



The business, programs and policies of moving new energy products into the marketplace

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August 2009

Editor: [Jack Jenkins](#)

Associate Editor: [John Horst](#)

News covers the joint DOE-Treasury announcement of direct tax credits for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, a move long anticipated by clean energy companies.

Additionally, News hones in on the growing importance of using social media Web sites to join online dialogues about energy issues and product marketing.

The section also explores the status of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants to states, which are now starting to move out across the country.

Features focuses on the small, but vital, EERE Tribal Energy Program.

Reaching out to 562 federally-recognized tribes, the program is less about technology, and more about information-sharing, training and human capacity building.

Stretching an average annual operating budget of about \$5 million, the program provides tools and training to aid tribes in making decisions about their renewable energy resources and energy efficiency choices.

In recent good news, Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced up to \$13.6 million is now being made available to 36 Native American tribes and Alaska villages for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.



The [National Energy Technology Laboratory](#) (NETL) makes good use of social media to explain [how Recovery Act money is being constructively spent on energy projects](#).

Also, by using the power of [video, news-style coverage and animation](#), NETL attracts more people to learn about complex subjects such as carbon sequestration and climate change.

Illustration courtesy of: NETL Web site

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Direct payments available for renewable energy projects

DOE and the U.S. Department of the Treasury have announced that, under the Recovery Act, at least [\\$3 billion in funding](#) will be distributed to approximately 5,000 biomass, solar, wind and other renewable energy production facilities.

Previously, companies could file for a tax credit to cover a portion of a qualified renewable energy project's cost. Under the new program, applicants would agree to forgo future tax credits in favor of an immediate reimbursement of a portion of the expense.

Treasury will make direct payments to companies creating and placing in service renewable energy facilities from January 1, 2009. DOE will assist Treasury by reviewing

the technical merits of the applications.

DOE Secretary Steven Chu said, "This will play a major role in encouraging private sector capital to invest in clean energy development."

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner agreed, "Too many renewable energy projects have stalled due to a lack of financing. This will lead to increased investment in our long-term energy needs."

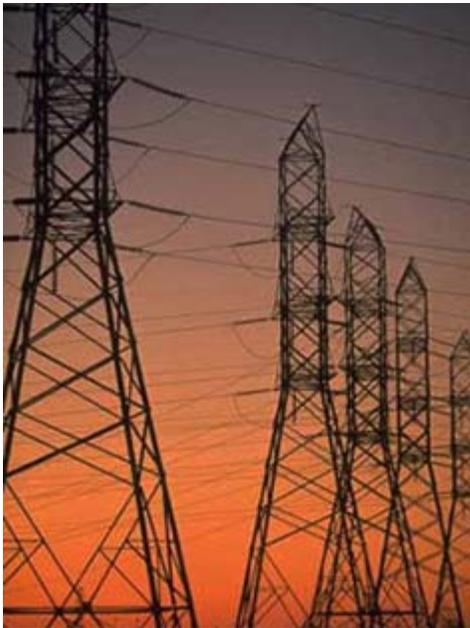
On Aug. 13, DOE and Treasury also announced a program to award [\\$2.3 billion in tax credits for manufacturers of clean energy equipment](#).

[Application submission page](#)

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Pacific Northwest increases wind power generation



The Pacific Northwest continues its drive to bring wind power to more people. [As reported in the Oregonian](#), "Earlier this month, wind farms plugged into the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) transmission system blew past a notable milestone, sending out 2,000 megawatts of electricity for more than an hour.

"The 22 wind farms in eastern Oregon and Washington hit a new peak of 2,089 megawatts on the evening of Aug. 6., doubling the previous peak of 1,000 megawatts recorded in January 2008.

"As more energy comes from intermittent sources like wind, BPA is adapting its hydro system and also building new transmission capability to keep pace. Six of the 22 wind farms on its system came on line this year, and the agency expects wind power to triple in the next five years."

Bonneville Power Authority continues to readjust its infrastructure to accommodate more wind-generated electricity from the farms of eastern Oregon and Washington.

Photo courtesy of: [Whitehouse.gov](#)

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Online chatter matters

Whether you are selling new heating and air-conditioning systems, or trying to promote renewable energy products, people today will discuss it on social media web sites.

Business and government leaders increasingly realize that tuning into, and taking part in, social media-based dialogues can help make or break any endeavor.

