

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

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March 2010

Editor: [Jack Jenkins](#)

Associate Editor: [Carolyn Hinkley](#)

[News](#) reports on research projects that aim for breakthroughs in energy delivery, storage and distribution that may one day give consumers more power over their own energy use.

We also feature a solar-powered boat that is navigating the world's waterways and a new renewable energy goal for rock superstars U2.

This month's [Features](#) focuses on ways to control your energy costs from tax-saving tips to energy efficient mortgages to home energy monitoring devices.

Editor's note from Jack Jenkins: This issue introduces Carolyn Hinkley as the new editor of EERE Program News. Carolyn comes from the Western area Power Administration and brings with her a passion for clean renewable energy and energy efficiency.

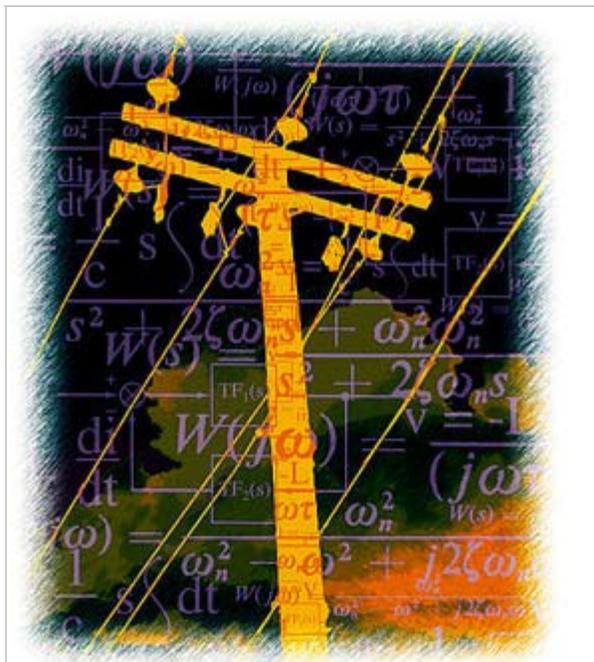
As for me, I'm retiring.

People keep asking me what I'm going to do. It's pretty simple. I'm a writer and photojournalist -- and now I get to choose the topics.

I live on the eastern edge of the Rocky Mountains. Travel west and you hit Utah's red rock deserts. Swerve to the northwest, and the land folds into the basalt cliffs and Snake River canyons of my youth.

History, rocks, scorpions; cattle ranches, irrigated farms, mountain lions and rattlesnakes: what could be better; it's paradise.

Once a coyote always a coyote.



If researchers and private companies can create products such as low-cost batteries for energy storage or home energy servers, plans to expand the power grid may not have to be as extensive. Regardless of research efforts, Americans are always encouraged to save energy by installing energy monitors, getting an energy efficient mortgage or purchasing efficient products.

Photo-courtesy of: wikipedia-commons

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News

Energy storage—key to U.S. renewable energy goals?

Storage units are essential for shop-happy consumers. But when it comes to energy storage, the answer isn't as easy as buying a bin at a discount store. Yet scientists working on energy storage aren't letting challenges slow them down—they're researching how to store and economically dispatch renewable energy when the wind isn't blowing or the sun isn't shining.

The challenge is that energy storage [devices](#) must be able to supply customers' electrical demands when their needs are greatest—during peak load periods. For large-scale solar- or wind-based generation to be practical, new energy storage systems must be able to meet continuous demands and balance the cyclic nature of energy sources.

The energy storage research projects now under way at DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy ([ARPA-E](#)) piqued the curiosity of scientists, entrepreneurs, corporate leaders and policymakers at ARPA-E's inaugural summit March 1-3 in Washington, D.C. There leaders discussed the challenges standing before what Energy Secretary Steven Chu called today's "Industrial Revolution in clean energy technologies."

The day before the summit, Chu announced \$100 million in Recovery Act funding for three key research areas, including ARPA-E's Grid-Scale Rampable Intermittent Dispatchable Storage ([GRIDS](#)) project that's examining new storage systems that can be located anywhere on the grid.

GRIDS complements other DOE grid-scale energy storage efforts by examining technology prototypes rather than pilot demonstration projects.

