Looking Forward:

Challenges and Opportunities for HEI

Bob O'Keefe Vice President HEI Annual Conference April 30, 2023

HEI: Drawing on the Best of the Science Community

A Deep Well of Science and Technology Experts





The Many Faces of HEI

HEI Board, Technical Staff

Standing Committees: Research, Review,

Energy, GHOC, ISOC, EJ

Special Panels: Traffic, SCET

Oversight Panels; Reanalysis, ACES, Diesel EPI,

GAM,

Ad-hoc Review Panels

Stakeholder Advisory Panels, EJ, Global,

Reanalysis, ACES

Regular input from Sponsors, NGOs, more



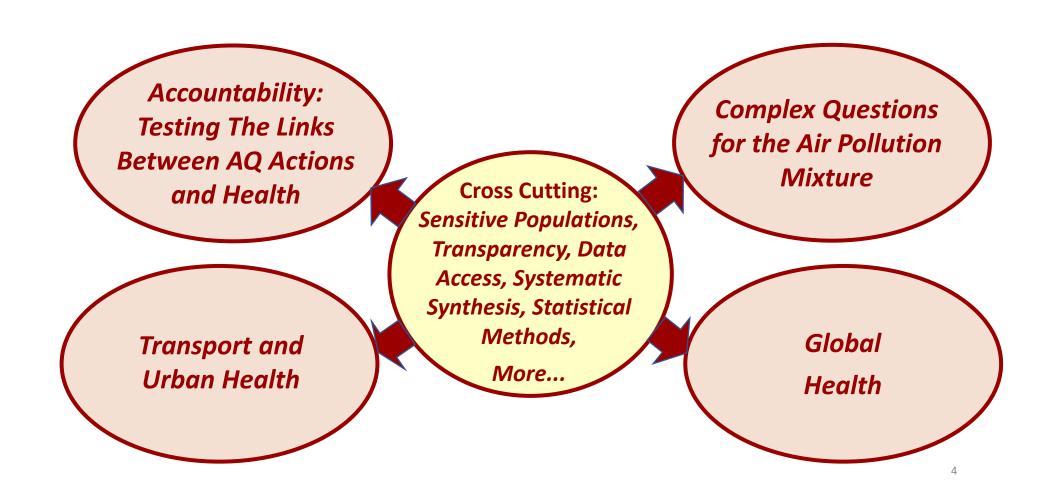


HEI Today: HEI's Strategic Plan

- ✓ Targeting HEI's research and review activities.
- ✓ Responding to the needs of HEI industry and government sponsors and other interested parties.
- ✓ Anticipating future policy and technology events.
- ✓ Evolving over time to adapt to changing knowledge and events.



HEI Today: Four Key Initiatives

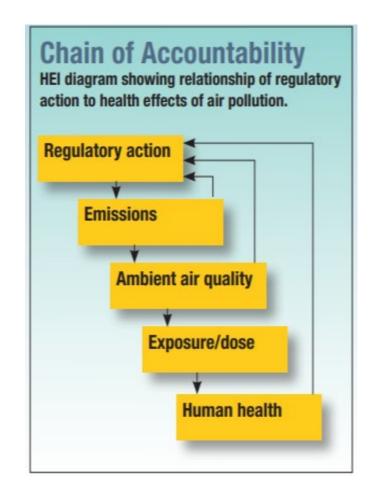


And a Fifth Initiative Underway: HEI-Energy

Targeted Exposure and Health Science to Inform Transformation of the Nation's Energy Systems

The Challenges Today: Accountability: Testing The Links Between AQ Actions and Health

- Can we better test and quantify the consequences of policy actions on air quality and health?
- How can examinations of air quality interventions help us analyze cause and effect?
- Can these studies improve cost-benefit analyses of future actions?



The Challenges
Today:
Complex Questions
for the Air Pollution
Mixture



Testing associations between air pollution exposure and health effects *below* standards.

Are current standards sufficiently protective?

New, low-cost sensors and satellite remote sensing promise to improve exposure assessment

• But many challenges to overcome.

Studies, including NPACT, report no clear-cut links between PM characteristics and health.

 Questions about differential toxicity persist.

The Challenges Today: Transport and Urban Health

A host of new technologies – EVs, AVs, shared ride and goods delivery services are changing the future of transport

- But many challenges will persist in United States, Europe, LMICs:
 - Long-lived internal combustion engines
 - Questions about NOx, UFP, non-tailpipe, in-use emissions.
 - New steps to tighten both tailpipe and GHG standards.
- And a growing focus on noise, socioeconomic status, access to green space, others
- NEW RFA: Assessing the Health Effects of TRAP in a Changing Urban Transportation Landscape



The Challenges Today: HEI-Global

Growing Markets, High Local <u>and</u> Transported Air Pollution, Public Health Impacts

- Globally air pollution is 4th leading risk factor for mortality.
- Nearly everyone lives in areas above the updated WHO Guideline for PM_{2.5}.
- Major standard setting and source control getting underway.
 - Limited science, not widely accepted.
 - A lack of data on which sources pose greatest risk,
 - A need to understand all sources coal use, industry, household fuel combustion, waste, transport —in context.