According to the [New York Times](#), "Managing your online reputation requires a whole new skill set, including monitoring the online conversation and engaging with customers and tech-

savvy individuals, to promote [your products or ideas] in the best channels.

"...According to Opinion Research Corporation, 84 percent of Americans say online reviews influence their purchasing decisions.

"[For success,] study local search sites like [Yelp](#), [Citysearch](#) and [Yahoo! Local](#). Forums for customer feedback have sprung up everywhere — [Google Maps](#), [Amazon](#), [Angie's List](#), [TripAdvisor](#), [OpenTable](#), [Epinions](#) and a myriad of online communities and niche sites are all worth checking.



Pepsi uses its [web](#) and social media presence not only to connect with its customers, but also to [counter mis-information and rumors](#).

Photo courtesy of: Pepsi Web site

[Ford](#), [Pepsi](#), [Coca Cola](#), [Southwest Airlines](#) and [Microsoft](#) are among the corporate giants using [Twitter](#) for gauging consumer perception of their products. They also use Twitter and other social media tools to rapidly respond to any consumer concerns that might arise about their products or corporate image.

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State energy block grants moving through pipeline

[DOE has awarded the first Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants.](#)

More than \$2.7 billion in formula grants are now available to U.S. states, territories, local governments, and Native American Tribes under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program, funded for the first time under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. [\(See Web site for details and individual state allocations\)](#)

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New funding for tribal and Alaskan village energy projects

[Up to \\$13.6 million is being made available to 36 Native American tribes and Alaska villages for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.](#)

"DOE is committed to helping Native American tribes meet their energy needs through clean energy technologies," said Secretary Chu. "These projects will create jobs and economic opportunities on tribal lands."

Many native Alaskans living in remote villages face the special challenge of paying high retail prices for fuel oil and diesel, then having exorbitant transportation and local storage costs added on top of that.

Renewable energy provides reliable, indigenous power, while also helping reduce

heating and electricity costs. Energy efficiency and improved weatherization can also help reduce the amount of fuel needed to heat homes, thereby saving energy and money.

- Eight of the projects will provide weatherization training to Native American tribal members
- Seventeen will focus on assessing the feasibility of renewable energy development and energy efficiency deployment on tribal lands and Alaska villages
- Eleven will fund the development of renewable energy resources and the deployment of energy efficiency measures on tribal lands and Alaska villages.



Developing renewable energy resources may some day help Alaskan villagers in remote locations cut dependence on high-priced diesel fuel for heating. Photo courtesy of: [Yupik Web site](#)

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Features



A 65 kW wind turbine being erected on the Pine Ridge Reservation just south of Radio Station KILI. The "Voice of the Lakota Nation" is now powered by the Power of the Four Winds.

Photo courtesy of: DOE Tribal Energy Program

Guide to tribal energy development

EERE's Tribal Energy Program takes a small amount of money and works hard to deliver the most bang for the buck for Native American tribes interested in reducing energy use or developing their renewable energy resources.

Thom Sacco, who manages the program, said "Our team is dedicated to implementing this program on behalf of 562 federally-recognized tribes, including Alaska Native villages, over 200 Alaska village corporations and twelve Alaska Regional Corporations.

"Tribal members live in every type of terrain — forest, prairie, desert, wetland, coastal and tundra — from Florida to Alaska, from Maine to California. Meeting their diverse needs with a program historically funded at about \$5 million a year is not easy." Sacco continued, "We continue to try, and hope we are making a difference."



Augustine tribal chairwoman Suzanne Green holds ceremonial ribbon-cutting scissors at the new 1.1 mw solar generation facility at the Augustine Casino in Calif.

Photo courtesy of: Jay Calderon/The Desert Sun

From 2002 through 2008, DOE funded 93 tribal energy projects totaling \$16.5 million; the tribes cost-shared \$6.4 million. With [DOE's recent announcement](#) of the selection of 36 tribal clean energy projects for \$13.6 million, this funding has virtually doubled.

Tribal Energy Program mission statement:

"We offer financial and technical assistance to tribes through government-to-government partnerships that:

- Empower tribal leaders to make informed decisions
- Bring renewable energy and energy efficiency options to Indian Country
- Enhance human capacity through education and training
- Improve local tribal economies and the environment
- Make a difference in the quality of life of Native Americans"

"We try very hard to live up to that mission statement," said Lizana Pierce, Tribal Energy project manager, "in implementing the program on behalf of the tribes."