Some of ARPA-E's other grid energy [storage research projects](#) include:

- The Massachusetts Institute of Technology's [High-Amperage Energy Storage Device](#)—an "all liquid metal" type of grid-scale battery for low-cost energy storage
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratories' Planar Na-beta Batteries for Renewable Integration—an examination of high-energy, low-cost, liquid sodium beta batteries for grid-scale storage
- FastCAP Systems' Nanotube-Enhanced Ultracapacitors—an ultracapacitor with energy density similar to standard batteries, but with more power density and cycle life

Because of its ability to revolutionize the industry, energy storage is getting legislative attention as well. In February, California [introduced a bill](#) to require utilities to have storage capacity equivalent to 2.25 percent of peak load, rising to 5 percent by 2020. The proposed state bill comes on the heels of a stalled U.S. House bill called the [Storage Technology of Renewable and Green Energy Act of 2009](#) that would provide tax credits for energy storage.

Chu told ARPA-E summit participants, "Without a very intelligent grid, without an ability to dispatch energy resources over very long distances, and without energy storage, you can't have a renewable energy grid where 30 to 40 percent [of power generation] comes from renewables."

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Circumnavigating the globe with sun power

Raphael Domjan, a deep sea skipper who dreams of [circumnavigating the globe on a solar-powered yacht](#) recently unveiled his newly constructed, \$24 million craft at the Knierim Yacht Club in Kiel, Germany. "It's a unique feeling to see in front of me today a boat which I so often dreamed about," Domjan said in a news release from SunPower Corporation, which manufactured the solar cells for the boat.

PlanetSolar, a 100-by-50-foot catamaran, has been designed to reach a top speed of about 17 miles per hour and can carry up to 50 passengers. The sleek, wave-cutting design is topped with almost 5,400 square feet of black solar panels covering its upper deck.

"The aim is really to show that we have the solar technology to do this, available today, not tomorrow. It is technology that is reliable, able to perform and economically interesting," Domjan continued.

"We're not saying that all the world's boats could be solar-powered...But along the Equator there are lots of fishing boats, and boats that only sail for a few hours each day. Solar power would be perfect for these uses."

The 60-ton PlanetSolar will carry a two-person crew on



This catamaran will circumnavigate the globe powered by 38,000 solar cells made by SunPower Corp.

Photo courtesy of PlanetSolar.

Dozens of passengers, including journalists and environmentalists, are expected to join the voyage at various stages. The around-the-world journey is expected to last about 140 days, assuming the boat can keep up an average speed of eight knots.

Whatever the ultimate niche for solar power in ships and shipping, increased use of renewables in shipping holds good potential for improved environmental stewardship. According to a [2008 study by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#), shipping contributes to an estimated 4.5 percent of all greenhouse gases to the atmosphere, or more than a billion tons of carbon dioxide—double that of aviation.

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U2 sings a new tune about clean energy

The rock band U2 is getting in tune with international clean energy efforts—last month it pledged to raise funds for Turkey's new major geothermal plant, according to [Hurriyet](#), Turkey's daily English news site. To raise as much as \$450,000 for the plant, the band is selling carbon offset credits for \$1.89 a piece as an optional fee on top of the band's usual concert ticket price.

Turkey's Dora-1 geothermal plant became operational last summer. It is designed to generate 7.9 megawatts of power—more than one-fifth of the nation's geothermal capacity, according to [greenbeat](#). The [project profile](#) forecasted annual project generation of 51,300 megawatt-hours, displacing an estimated 30,300 annual tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

Offset Options is managing the carbon credits and investing the ticket proceeds in worldwide clean energy projects like Dora-1 that aim to reduce carbon emissions. The band's goal is to neutralize the greenhouse gas emissions that each fan, on average, generates when traveling to a U2 concert.

U2 said it wants fans to join them in its ongoing effort to purchase carbon credits to offset the greenhouse gases emitted to put on a concert. The [Independent Music Web site](#) of London points out that the band's tours are quite energy-intensive, estimating that the current 100-date, 18-month U2 360



U2 lead singer Bono sings at the band's 2005 concert in New York. U2 aims to raise \$450,000 from an optional concert ticket fee to pay for a geothermal plant in Turkey.

