Welcome to the LIFE Webinar Series

We will begin the webinar momentarily

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY.

Low-Income Forum on Energy

LIFE Webinar Series

Energy Justice – Principles and Practice

Raya Salter
Principle Consultant, Imagine Power, LLC, and Member, NYS Climate Action Council

February 19, 2020
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. ET

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | Low-Income Forum on Energy

Mission Statement

Working to help low-income New Yorkers address energy issues.

LIFE, the Low-Income Forum on Energy, is a unique statewide dialogue that brings together organizations and individuals committed to addressing the challenges and opportunities facing low-income New Yorkers as they seek safe, affordable and reliable energy.

Supported by the New York State Public Service Commission and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), the LIFE dialogue encourages an interactive exchange of information and collaboration among the programs and resources that assist low-income energy consumers.

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Webinar Series, Newsletter, Social Media

> Monthly webinars
- Wednesday, March 25, 2020
  Spotlight on New York's Energy Consumers – What We Can Learn from Current Research
- Register at nyserda.ny.gov/LIFE-Webinar-Series

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- Phone: 866-697-3732 – Request "Low-Income Forum on Energy"
- Email: LIFE@nyserda.ny.gov

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Upcoming Event

LIFE 2020 Statewide Conference

May 19-20, 2020

Albany, NY

nyserda.ny.gov/LIFE-mailing-list

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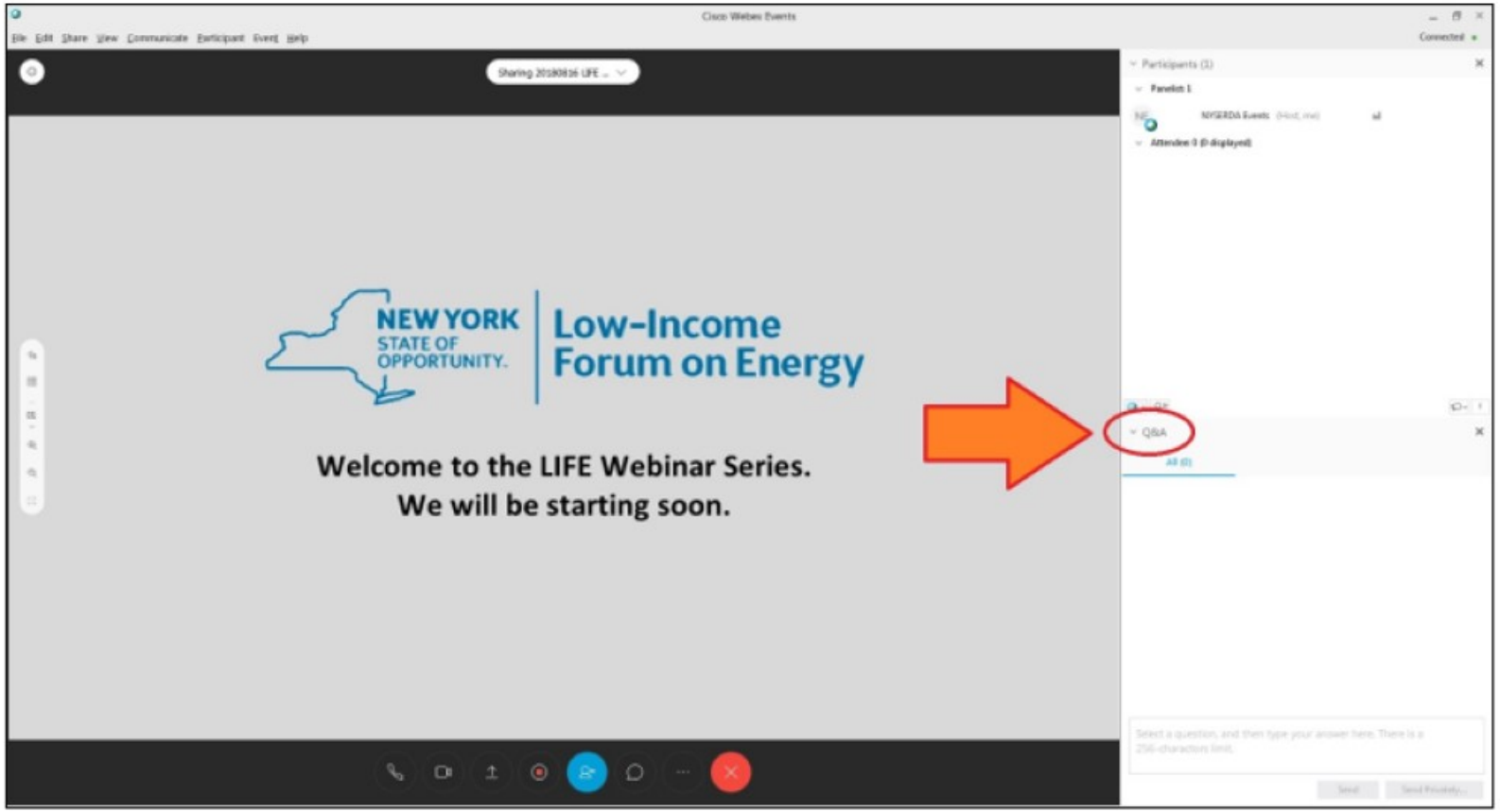
Asking Questions During Today's Webinar