"Our program is less about technology," Pierce said, "and more about information-sharing, training and human capacity building. We try to provide tools, resources and training to aid tribes in making decisions about their renewable energy resources and

energy efficiency choices.

"We strongly advocate human capacity development as the basis for developing, implementing and sustaining energy efficiency and renewable energy development.

"The [Tribal Energy Program web site](#) and the web-based [Guide to Tribal Energy Development](#) were developed at the request of tribes, who asked for a clearinghouse of information."

EERE's Tribal Energy Development Guide clearly states:

"This site is a *guide* to your tribe's energy future.

"It is not prescriptive. We cannot create or implement your future; this is for you and members of your tribe to accomplish.

"Your journey toward tribal energy sufficiency will include many decisions about where to go and how to get there.

"A map cannot tell you where to go, but it can provide a picture for you to better understand the possible destinations and the stops that may be useful, interesting and

sometimes necessary on the way.

"Think of this guide as a national map, and treat each section as a more detailed map of individual stops you may choose to explore on your journey."

The Tribal Energy Development Guide clearly lays out, step-by-step, how to go about accessing renewable energy assets, how to develop them and how to incorporate energy efficiency into business and daily life. It pulls no punches about the complexity of the development process, nor of the potential rewards to be gained.

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Tribes rev up renewable energy

U.S. Tribal lands hold tremendous renewable energy potential with more than 5 percent of the land and 10 percent of all energy resources (conventional and renewable) – Tribal lands have the potential to meet more than 14 percent of America's energy needs with wind power, and by using solar resources, could meet all of America's energy needs. DOE's goal is to help empower Native American's to develop their resources, if they choose, and to benefit from these increasingly valuable resources.

"Tribes continue to express interest in the program, and we strive to reach out to all who wish to explore local energy options," Project Manager Lizana Pierce said. "We've tried to make the program as transparent and provide as much information as possible. Anybody can visit the [Tribal Energy Program Web site](#) and quickly learn about the program, the tribes' energy projects, and information on energy resources, technologies and training.

"At the same time, we recognize that not everybody has easy day-to-day access to the Internet, so we also produce our material in print media as well, and make CD-ROMs available for people who might have a computer, but not Internet service. Our phone, fax, e-mail and regular mail [contact information](#) is readily available. We want people to feel free to directly contact us."



The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians has installed an eight-kilowatt PV system atop the Indian Canyon Trading Post. The Diesel generator the tribe had been using is now used only in emergency situations.

Photo courtesy of: Agua Caliente Band

Tribal Energy Program support falls into three broad areas:

- information and education
- financial assistance
- technical assistance

The program also supports an active internship program to expose young Native American students to energy options and other tribes who are pursuing the use of renewable energy.

Sandra Begay-Campbell, who runs the internship program through Sandia National Laboratories, said, "Tribes have land with good renewable energy resources and many tribes are close to existing transmission lines.

"The internship program mentors tribal university students to become renewable energy

leaders. The student advocates can play key roles in assisting the tribes with their energy vision"

Project examples:

[Augustine Band of Cahuilla \(Calif.\) Indians goes solar](#)

The tribe recently installed a \$7 million 1.1 megawatt (mw) solar photovoltaic (PV) system to power their casino. The 1,500 PV panels are installed on five acres of tribal land in Coachella, Calif.

"It's an important component of the tribe's effort to eliminate its overall energy footprint, and is consistent with our living in harmony with nature," said tribal chairperson Mary Ann Green, who cut the ribbon on the project Feb. 12.

DOE provided a grant to help develop the tribe's Energy Resource Conservation Plan, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) provided technical assistance.

[Tulalip Tribes \(Wash.\) biogas project: success through partnerships](#)

Tribes, dairy farmers and environmentalists were deeply concerned about the area in which they co-existed, which was being impacted by the animal waste from local dairy operations.

The dairy farmers wished to continue operating their dairy farms, the tribes wanted to see agricultural land use continued and the environmentalists wanted salmon habitat restored and preserved. A solution to those concerns was reducing the animal waste by converting it into biogas and creating electricity.