Photo courtesy of: wikipedia commons

world tour requires the band to travel 70,000 miles via private jet, features three, 390-ton stages and 200 crew and backstage staff who need to be transported to each concert venue.

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What's blooming this spring could be an energy breakthrough

Someday you may not need to look further than your own backyard for power. If [Bloom Energy](#) or other companies continue to develop fuel cell technology and find a way to offer it at a reasonable price, one day a source of renewable energy supply and a home energy server may be all you need.

On Feb. 21 before a 60 Minutes audience ([video](#)) and again Feb. 24 before curious reporters ([video](#)), Bloom Energy President K.R. Sridhar unveiled its "[Bloom Energy Server](#)," which can capture a fuel source — renewable or fossil-based — mix it with oxygen and then [convert it into electricity](#).



Workers unload a Bloom Energy Server from a forklift.

Photo courtesy of Bloom Energy.

necessary chemical reactions to generate electricity and if production costs drop substantially, the "Bloom Box" could change how we generate, store, transmit and distribute electrical power. Sridhar's goal is to sell a 1 kilowatt (KW) unit sufficient for home use for \$3,000.

Currently, this technology is already being marketed to big companies. An industrial-sized 100-kW Bloom Box costs between \$700,000 to \$800,000, according to the [Wall Street Journal](#) and is already in use at places such as Google, eBay and Wal-Mart. However, the [Huffington Post](#) noted that those companies are also getting tax subsidies and rebates on the units' costs to bring the electrical generation costs down to the 9- to 10-cent range.

While there are still many [skeptics](#), according to the *Christian Science Monitor*, renewable energy proponents like the idea of this technology and similar fuel cell products because they place much smaller power generation units near power consumption, said *greentech media*.

To see an interview of Sridhar, see the March 8 issue of the [Wall Street Journal](#).

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Renew your sources of energy information

If you just can't get enough of renewable energy news, take a journey around DOE. Here is a sample of newsletters, Web sites and e-mail list servers and topics they cover:

Biomass

- ***Biomass Weekly News***, a weekly newsletter produced by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's (EERE) Biomass Program. Subscribe by contacting Jaime Redick at jaime.redick@ee.doe.gov

Building energy codes

- ***Building Energy Codes***, a publication of EERE's Buildings Program that features the latest on energy code building standards.

Energy efficiency

- ***EERE Network News***, a weekly online newsletter of EERE that covers national and international energy efficiency news, new EERE Web sites and energy facts.
- ***Energy Empowers***, a new EERE Web site highlighting Recovery Act success stories.
- ***Green Power News***, a wrap up of renewable energy news compiled by Western Area Power Administration (Western), a DOE agency. It features current projects, U.S. leadership in renewables, outreach, studies and funding. Also available from Western is the ***Energy Services Bulletin***, which provides news and energy efficiency tools for electric utilities.
- ***DOE Pulse***, a biweekly newsletter of science and technology highlights from DOE's national laboratories.
- ***Energy Innovations***, published by DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory to highlight its science and technology innovations.
- ***Progress Alerts***, an e-mail notification of new technology advancements within EERE.
- ***Science SC Alerts***, an e-mail notification of DOE's Office of Science that sends a customized list of current preprint titles about science topics that link directly to full-text articles.
- ***Transforum***, news from the Argonne National Laboratory's Transportation R&D Center.

Solar energy

- ***Solar Energy Technologies***, a quarterly newsletter of funding opportunities and highlights from the national labs.

Vehicle technologies

- ***Clean Cities Now***, a publication of the Vehicle Technologies Program featuring news on alternative fuel vehicles, hybrid electric vehicles, fuel blends and fuel economy.

Wind

- ***New England Wind Forum***, published by the Wind and Water Power Program to highlight policy, project and market developments throughout New England.
- ***EERE State Activities and Partnerships***, a Web site listing partnerships between EERE and the states.

For more info:

- For a list of other e-mail updates you can subscribe to, including the listserv to notify you of DOE news releases, visit DOE's [main news page](#).
- [Click](#) here for a listing of all EERE newsletters and e-mail updates. [Click here](#) to subscribe to EERE publications.

