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Climate + Energy Project Executive Director Honored for Energy Leadership

One of eight mid-career women who received a Clean Energy and Empowerment award from DOE-MIT partnership.

As part of the U.S. Clean Energy Education and Empowerment (C3E) program, run by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI), Climate + Energy Project (CEP) Executive Director Dorothy Barnett was recognized for her accomplishments in the area of advocacy leadership at the annual C3E Women in Clean Energy Symposium on Wednesday, September 17th.

“I am honored to receive the C3E Award for advocacy leadership,” says Barnett. “The wind industry in Kansas has invested $8 billion dollars and created 13,000 jobs in the state that I love. Clean energy policy is key to our transition to a clean energy economy and it must be protected. This award belongs to thousands of Kansans who voiced their support and stood up for the future of Kansas”.

One of eight mid-career women recognized by the C3E program, Barnett was selected from a nationwide pool of nominations and chosen by distinguished energy experts who are part of the C3E Ambassadors program. Along with the recognition, she will receive a $8,000 cash prize from MITEI for her clean energy work.

As Executive Director of the Climate + Energy Project, Dorothy Barnett is leading the effort to address Kansas’s energy future. Grounded in an approach based on prosperity and energy security, Barnett has been successful in convening diverse voices in a conservative region of the country.

Prior to her position as Executive Director, Barnett served for 4 years as CEP’s Director of Energy and Transmission. This work put Dorothy on the ground in energy policy work at the local, state and regional level. In this capacity she also led innovative programs such as the Take Charge Challenge and the Heartland Alliance for Regional Transmission - both of which raised the profile for energy efficiency, transmission and wind energy in Kansas and beyond. Barnett coordinated a successful and far-reaching effort to defend the Kansas Renewable Portfolio Standard from special interest groups’ attacks on clean energy during the 2014 Kansas legislative session.

Barnett got her start in wind energy with the Reno County Wind Energy Task Force, which was awarded the Governor’s Energy Award for Energy Education in 2008. She has a BA in organizational management from Friends University.

Other award categories included: Business, Education, Entrepreneurial, Government, International, Law & Finance, and Research Leadership. Additionally, the Ambassadors nominated and chose Susan Tierney, a senior advisor at the Analysis Group and formally an assistant secretary at DOE, to be the C3E Lifetime Achievement Award winner.
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Read about all of this year’s C3E award winners: http://c3eawards.org/winners/

The U.S. Clean Energy Education & Empowerment (C3E) program is an effort to advance the careers and leadership of professional women in the field of clean energy. The program is part of the international C3E Initiative within the 23-government Clean Energy Ministerial framework. Learn more: http://cleanenergyministerial.org/OurWork/Initiatives/WomeninCleanEnergy

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