DOE and USDA provided grant money to help the groups work together in assessing the energy options and the State provided a land grant for locating the anaerobic digester. A partnership was formed among the Tulalip Tribes, the Sno/Sky Agricultural Alliance, Northwest Chinook Recovery and Washington State Dairy Federation.

The result is Snohomish County's first biogas plant, a cooperative venture now operational and selling electricity to Puget Sound Energy. "It's a win-win-win" for all, " said Dale Reiner, a local, third generation farmer involved in the project.

[Cherokee Nation Enterprises Wind \(Okla.\)](#)

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma received a DOE grant to complete a business plan for a 100 mw wind farm to offset \$8 million in energy costs. The tribe is now in negotiation on a Power Purchase Agreement for electricity to be produced by the proposed project.

[Ramona \(Calif.\) Band plans to be first reservation completely off-grid](#)

The tribe has installed a 10 kilowatt PV array to support its developing eco-tourism business and as a first step in a planned move to meet all its own electricity requirements with off-grid, renewable energy. DOE, HUD and USDA have all provided grants to the project.

For more on any of these projects, see www.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/projects.cfm.

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2009 Solar Decathlon Team News

Twenty teams of college students from the U.S., Canada, Spain and Germany are participating in the U.S. Department of Energy's 2009 Solar Decathlon. They have been working for almost two years to design, build and then operate attractive, energy-efficient solar-powered homes.

The competition peaks in early October when the teams arrive to build a "solar village" on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The public is welcome to inspect the homes October 9-13 and 15-18. [Solar Decathlon Web site](#)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

"I spend nights thinking about the direction of architecture. I don't look at this as a hobby. I play the bagpipes; that's a hobby. And although I love to do both, architecture is ultimately more enduring."

— **Cam Greenlee, engineering graduate student**

The [Gable Home](#) reflects the heritage and historic architecture of Illinois while also incorporating state-of-the-art efficiency and innovation. It is designed to be reminiscent of a traditional Midwestern barn.

Currently, a core group of 20-50 students are putting the final touches on the project. The exterior is nearly constructed, and the team will soon begin final testing of the energy and engineering systems. Following that, it will be transported to Washington, D.C. for the early October competition.



Illinois' "Gable Home" is being built to reflect the heritage and architecture of the state's prairie farmlands.

Photo courtesy of: UI at Urbana-Champaign

The **Gable Home** was designed to meet **Passive House** standards, a rigorous performance evaluation that requires optimal performance from an environmentally sensitive design. The house is highly insulated and incorporates advanced window design and installation technology. Such specifications significantly reduce air

infiltration and help the home act like a thermos, maintaining a comfortable, consistent indoor temperature.

The **Gable Home** is built around a flexible floor plan that incorporates:

- Reclaimed barn siding and decking from a grain silo
- Engineered bamboo flooring in the bathroom and mechanical spaces
- Touch-screen energy monitoring that can also be remotely controlled by phone
- Construction techniques that minimize thermal bridging through structural members
- LED lighting

[Photo gallery](#)

[Team Blog](#)

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

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Team Boston (Boston Architectural College & Tufts University)

"The project has introduced me to an amazing array of people who are seeking ways to live a more sustainable lifestyle."

— **Kevin Horne, student project director**

Spend some time observing the Massachusetts team entered in this year's Solar Decathlon and you will quickly learn this group isn't just about building a solar-powered home. They are also determined to go outside the lines to design a home that sparks the imagination.

Consider their home, the [Curio House](#); it is constructed to equally exemplify both environmental and social concerns. It is meant to inspire and empower the end user to question not only how the



Team Boston's Curio House addresses social and environmental concerns as well as being solar-powered.

Photo courtesy of: Team Boston

home is built, but also the impact of the daily activities that occur in and around the home.

Boston Architectural College and Tufts University have formed a multidisciplinary team of almost 200 students from 12 majors — including various areas of design, engineering and public policy — to design and build a sustainable home. The team's Web site shares their extensive research, fulfilling their mission of public engagement

and education.

Along the two-year journey, they have drawn interest and attention from all across the Boston area, gaining support from university officials, city energy and environmental leaders, local businesses and the mayor's office.