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Features



The number of homes on the market point to opportunities to fix up properties with energy efficiency in mind. If you're buying a new property, think about an ENERGY STAR home or if you're refinancing, consider an energy efficient mortgage or tax credits for installing renewable energy equipment.

Illustration courtesy of: wikipedia commons

In this tight economy, saving money while saving energy is a great two-for-one deal. This month we bring you some tips for how you can do both, from wrapping energy improvements into your mortgage to monitoring your energy use through various new devices on the market.

Monitor your energy use outlet by outlet

The race is on for companies to develop an affordable home energy device that monitors energy usage and prices via the Internet or cell phone. Some of the less expensive models are expected to debut next month in honor of Earth Day, according to the [New York Times](#).

Technological advances and an increasing consumer energy consciousness are driving manufacturers to deploy these innovative devices either directly to consumers or through their local utilities.

While monitoring devices showing energy use by specific appliance or thermostat have been sold for some time for as little as \$20, more sophisticated, detailed energy monitoring units are debuting in the market that show overall home energy use.

For example, industry experts expect Tenrehte Technologies' Picowatt to debut at major retailers on Earth Day for around \$80. Other devices have been around awhile, including Energy, Inc.'s TED (The Energy Device), which retails for about \$140 ([video](#)) and [Current State](#), which allows for energy use monitoring via a cell phone. It also includes a series of plug-ends that plug into your electrical devices to show how much energy is being used.



Energy monitoring devices that you can control via a laptop or cell phone may soon be a way consumers can keep track of energy use, 24/7.

Photo courtesy of: Pacific Northwest National Lab

It's a gamble for these manufacturers, though, since utilities have been offering similar devices—Smart Grid devices that are tied to the grid and display the cost of electricity during peak hours but that so far have a limited following. President Obama committed to help utilities install 40 million more of these smart meters to encourage consumers to shift energy consumption to the time of day when power is cheapest.

For a description of some of the prototypes and already available products, see articles on the subject from [Inhabitat](#) and in [smartgridnews](#).

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Top 10 energy tips to trim your '10 taxes

It's never too early to start saving on your 2010 taxes.

Here are tips to help you save on taxes while you also save on energy costs:

- Buy one or the following products in 2010 and apply for efficiency tax credits up to 30 percent of the cost, up to a total credit of \$1,500. They must be "placed in service" through Dec. 31, 2010 to be claimed on 2010 taxes. (Note that if you claimed the maximum credit in 2009, you aren't eligible for more credits in 2010). Products include:
 - *Insulation*
 - *Roofing*
 - *Water heater*
 - *Windows and doors*
 - *Biomass stove*
 - *HVAC systems*



Consumers have many ways to save on their energy bills, but it can take some creativity and thought to reap the benefits.

Illustration courtesy of: Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

- Install solar panels or small wind turbines, geothermal ground source heat pumps, residential fuel cells and microturbine systems on your property to qualify for up to 30 percent in tax credits through 2016.
- Visit the [Database of Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency](#) or the [Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Web site](#) to see if you are eligible for other

incentives or rebates.

- Refer to [Energy Star's FAQs](#) for how the tax credits work.
- Read the [IRS guidance](#) on efficiency credits.
- Buy a [hybrid gas-electric vehicle](#) by Dec. 31, 2010—incentives vary.
- Purchase a plug-in hybrid conversion kit.
- Keep an eye on the [proposal](#) for [HomeStar energy efficiency](#) rebates included in a jobs bill to offer up to \$3,000 for energy efficiency home improvements.
- Check the [DOE](#), [Energy Star](#) and [Energy Savers blog](#) for other offers or information that may come up regarding ways you can save.
- Talk to your accountant or IRS advisor about your particular situation and how you might save.

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Wrap energy efficiency into your mortgage

Here's a way to afford energy efficiency improvements—incorporate them into your mortgage. [Energy efficient mortgage programs](#) (EEMs) allow you to finance home energy improvements or qualify for a home that's more energy efficient.