> Click on the small arrow to the left of Q&A to open the text field.

> Type your question into the text field and click "send."

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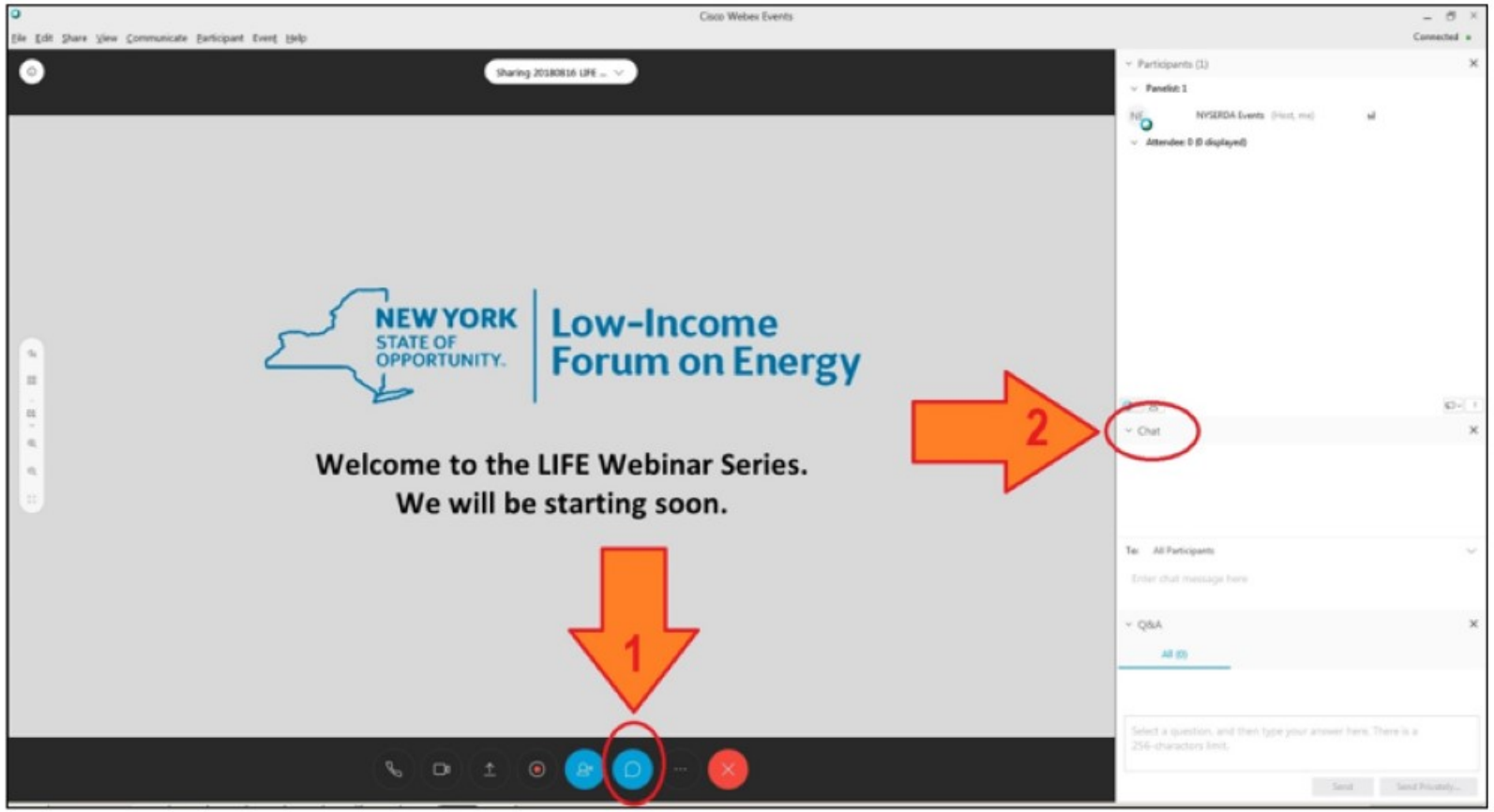
Technical Difficulties or Contacting the Host