Their Curio Home features:

- Rooftop rainwater catchment system to irrigate the garden
- Solar thermal passive water walls
- Moveable furniture wall containing storage, desk and bed
- Micro-inverters that allow for incremental expansion of the photovoltaic array
- Energy monitoring accessible in-house, via the web or through an iPhone
- Heat glass, a system visually identical to regular glass, but capable of reducing solar gain in the summer and allowing passive solar heating in the winter

[Team video](#)

[Photo gallery](#)

[Facebook](#)

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Cornell University

"We were tired of doing boxes. We decided to do a whole new take on modularity."
— **Christopher Werner, architecture team leader**

FOR SALE: A solar-powered home that echoes the local Ithaca, N.Y. grain silos of yesterday. It is composed of three conditioned "living" cylinders covered by corrugated steel — a living room, bedroom/bathroom and kitchen that have direct views to any central courtyard. Also available are thousands of native plants along a walkway that grow with help from treated gray water and household activities.

Hardly what one might find in local real estate listings, but for Cornell, this is the answer to living sustainability, in a unique style where on-site generation of renewable energy rules. Their solar-



Cornell University's 2009 Solar Decathlon entry features rounded shapes and a pleasant, exposed wood interior.

Photo courtesy of: Cornell University

powered home, dubbed "the silo house," is currently on the market. It will make its first stop at the Great New York State Fair in Syracuse, N.Y. before the team transports it to Washington, D.C. for this year's event.

About 150 students from architecture, design and engineering, have worked on the project; a core group of 10 to 50 team members are working long days this summer to complete the

construction. Alumni from the 2005 and 2007 competitions – this is Cornell's third straight appearance in the Solar Decathlon – are also on site to lend a hand.

Cornell's features include:

- Steel frame construction with corrugated steel cladding
- Landscaping grown by using treated "gray water" generated by household activities
- Engineered ash tongue-and-groove flooring
- Furniture designed for indoor/outdoor use
- Kitchen island unfolds into a table that seats eight
- Bathroom features rain showerhead and tankless toilet
- LED lighting
- Folding walls that open to the central courtyard

[Facebook](#)

[Team blog](#)

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[The University of Arizona](#)

"We can actually place the roof at an optimal angle so that our solar panels reach peak efficiency, depending on if we are somewhere in the desert or in Washington, D.C."

— **Matt Gindlesparger, project manager**

In nature, a seed pod has defining attributes such as providing necessary nutrients, shelter and support for perpetuating life in plant form. The University of Arizona (UA) has adapted this theme to reflect the attributes of their solar home, appropriately named, [SEED \[pod\]](#).

Each layer of the home performs a specific function – whether that be bringing in energy flow, providing insulation, reflecting away unwanted heat (especially in the desert) or serving and nurturing the needs of its occupants. Everything revolves around energy and the way people live within



The University of Arizona's UA SEED [pod] home is designed to be readily adaptable to a broad range of climates.

Photo courtesy of: University of Arizona Solar Decathlon Team

their local climate.

Several academic disciplines were involved in the design of the home — the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, the Department of Materials Science and Engineering and the Journalism

Department — in conjunction with collaborative partners, Arizona Research Institute for Solar Energy (Azrise) and the Controlled Environment Agriculture Center.

The UA SEED [pod] features:

- A collapsible home that can be transported to different regions
- Integrated greenhouse within the house
- Trombe walls
- Air-flow system that cools solar panels, improving efficiency
- Energy-Star rated appliances
- Flooring used for the ceiling

The home will feature an 8.9 kilowatt system ideal for the Washington, D.C. area. UA hopes to complete construction on it by Aug. 27, so it can be displayed on campus most of September, before it is disassembled and prepared for the competition.

[Team blog](#)

[UA Team](#)

[KUAT TV, Tucson, news story](#)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

News Releases

Aug. 14, 2009

[Obama Administration Awards More than \\$119 Million for State Energy Programs in Seven States and Territories](#)

Aug. 13, 2009

[Treasury, Energy announce more than \\$2 billion in Recovery Act tax credits for energy manufacturers](#)

Aug. 13, 2009

[Obama Administration Delivers More Than \\$66 Million for Weatherization Programs in Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut and Hawaii](#)

Aug. 13, 2009

[Secretary Chu Announces Funding for Clean Energy Projects on Tribal Lands and Alaska Villages](#)

Aug. 12, 2009

[Good Morning America Promotes the Living Zero Home Tour](#)