The [Energy Star Mortgage Pilot](#) (ESMP)—now being offered in [Colorado](#), [Maine](#) and New York and soon in [New Jersey](#), Pennsylvania, [District of Columbia](#) and Massachusetts—allows you to pay for energy efficient investments over the life of your loan, as well as deduct the interest from federal and state taxes. You can finance improvements without paying more than a typical mortgage, and you can combine the loan with any conventional, [FHA](#) or VA loan program for a lower monthly payment.

You are eligible if you own an existing single-family home and arrange for an energy audit or [rating](#) that improves the home's energy efficiency by 20 percent or more, which must be conducted and verified by a licensed contractor within 90 days after closing.

Another option is to purchase a newly constructed [ENERGY STAR home](#) that's already energy-efficient. For example, if you buy one in [Colorado](#), your [loan origination fee](#) is paid, giving you better rate for the life of the loan with no additional fee. You can also qualify for a more expensive home because lower energy bills mean you have more money for your mortgage payment.

With existing homes, if the energy work is included in the loan—often through a refinancing—a typical, 30-year mortgage term reduces the monthly payments for these



An energy-efficient mortgage might be for you if you own an existing home or purchase a new ENERGY STAR-rated home.

Photo courtesy of wikipedia commons.

improvements, allowing you to deduct the full mortgage interest from federal and state taxes. New [energy improvements](#) can be included in the mortgage, but don't have to be. They can be paid for using unsecured loans, state subsidies, public benefit funds or utility-supported energy loans, a second mortgage, or grants.

While the non-profit [Energy Programs Consortium](#) partnered with DOE and the Environmental Protection agency to launch the ESMP in 2009, [EEMs](#) have been around since 1992 when Congress mandated a pilot demonstration in five states that later expanded nationally.

According to DOE's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Office, there are currently more than [150 U.S. loan programs](#) for residential energy efficiency. There is potential for these type of mortgages to have a greater impact since they can make financing available to those who don't already have access or entice homeowners to make additional improvements.

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If \$20 bills are lying around, will you grab them?

If \$20 bills were floating out your window, what energy efficiency improvements would you be willing to make to prevent that from happening? Energy Secretary Steven Chu has some ideas to help you, which he outlined in an op-ed piece to a [World Economic Forum report](#) released this month.

Called "[Energy Efficiency: Achieving the Potential](#)," Chu discusses DOE's plans to help Americans save energy and money.



In an op-ed to a World Economic Forum report, Secretary Chu encourages Americans not to let \$20 bills in potential energy savings go unnoticed.

Photo courtesy of wikipedia commons

One DOE effort he talks about is "Retrofit Ramp-Up," an effort that would simultaneously streamline home retrofits in entire neighborhoods. In addition, he envisions a partnership with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to encourage new financing tools for energy efficiency improvements. Chu also floats an idea that homeowners might some day be able to pay back energy improvement loans through property tax bill assessments.

Out-of-pocket expenses would be eliminated through such a scheme, and, ultimately, energy savings would exceed the increase in property taxes for the homeowner. Both the savings and the

added loan payments would stay with the house if the owner decide to sell.

Chu also mentions that for consumers buying a home, the time of purchase is a great time to ask for last year's utility bills — which can help indicate how affordable the home really is. If improvements are needed, the costs could then be seamlessly tacked onto the mortgage.

"There are indeed 20-dollar bills lying on the ground all around us. We only need the will — and the ways — to recognize and pick them up," Chu said.

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March 10, 2010

[Treasury, Energy announce guidance for tax treatment of smart grid investment grants](#)

March 9, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces up to \\$154 million for NRG energy's carbon capture and storage project in Texas](#)

March 5, 2010

[DOE offers \\$117 million conditional commitment for Hawaii wind power project](#)

March 5, 2010

[DOE offers \\$72 million conditional loan guarantee to SAGE Electrochromics](#)

Feb. 23, 2010

[DOE announces technology transfer coordinator](#)

Feb. 22, 2010

[DOE announces nearly \\$1.4 billion in conditional loan guarantees for BrightSource Energy](#)

Feb. 19, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces over \\$8 million to support local energy assurance planning initiatives](#)

Feb. 12, 2010

[Obama administration launches \\$130 million building energy efficiency effort](#)

Feb. 3, 2010

[Obama announces steps to boost biofuels, clean coal](#)