> Click on the "Chat icon on the bottom menu to activate the chat function.

> The chat function will appear in the middle right portion of your screen.

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Energy Justice: Principles & Practice

Low-Income Forum on Energy
Webinar Series
Raya Salter, Esq., February 19, 2020

Raya Salter

www.RayaSalter.com

Raya is an attorney, educator and clean energy law and policy advocate. She is a member of the New York State Climate Action Council and a policy organizer with the NYRenews coalition.

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Energy Justice Principles & Practice

Topics for Today

1. What is Energy Justice? Energy Justice Context and Foundations.
2. Energy Justice in New York State- the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.
3. How Can I Get Connected & Involved?

What is Energy Justice?

People’s Climate March, NYC 2014

Energy Justice Context

Energy Justice is a Legacy of Movements

- Energy justice should be understood in the context of generations of predominantly POC frontline movements that are active, evolving and ongoing.

Energy Justice Context

Energy Justice Follows a Body of Tradition and Research (Formal and Informal)

- Environmental Justice
- Climate Justice
- Indigenous Rights
- Human Rights

Energy Justice Foundations

Environmental Justice

- Embraces the principle that “all people and communities have a right to equal protection and equal enforcement of environmental laws and regulations.”*
- Requires the just and equitable distribution of environmental benefits and harms (including cumulative impacts over time).

*Dr. Robert Bullard

Energy Justice Foundations

Climate Justice

- Those who have done the LEAST to contribute to climate crisis will experience its most devastating impacts FIRST
- Those that have contributed the MOST have an elevated responsibility to address the root causes of climate crisis
- Built upon and came after EJ

Energy Justice Links

Online Resources

- Links, videos and tools from Dr. Robert Bullard
  https://drrobertbullard.com/learn-about-environmental-justice/
- Climate Justice Alliance
  https://climatejusticealliance.org
- WeAct for Environmental Justice
  https://www.weact.org
- New York City Environmental Justice Alliance
  https://www.nyc-eja.org

Energy Justice Context and Foundations

Let’s stop for some Q&A.

Energy Justice Frameworks

Energy Justice

- Focusing justice frameworks on energy law & policy
- Is an emergent area in both advocacy and scholarship
- Has risen with the push for a clean energy transition

Energy Justice Frameworks

Energy Systems Must Be:

- Available, affordable and sustainable.
- Developed with due process, transparency, accountability and responsibility.
- Fair and equitable among and for generations over time.*

*Sovacool and Dworkin (2013); Salter, Gonzales and Kronk-Warner (2018)

Energy Justice Advocacy

Key Advocacy Terms and Concepts:

- Energy Democracy- a move from corporate monopoly-owned energy to more participatory models including (for example):
  - Community owned distributed generation
  - Municipalization & public power
- Energy Sovereignty- a “right” to self-determination with regards to energy systems

Energy Justice Advocacy

Key Advocacy Terms and Concepts:

- “Just Transition”- ensuring that fundamental systems change powers a move to new economic systems (for example, from an extractive to a regenerative economy). Longer held movement philosophy.
- “Green New Deal”- a specific resolution in congress that has grown into a broader idea that a clean energy transition can also create a more just society. Newly en vogue.