Aug. 10, 2009

[DOE Announces Funding for Energy Efficiency in Federal Buildings](#)

Aug. 5, 2009

[DOE announces \\$2.4 billion for U.S. batteries and electric vehicles](#)

July 31, 2009

[Energy, Treasury now accepting applications for renewable energy projects](#)

July 29, 2009

[DOE announces up to \\$11 million for solar energy grid integration](#)

July 27, 2009

[DOE awards more than \\$54 million for state energy programs](#)

July 22, 2009

[DOE, Agriculture Department to award \\$6.3 million for biofuels research](#)

July 21, 2009

[DOE delivers more than \\$63 million for weatherization programs](#)

July 20, 2009

[DOE awards more than \\$162 million for state energy programs](#)

July 16, 2009

[DOE announces nearly \\$14 million to go to 28 new wind energy projects](#)

July 15, 2009

[DOE announces up to \\$22 million for community renewable energy deployment](#)

July 14, 2009

[DOE announces nearly \\$300 million for energy efficient appliances](#)

July 10, 2009

[Obama Administration awards more than \\$141 million for state energy programs in six states and territories](#)

July 10, 2009

[Obama Administration delivers more than \\$448 million for weatherization programs in 13 states](#)

July 9, 2009

[Treasury, Energy Departments announce more than \\$3 billion in Recovery Act funds for renewable energy projects](#)

July 6, 2009

[Obama Administration awards more than \\$153 million for state energy programs in seven states and territories](#)

June 30, 2009

[Obama Administration announces up to \\$32 million initiative to expand hydropower](#)

June 29, 2009

[Obama Administration launches new energy efficiency efforts](#)

June 26, 2009

[DOE delivers more than \\$304 million for weatherization programs](#)

June 25, 2009

[Obama administration awards more than \\$154 million for state energy programs in four states](#)

June 24, 2009

[Obama administration awards more than \\$204 million for state energy programs in 10 states](#)

June 22, 2009

[Obama Administration announces more than \\$32 million for energy projects in Michigan](#)

June 22, 2009

[Obama Administration announces more than \\$16 million for energy projects in Iowa](#)

June 18, 2009

[Obama Administration delivers more than \\$453 million for weatherization programs in 15 states](#)

June 11, 2009

[New funding boosts carbon capture, solar energy and high gas-mileage cars and trucks](#)

June 9, 2009

[DOE's Solar Decathlon to highlight innovation, future green jobs](#)

June 8, 2009

[DOE delivers over \\$80 million in weatherization funding to first four states](#)

June 2, 2009

[Secretary Chu announces nearly \\$50 million of Recovery Act funding to accelerate deployment of geothermal heat pumps](#)

June 1, 2009

[Secretary Chu announces \\$256 million investment to improve the energy efficiency of the American economy](#)

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Reader Comments

May — Chronology of an Oregon wind farm

"I feel your pain. It took me four years to get my turbine and I'm working with another group of farmers to get theirs...now on year five. Rules are made for the big boys but could just as easily be made for local ownership ...keeping rural America alive. Local ownership will reduce the coming NIMBY issues of large wind farms and transmission."

— E. W.

July — U.S. air freight carriers switching to fuel-efficient aircraft

"The article does not mention how changes to aircraft engines are experienced on the ground. Is there an improvement to the noise of the jet engines? Are exhausts cleaner? Is Co2 released into the atmosphere reduced? Is air traffic reduced?"

— P. G.

Editor's comment: Air freight carriers are also introducing biofuel use both on the ground and in the air, reducing runway idling and optimizing flight routes to lower emissions of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases. UPS, for instance, is working to cut its aircraft fleet's emissions to 1.24 pounds of CO2 per available ton mile by 2020, down from 2.13 pounds per ton mile in 1990.

July — Just Say No to Rush Hour

"I think you mean 154 billion (not trillion). 154 trillion miles is--by my back of the envelope estimation--more than all the miles ever driven by all cars in US history.

— S. O.

Editor's comment: You are right. Among the many estimates for potential fuel savings from telework, that one is not plausible. When writing the article, I attempted to offset it by also including more conservative figures from the University of Maryland. In retrospect, I should have simply axed it.

Bottom-line: a couple more math classes along with the journalism probably would have helped me as well. Thanks for the catch.