Feb. 2, 2010

[EPA and DOE join states to speed energy efficiency progress in the United States](#)

Feb. 1, 2010

[President's energy budget invests in innovation, clean energy, and national security priorities](#)

Jan. 28, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces closing of \\$1.4 billion loan to Nissan](#)

Jan. 21, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces more than \\$20.5 million for community renewable energy deployment projects](#)

Jan. 21, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces closing of \\$465 million loan to Tesla Motors](#)

Jan. 20, 2010

[DOE to invest up to \\$12 million to support early stage solar technologies](#)

Jan. 19, 2010

[U.S. District Court upholds DOE's action against LG to enforce ENERGY STAR requirements](#)

Jan. 15, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces more than \\$37 million for next generation lighting](#)

Jan. 14, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces 69 early career scientists to receive up to \\$85 million in funding to support research](#)

Jan. 13, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces nearly \\$80 million investment for advanced biofuels research and fueling infrastructure](#)

Jan. 12, 2010

[DOE steps lead to significant increase in compliance with energy efficiency reporting requirements](#)

Jan. 8, 2010

[President Obama awards \\$2.3 billion for new clean-tech manufacturing jobs](#)

Jan. 8, 2010

[DOE announces clean energy projects for low-carbon communities of the Americas initiative](#)

Jan. 7, 2010

[DOE announces additional energy efficiency enforcement action to protect consumers](#)

Jan. 7, 2010

[DOE announces inaugural ARPA-E energy innovation summit](#)

Jan. 6, 2010

[Secretary Chu announces \\$47 million to improve efficiency in information technology and communications sectors](#)

Dec. 22, 2009

[DOE to invest \\$366 million in energy innovation hubs](#)

Dec. 18, 2009

[Secretary Chu announces efforts to strengthen U.S. electric transmission networks](#)

Dec. 9, 2009

[DOE announces tougher enforcement of appliance standards reporting requirements](#)

Dec. 7, 2009

[Secretary Chu announces \\$100 million for advanced research projects](#)

Dec. 4, 2009

[Secretaries Chu and Vilsack announce more than \\$600 million investment in advanced biorefinery projects](#)

Dec. 2, 2009

[DOE launches Save Energy Now LEADER Program](#)

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Energy transformation has new meaning in Haiti

"A good angle. But let's make sure that as the commercial and residential building stock is recreated, we use sustainable and energy efficient methods, like insulated concrete forms (ICF). They have high R values and can stand up to Mother Nature. Hurricane and tornado proof by nature, if engineered properly, ICFs are also earthquake proof."

— B.A.

Interior Department fast tracks renewable energy

"Small Hydro is basically ignored by the Department of Interior; the last report done by DOE showed 30,000 Megawatts of potential small hydro that could be installed on existing Bureau of Reclamation dams that would be, for the most part, environmentally benign. In some cases, the inclusion of small hydro would enhance conditions for aquatic wildlife. There is nothing being fast tracked for that renewable resource."

— G.

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Speeches, Op-Eds and Testimony

March 16, 2010

[Secretary Chu Op-Ed on energy efficiency from the World Economic Forum](#)

Feb. 24, 2010

[Readout of Secretary Chu's Middle East trip: Wednesday, Feb. 24](#)

Subject: The United States' commitment to build a close relationship with the United Arab Emirates on clean energy issues.

Feb. 19, 2010

[Secretary Chu's remarks on the anniversary of the Recovery Act](#)

Subject: The Recovery Act's impact on our clean energy future.

Dec. 10, 2009

[Elliott Mainzer, executive vice president of Corporate Strategy, Bonneville Power Administration, before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee](#)

Subject: The role of grid-scale energy storage in meeting our energy and climate goals.

Dec. 8, 2009

[Kristina Johnson, Under Secretary of Energy, before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee](#)

Subject: Consideration of draft energy technology and efficiency legislation.

Dec. 3, 2009

[Jacques Beaudry-Losique, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, before the House Science and Technology Subcommittee on Energy and Environment](#)

Subject: Marine and Hydrokinetic Energy Technology: Finding the Path to Commercialization.

