OPEN GOVERNMENT PLAN 2.0

U.S. Department of Energy
April 9, 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Your Government

Over the past three years, federal agencies have worked to make the government more open, transparent, and responsive to the American people. As President Obama said on his first day in office, “My Administration is committed to creating an unprecedented level of openness in government. We will work together to ensure the public trust and establish a system of transparency, public participation, and collaboration. Openness will strengthen our democracy and promote efficiency and effectiveness in government.”

At the Department of Energy, we’ve made great progress in advancing these goals – from releasing more energy data to give consumers the information they need to save money by saving energy, to expanding our workforce training and educational resources and tools, to relaunching Energy.gov and leveraging our social media networks to better engage with the public and our stakeholders.

I invite you to find out more on the steps we’ve taken, and continue to take, in the Department’s latest Open Government report. I encourage you to share your ideas with us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Steven Chu
U.S. Secretary of Energy

OPEN GOVERNMENT PLAN 2.0: A FOCUS ON COLLABORATION

The Energy Department is committed to helping President Obama make the federal government more open and accessible to the American people and achieving the transparency, participation, and collaboration goals of the Open Government Initiative.

Since publishing the Open Government Plan 1.0, the Department has achieved several milestones including:

- Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Data: As part of the Obama Administration's ongoing commitment to transparency surrounding the response to the BP oil spill, the Department of Energy provided online access to schematics, pressure tests, diagnostic results and other data about the malfunctioning blowout preventer. The site includes oil and gas collection data and high-definition footage of the oil leak. Completed November 2010.
- Open Energy Information: In December 2009, as part of its efforts to promote clean energy technologies, the Department of Energy launched Open Energy Information. This open-source web platform makes a range of DOE resources and open energy data widely available to the public. The free, editable and evolving wiki-platform enables the sharing of resources by government officials, the private sector, project developers, the international community and others. Launched December 2009, project ongoing.
- The L-Prize Competition: The L Prize competition is the first government-sponsored technology competition designed to spur development of ultra-efficient solid-state lighting products as alternatives to some of the most widely available light bulbs on the market. The 60W replacement competition completed August 2011; other competitions ongoing.

The Energy Department is continuing to spearhead Open Government with six new initiatives outlined in this plan. These new initiatives focus on the third pillar of Open Government: collaboration. From incentivizing developers to use utility data to build apps that help consumers better understand their electricity bills to tapping into the ingenuity of its users to build a better EIA.gov, the Energy Department seeks to use stakeholder input to improve how government works.

For many of the Department's Open Government initiatives, the work is never truly complete. Many of our projects are ongoing efforts to improve transparency, participation, and collaboration. As soon as we think we're done and we can check the proverbial 'open gov' box, that is when we stop moving forward. To that end, many of our Open Government projects are designed for iterative innovation with measurable benchmarks, but without a final completion date. It is through this iterative innovation process that Open Government will be most successful as the Department seeks to incorporate it's principles into the culture, making it part of the way we do business.

OPEN GOVERNMENT PLAN 2.0 INITIATIVES

Flagship Initiative: Apps for Energy

As part of the Obama Administration's efforts to help consumers save money by saving energy, U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu launched the Department's first-ever Apps for Energy competition. Apps for Energy challenges innovative software developers to build new apps – for mobile phones, computers, tablets, software programs and more – that utilize data from major utility companies to help consumers and businesses use less energy and save money.

The competition began April 5, 2012, offering $100,000 in cash prizes sponsored by the Energy Department and interested companies. This new initiative is part of the Administration's broader efforts to make government more open and to engage the American people in new ways.

Apps for Energy works closely with the Energy Department's recently revamped website Energy.gov that offers new tools and resources to help consumers connect with the Department on an interactive, dynamic information platform.

"Our top priority is to help consumers save money on their energy bills by providing them with easy access to data on how they use energy in their homes," said Secretary Chu. "Apps for Energy will challenge our nation's talented software developers to create apps that provide energy usage data in the most comprehensive and accessible formats."

Developers competing in the first iteration of Apps for Energy will create apps that are designed to make the best use of the data provided through the President's Green Button initiative, an Administration-led effort with utility companies based on a simple, common-sense goal: provide electricity customers with easy access to their energy usage data in a consumer-friendly and computer-friendly format via a "Green Button" on electric utilities' website.

Apps for Energy is a pilot project designed to recruit engineers to help build apps using energy data. The goals of the project are as follows:

1. Increase the value of energy-related data sets for consumers, businesses, and governments by improving access to federal data and government transparency.
2. Incentivize and support the development of innovative solutions to problems facing citizens and businesses in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy use, power generation, installation and maintenance, and other topics.
3. Encourage the creation of new intellectual property with commercial potential by individuals, startups, and small organizations.
4. Create an active and energy-focused developer community.