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Speeches, Op-Eds and Testimony

July 22, 2009

[Opinion piece in the Richmond \(Va.\) Times-Dispatch by Secretary of Energy Steven Chu](#)

Subject: The U.S. Can Lead a "New Industrial Revolution" in Clean Energy

July 16, 2009

[Drury Crawley, EERE, before the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management](#)

Subject: Benefits of Green Buildings

June 4, 2009

[Harvard University Commencement Address by DOE Secretary Steven Chu](#)

"...There are immediate and significant savings in energy efficiency and conservation. Energy efficiency is not just low-hanging fruit; it is fruit lying on the ground. We have the potential to make buildings 80 percent more efficient with investments that will pay for themselves in less than 15 years. Buildings consume 40 percent of the energy we use, and a transition to energy efficient buildings will cut our carbon emissions by one third."

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Events

If you have an event scheduled in the next year of regional or national interest to the energy efficiency and renewable energy communities, please contact us with pertinent information and a Web link and we will include it in EERE Program News. — [Jack Jenkins](#) or [John Horst](#)

[Federal Energy Management Program \(FEMP\)](#) — holds technical workshops around the nation throughout the year, plus webinars; check this link for continuously updated information on these events.

[Industrial Technologies Program \(ITP\)](#) — holds specialized workshops and on-line Webinars year-around. Check this link for a continuously updated schedule.

[Solar Economics Forum USA](#) — Sept. 9-10, Washington, D.C.

The forum will bring together solar industry players to explore the economics of the solar industry, understand the impact of current policies and find ways to further accelerate market growth and cut costs to reach grid parity.

[Southwest Renewable Energy Conference](#) — Sept. 10-11, Flagstaff, Ariz.

A forum for sharing developments in technology and policy. Thoughtful evaluation and discussions on the development of wind, solar, biomass and geothermal energy on tribal, federal, state and private lands.

[Renewable Energy Markets 2009](#) — Sept. 13-16, Atlanta, Ga.

Power marketers, renewable energy developers, large purchasers, retail and wholesale green power suppliers, electric utilities, equipment manufacturers, government agencies, energy consultants and nonprofit experts will present on the major issues facing the industry.

[Food Marketing Institute Energy Conference](#) — Sept. 13-16, Indian Wells, Calif.

Conference will cover energy-related topics such as financial planning, equipment and energy purchasing/strategies, code compliance, energy conservation, maintenance, HVAC/R design, and lighting system productivity and efficiency.

[Fueling AFV Fleets: Deploy More Alternative Fuels](#) — Sept. 17, Miami, Fla.

Regional workshops on alternative fuel infrastructure provide technical, regulatory and networking support to assist EPA-regulated fleets and alternative fuel stakeholders.

[Northwest Innovations Conference--Marketing & Communication](#) — Sept. 20-23,

Redmond, Ore.

Educational sessions on marketing, communication, energy services, and renewable energy. See the latest innovations in the exhibit area and network with your colleagues.

[International Conference on Laboratory Sustainability](#) — Sept. 22-24, Indianapolis, Ind.

This laboratory sustainability conference is co-sponsored by DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories.

[CEFPI 86th Annual World Conference and Expo](#) — Sept. 27-29, Washington, D.C.

Build "Six degrees of connection" as you network and share best practices with a global array of experts on educational facility planning. Attend select session tracks on navigating today's challenging economy.

[2009 EEBA Excellence in Building Conference and Expo](#) — Sept. 28-30, Denver, Colo.

Builders, remodelers, developers, architects, designers and manufacturers will be coming to this Energy and Environmental Building Association conference to learn the science behind green and sustainable building practices, and to understand new regulations and legislation.

[Michigan Clean Transportation Expo & Awards](#) — Sept. 29, Novi, Mich.

Event will cover biofuels, what's new in transportation policy, the latest battery/energy storage and power technology, and tomorrow's vehicles from passenger cars to heavy-duty trucks.

[2009 ASES National Solar Tour](#) — Oct. 3, various cities across the U.S.

The American Solar Energy Society National Solar Tour is the world's largest grassroots solar event.

[GRC 2009 Annual Meeting and GEA Expo](#) — Oct. 4-7, Reno, Nev.

The geothermal energy industry's largest gathering of professionals participating in conference sessions, educational seminars, a trade show exhibition and tours of local geothermal projects.