HEI Global Platform

Supported by: Clean Air Fund, Children's Investment



State of Global Air

Flagship annual report presents global and country-specific air pollution exposures, health impacts, and trends. (IHME-GBD)



Global Burden of Disease from Major Air Pollution Sources

HEI Research Report released December 2021.



Targeted Analysis, Reports, Active Communication

Regional *Spotlight* Reports, Special Reports, Policy Briefs, and more.



Capacity Building

Support for targeted research and strengthening local investigator capacity in selected geographies (e.g., India).

The Challenges Today: HEI-Energy Supported by EPA, industry, and philanthropy

- -Science to identify potential exposures from current oil and natural gas operations
- -Targeting the highest priority topic: what are the exposures and where are they coming from?
- -Strong commitment to community engagement and understanding health, disproportionate impacts

-Laying a foundation to inform the health benefits and unintended consequences of the energy transition 11

HEI Energy

Community Exposure Research: AQ, Noise, and Water



<u>Tracking Community Exposures</u> and Releases (TRACER) Collaboration



Jeffrey Collett Colorado State



Univ of TX-Austin



Lea Hildebrandt Ruiz Meredith Franklin Univ of Toronto

Quarterly meetings to coordinate

Study Duration: 2022-2024



Water Quality







Joseph Ryan Univ of Colorado

Study Duration: 2022-2023

In-kind support provided by sponsors and state officials

HEI Energy: Extensive Community Engagement









Future Challenges ... AND Opportunities

 Assessing Air Pollution Solutions for Marginalized (EJ) Communities

 Air Pollution and Health in a Changing Transportation Landscape

 Health Implications of the Energy Transition

HEI Future:

Assessing Air Pollution Solutions for Marginalized (EJ) Communities

- In response to increased awareness of disparate exposures and effects
- HEI workshop: nearly 60 community, academic, government, and sponsor participants (Atlanta, October 2022)
- Need for new funding models to support:
 - Partnership building and continuity of engagement
 - Flexible research designs
 - Research translation that engages multiple sectors
- HEI has empaneled new *EJ Advisory Council* and *Oversight Panel* and will soon launch new RFAs with significant community engagement



HEI Future:

Air Pollution and Health in a Changing Transportation Landscape

- Rapidly Changing Transportation Landscape (see tomorrow's session!)
 - New technologies, new fuels
 - Different Approaches for Different Market Sectors (Heavy, medium, and light duty)
- Rapid Motorization in Low- and Middle-Income Countries
- HEI consulting with existing sponsors and new fuels and technology experts to identify key future priorities:
 - Assessing the health impacts of legacy internal combustion engines
 - Examining Benefits and Effects of New Technologies and Fuels (EVs, Fuel Cells, Hydrogen, Low Carbon Fuels)

HEI Future: Health Implications of the Energy Transition

Vast Changes in the Production and Transport of Energy

 New fuels (e.g., hydrogen); new decarbonization technologies (e.g., CCUS); and much more

HEI Energy Already Beginning to Engage:

 Completing research on community exposures to oil and gas operations with extensive community engagement (see the posters today!)

Key Future Priorities:

- Assessing the health benefits and unintended consequences of major national energy choices (coal, nuclear, renewables and others), and
- Assessing similar health-based questions around a specific set of operations, the new regional hydrogen hubs and CCUS.

Looking Ahead: *Initial thoughts from some HEI sponsors....*

Potential Public Health Benefits and Impacts of:

- Major expansions and interconnectivity of the electrical grid
- Increased battery production, recycling and disposal
- Increased production and processing of rare earth metals
- . The development of widespread hydrogen infrastructure
- Reduced fleet turnover rates and health consequences for EJ communities

Where can HEI fit into the paradigm shift that will play out in the coming decades?

Future Opportunity: Integrated Science for Informed Decisions Leveraging the Deep Well of HEI Science



- Accountability Studies
- Community-engaged Studies

Air Pollution and Health in a Changing Transportation
Landscape

- Health impacts of Legacy ICE
- Assessing Effects, Benefits of New Technologies and Fuels (EVs, Fuel Cells, Hydrogen, Low Carbon Fuels)

Core, Energy, Globa!

Health Implications of the Energy
Transition

- Community Engaged assessment of Oil and Gas Exposures, Health
- Benefits and Effects of Hydrogen, CCUS, Renewables and other Energy Choices

Looking Ahead: Building the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan!

Work with input from sponsors, science, community stakeholders to create an exciting new Strategic Plan

Key Process Milestones

- Fall/ Winter 23-24 -Visits to individual sponsors, stakeholders, science community
- March 2024 -Sponsor meeting with Research Committee to hear recommendations
- April 2024 First Draft Presented in special session at 2024 HEI annual meeting,
 -Public comments invited
- June Sept 2024 -Revised Plan, Review by Sponsors
- Dec-Jan 2024-2025 -Plan adopted by HEI Board

Final HEI Strategic Plan effective April 1, 2025

THANK YOU!

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