

## DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

The American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE®) recognizes the need for increased participation in the discussion on the modernization of energy infrastructure in historically underserved communities. To that end, AABE supports the opportunity for the use of distributed generation (DG) in our communities.

- AABE supports robust programs for deployment of distributed generation and microgrids as elements of a modern, resilient electric power system. In some cases, microgrids can also provide support for police, military, fire, hospital, and as operations centers for emergency workers in a widespread power outage as they restore damaged distribution and transmission systems.
- AABE supports efforts for the evaluation of electricity rates to ensure that the value of the grid and DG systems are properly recognized in the various state jurisdictions with Net Metering regulations. Such processes should allow for the fair and equitable treatment of costs that are allocated to diverse and underserved communities, ensuring that such customers are not unfairly burdened by the rate-making process or new rate design proposals.
- AABE believes states should provide customers with appropriate education and enforceable protections to guard against and respond to unsafe, unfair, or deceptive business practices.
- AABE supports efforts to modernize the electric grid which delivers a valuable product essential to all Americans, and enables the deployment of DG technologies.
- AABE supports increased business opportunities for diverse suppliers through public/private partnerships that encourage greater economic opportunities for women, minorities, and disabled veteran businesses enterprises.
- AABE supports a diverse supply of safe and reliable electricity, and electric rates that are fair and affordable for all customers.
- AABE is a resource for providing information and educating energy consumers from all sectors of society, with emphasis on low-and fixed-income households and small businesses, about current and future implications and choices of DG and other alternative energy systems.