Energy Justice Advocacy

Important Current Topics:

- A just recovery for Puerto Rico (energy sovereignty, resilient renewable power, see Uprose) https://www.uprose.org/ourpowerprnyc-2
- The equity of utility energy efficiency spending and programs (Dr. Tony Reames, Energy Justice Lab) https://urbanenergyjusticelab.com
- Rep. AOC Housing Justice bill: https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/sites/ocasio-cortez.house.gov/files/A%20Just%20Society-%20A%20Place%20to%20Prosper%20Act.pdf

Energy Justice Frameworks & Advocacy

Let’s stop for some Q&A.

Energy Justice in New York State

NY Renews Rally at the NY State Capitol, June 2019

Energy Justice in New York State

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (2019)

- The nation's most ambitious state climate law (100 percent net-zero economy wide by 2050).
- Includes the nation's most robust energy justice provisions.

https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2019/s6599

Energy Justice in New York State

Climate Justice

- Includes a goal that 40% of state spending to fight climate crisis and create a clean energy economy be directed to disadvantaged communities (no less than 35%).

Energy Justice in New York State

Environmental Justice

- Requires that State contracts do not disproportionately burden disadvantaged communities.
- Requires that emissions and co-pollutant reductions are prioritized in disadvantaged communities.
- Creates a community air monitoring program to develop a measurable baseline for air quality improvement.

Energy Justice in New York State

Process

- Creates a Climate Action Council to develop a scoping plan.
- Creates a Just Transition Working Group of community, labor, CJ and EJ groups who will identify disadvantaged communities and advise the Council.
- Utilizes an Environmental Justice Working Group.
- Creates six additional expert advisory groups in specialty areas.

Energy Justice in New York State

It's not perfect… many would like to see (not a comprehensive list)

- Strong labor provisions.
- Indigenous rights provisions.
- A consistent funding stream to pay for ongoing climate action (for example, polluter fees).

Energy Justice in New York State

Let’s stop for some Q&A.

Energy Justice in New York State and Me

GET IN COMMUNITY and get engaged:

- Start on social media (#energyjustice Twitter)
- Look up a group in your area www.NYRenews.org
- Join the 100 Percent Network https://www.100percentnetwork.org/index.html
- Reach out to me

Energy Justice in New York State and Me

Get geeky (just kidding):

- United Nations Sustainable Energy For All
  https://www.seforall.org
- My Energy Justice Book :)
  https://www.elgaronline.com/view/edcoll/9781786431752/9781786431752.xml
- Links to principles and foundational documents
  http://www.ejnet.org/ej/

Energy Justice in New York State and Me

Q&A?

THANK YOU!

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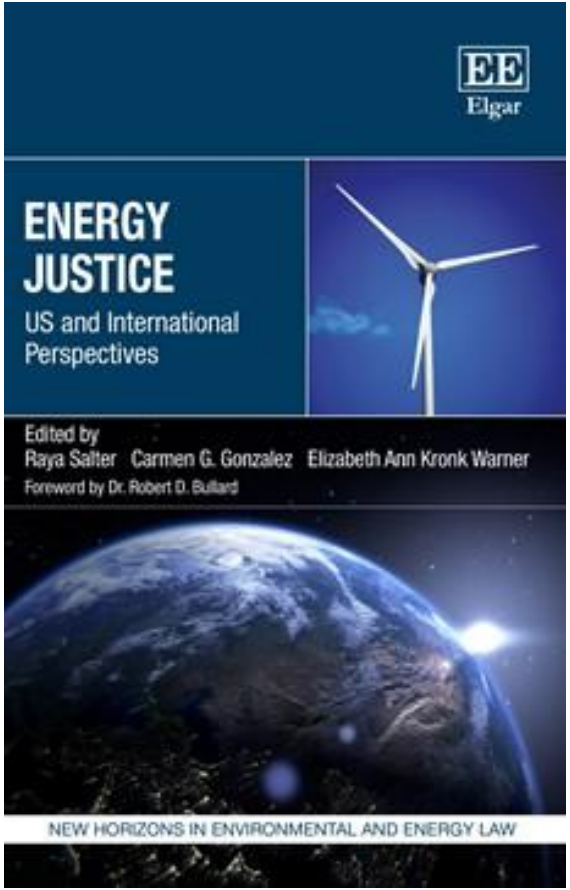
RayaCSalter@gmail.com

Book available on Amazon and EdwardElgar.com



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