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Events

If you have an event scheduled 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 [Carolyn Hinkley](#)

[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](#) — holds specialized workshops and webinars year-around. Check this link for a continuously updated schedule.

[Biomass 2010](#) — March 30-31, Arlington, Va.

Biomass 2010 is sponsored by DOE's Biomass Program and follows the success of Biomass 2009, which brought together more than 600 participants from government, industry, academia, and private and nonprofit organizations. It provides an opportunity for dialogue about applied R&D, feedstocks, hydrocarbon fuels and sustainability.

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

[ACI Home Performance Conference 2010](#) — April 19-23, Austin, Texas

Affordable Comfort Inc.'s conference will present a variety of information and training sessions related to home energy efficiency, safety and comfort.

[Solar Leadership Summit](#) — April 21-22, San Ramon, Calif.

Meeting is designed to be interactive, bringing together hundreds of solar energy experts from across many disciplines of the industry for an open exchange of ideas.

[National Green Builders Products Expo](#) — April 27-28, Las Vegas, Nev.

The National Green Builders Products Expo is a trade-to-trade only event.

[National Hydrogen Association Conference & Expo](#) — May 3-6, Long Beach, Calif.

The NHA Conference & Expo is the largest hydrogen conference in the United States and the longest running annual hydrogen conference in the world.

[5th Annual Photovoltaics Summit](#) — May 3-5, San Diego, Calif.

Participants will address the latest issues and current progress and offer viable ways to move forward in the photovoltaics industry.

[2nd Annual Concentrating Solar Thermal Power Conference](#) — May 5-7, San Diego, Calif.

Conference will feature 18 expert presentations assessing market trends, technical development and application related advances. Question-and-answer sessions and panel discussions will be included.

[National Green Building Conference](#) — May 16-18, Raleigh, N.C.

Sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders, this conference will feature a variety of speakers and companies involved in green building technologies and sustainable living.

[SOLAR 2010](#) — May 17-18, Las Vegas, Nev.

One of America's leading conferences on emerging trends, technology and opportunities that shape the new energy economy.

[Utility Solar Conference](#) — May 18-19, Denver, Colo.

Conference open only to utility company employees interested in exploring and developing a viable long-term solar strategy of benefit to the utility, its customers, and its shareholders. It will allow sharing information and ideas about the details of various strategies and business models.

[12th Annual SolWest Renewable Energy Fair](#) — May 23-25, John Day, Ore.

More than 50 free workshops on renewable energy and sustainable living topics. In-depth pre-fair workshops will cover renewable energy technology and natural building.

[Pacific Coast Building Conference](#) — June 9-11, San Francisco, Calif.

The show is designed to revolutionize the concept of trade shows by breaking down the walls between learning, exploring, practicing and doing. Exhibit floor seminars will help transform exhibitors from sellers to educators, making interaction with key decision

makers more meaningful.

[AIA National Convention and Design Expo](#) — June 10-12, Miami, Fla.

This convention will feature DOE and National Renewable Energy Laboratory building technologies experts, who will host a two-hour workshop on OpenStudio and EnergyPlus.

[13th Annual Nanotech 2010](#) — June 21-25, Anaheim, Calif.

The world's largest nanotechnology event, Nano Science and Technology Institute's Nanotech 2010, delivers application-focused research from the top international academic, government and private industry labs.

[ASHRAE Summer Meeting](#) — June 26-27, Albuquerque, N.M.

Attend the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers' summer meeting to learn about high performance buildings, efficient heating and cooling systems and emerging energy efficiency building codes.

[GovEnergy 2010](#) — Aug. 15-18, Dallas, Texas

GovEnergy 2010 will provide effective energy management training to federal employees and their associated stakeholders, encouraging application of best practices, products, and services within the federal sector.

[2010 IEEE Conference: Efficient and Reliable Electricity Supply](#) — Sept. 27-28, Waltham, Mass.

Conference will provide a forum to discuss new technologies and innovative applications of current technologies for generation, transmission, storage, monitoring, and demand management.

[2010 Excellence in Building Conference and Expo](#) — Oct. 12-14, Portland, Ore.

The conference will feature timely, relevant resources and education about energy efficient houses that work.

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