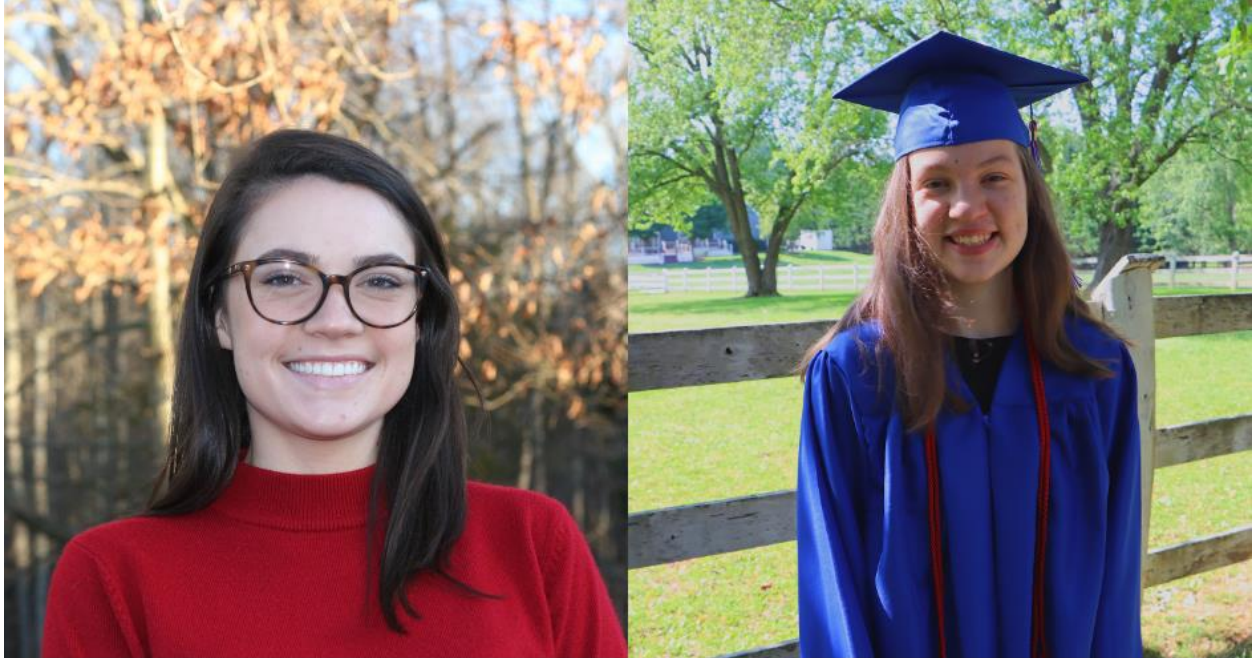
...And He's Back! SmartPower's Newest Addition!



This past month, SmartPower hired Lukas Lehmann as its new Community Outreach Manager. Lukas is a recent graduate of American University with degrees in Political Science and Business Administration. He was an intern with us last summer and we're glad to have him back!

He's looking forward to managing our social media and helping bring clean energy to communities all around the country!

Welcome Kat & Kelly!



SmartPower recently brought on Outreach Fellow - Kat Boulton - and Intern - Kelly Kimbis!

Kat Boulton is a recent graduate of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina with a degree in Political Science and Environmental Studies. She has jumped right into organizing a number of Solarize Campaigns and helping to lead SmartPower's efforts with "Solarize New Delhi" — which launches on October 17th. (More on Solarize New Delhi next month!)

Kelly will be attending Tufts University after completing a "Covid-gap year". She assists in content creation for SmartPower's social media outlets. She specializes in video editing and design, and is excited to contribute to SmartPower's numerous campaigns.

In Memoriam - Paul Ellery Redmond



The SmartPower family lost a true friend last month when Paul Ellery Redmond, the husband of SmartPower Chief Operating Officer Antonia “Toni” Bouchard, passed away on August 21, 2020.

Paul was a beloved husband, father, friend and mentor. And to those of us at SmartPower he was a passionate true believer in our mission and a trusted advocate for our cause.

For 47 years, Paul was a distinguished member of the U.S. Coast Guard where he rose to the rank of Commander while in Active Duty and the Reserves. He retired with awards almost too numerous to mention. Later in life, Paul also went on to earn a Master of Science degree in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University in 2015.

Paul's kindness, guidance and support will be truly missed. His life set an example for all of us.

Condolences may be sent to the Toni at www.hillandwood.com

That's it! We'll be back in a couple weeks to bring you more clean energy news and updates from SmartPower.

Be sure to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#)!

Thanks for reading!