[Industry Day: Fueling Federal Fleets - Alternative Fuel Forum](#) — Oct. 8, Crystal City, Va.

Industry Day brings together federal fleet managers and fuel suppliers to accelerate the development of alternative fuel infrastructure.

[Organic Photovoltaics Summit USA 2009](#) — Oct. 15-16, Boston, Mass.

From up-to-the minute developments and forecasts on organic photovoltaics (OPV)

efficiency, stability and lifetime, to first applications and markets and commercialization strategies, this event will showcase the mass market potential of OPV.

[2009 DOE Solar Decathlon](#) — Oct. 9-18, Washington, D.C.

The Solar Decathlon joins 20 college and university teams in a competition on the National Mall to design, build, and operate the most attractive and energy-efficient solar-powered house.

[RetailGreen Conference & Trade Exposition](#) — Oct. 14-16, Hollywood, Calif.

A conference & trade exposition on sustainability, energy and environmental design. With the world's focus on sustainability, the retail real estate industry has responded with strong efforts to develop "greener" properties.

[Solar Power International](#) — Oct. 27-29, Anaheim, Calif.

The largest solar power conference in the U.S. about the solar industry and market opportunities, sponsored by the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) and the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA).

[2009 Remodeling Show](#) — Oct. 27-30, Indianapolis, Ind.

A national event that places serious buyers and serious sellers face to face for three days of serious business.

[Sunbelt Builders Show](#) — Oct. 29-31, Grapevine, Texas

A trade show and education conference for residential and light construction industries; offers an opportunity to exhibit the latest building products and services, learn from the nation's construction industry experts, while networking with thousands of building professionals.

[Geothermal Energy Utilization: with Oil & Gas Development](#) — Nov. 3-4, Dallas, Texas

An international energy conference specializing in the enhancement of existing oil and gas wells for electrical production from the Earth's heat.

[AIChE Annual Meeting](#) — Nov. 8-13, Nashville, Tenn.

Premier educational forum for chemical engineers. A wide range of subjects relevant to the latest research and newest technologies in emerging growth areas will be covered.

[2009 Greenbuild International Conference and Expo](#) — Nov. 10-14, Phoenix, Ariz.

U.S. Green Building Council conference will offer workshops, tours and informational sessions on all phases of green building.

[2009 Behavior, Energy, and Climate Change Conference](#) — Nov. 15-18, Washington, D.C.

A conference to catalyze collaboration across government, utility, business and research sectors, and to share recent research and program information on meeting long-term energy and greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.

[Tribal Energy Program Review](#) — Nov. 16-18, Denver, Colo.

A forum for tribes to meet and learn from other tribes pursuing energy sufficiency through conservation or renewable energy, and to share in their successes. A unique forum offering an excellent overview of the wide range of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects under way in Indian Country, the meeting is open to all.

[Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Workforce Education](#) — Nov. 18-20, Albany, N.Y.

Conference will offer the most current information on instructional strategies, curricula development, and best practices for training in the renewable energy and energy efficiency fields.

[Ecobuild America](#) — Dec. 8-10, Washington, D.C.

Ecobuild America educates design and construction professionals on how to improve our built environment. Emphasis on creating high performance, sustainable structures, and doing it faster and more profitably.

[International Builders Show](#) — Jan. 19-22, 2010, Las Vegas, Nev.

This show will center on how builders can retool their businesses and educate themselves to be ready when the housing market turns around.

[ASHRAE Winter Conference](#) — Jan. 23-27, 2010, Orlando, Fla.

Conference will seek to advance the state of the art in indoor environmental control by focusing the technical program on the theme "Humidity and Sustainable Indoor Environment;" will include tracks on energy conservation and alternative energy sources, sustainability, humidity and load calculations.

[Better Buildings: Better Business Conference](#) — March 3-5, 2010, Wisconsin Dells, Wis.

Learn how to build homes that deliver the energy savings customers want, about renewable energy technologies that reduce energy costs and how energy efficiency and green building practices keep your business competitive.

[2010 IEEE PES Transmission and Distribution Conference](#) — April 19-22, 2010, New Orleans, La.

The conference and exposition will bring together the world's leading power system equipment manufacturers and technical professionals to display their products, explore new technology, and enhance existing technologies .

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