5. Establish a set of software tools and procedures that encourage the creation of additional developer competitions.

While the initial pilot of Apps for Energy asks developers to use the Green Button data access program to bring residential and commercial utility data to life, subsequent iterations will grow to include other high-value date sets.

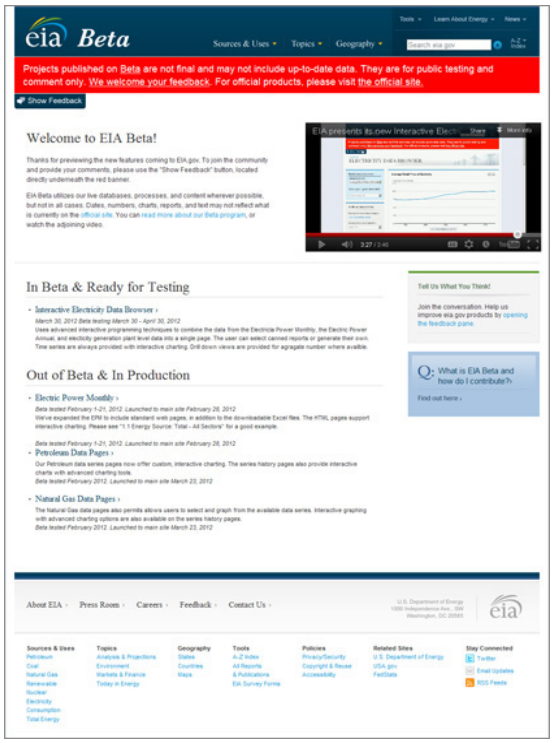
Expected Completion: The first iteration of Apps for Energy using Green Button data will be completed Summer 2012. Additional iterations will follow for other high-value energy data sets.

New Initiative: U.S. Energy Information Administration 'Beta' Website

In February 2012, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) launched a beta website, www.eia.gov/beta, that encourages the public, researchers, analysts and others to test and comment on the agency's latest data product enhancements, and review other users' comments. This approach allows EIA to "crowd test" innovations before they are introduced on the agency's official website.

As a first offering, products on the beta site allowed users to easily create graphics that showed and compared energy data collected by the agency. Both the novice and expert could tailor EIA's energy data to create graphics at the click of a mouse to show energy trends hidden in petroleum, natural gas and electricity data, such as:

- Comparing one state's current gasoline prices with other states or the national average, and how those pump prices have changed from previous years.
- Tracking U.S. monthly natural gas production and compare the growth from prior years.
- Following changes in the amount of U.S. electricity generated by coal, natural gas, nuclear, wind, and solar.



Site users can begin with summary reports, dig into specific data series, and instantly graph their interests to review trends. The charts are produced on-the-fly by browser-based graphing technology. No plug-ins are required, and the graphing works in any major, modern browser. Users could save the source data in Excel for their own analysis, or save the graphics directly to their computers.

“It’s a basic form of distributed computing. By using JavaScript technology and off-loading the graphical work to the user’s computer, we don’t have to buy additional servers and bandwidth to accommodate graphing,” said Gina Pearson, Assistant Administrator for EIA’s Office of Communications. “That’s important in this budget climate.”

EIA’s latest beta product is an interactive electricity data browser that allows users to search much of EIA’s electricity data in one location and customize it to meet their information needs. Because this is an experimental browser, users are

again encouraged to submit suggestions to EIA through a special feedback button on how to improve the browser's features and the data presentation. There are also about a dozen pop-up information boxes that appear at the click of a help button to describe how to use the browser. Users also can watch a short video to see how the browser works.

The browser has a range of electricity information; from the amount of total U.S. electricity generated by wind or solar energy to the amount generated at individual power plants in a state. Before, users had to look online at separate EIA electricity reports to find specific data, especially over time periods. Now, the electricity data is brought together at one place.

Beta testing has allowed EIA to engage customers directly regarding what additional features they want to see in a particular web product. For example, the organization has learned customers are interested in being able to convert units and adjust prices for inflation. This knowledge affects not just the particular web product being tested, but can improve future products too.

EIA now can try ideas earlier in the design cycle and deliver higher quality end products. The beta test of an advanced Electricity Data Browser, for example, had a bug related to the calculation of dates that occurred only in certain times zones, but not for our web developer working on Eastern Standard Time. A user testing the new application in Colorado reported the bug and EIA was able to have a dialogue, find the root cause, and fix it quickly before the web application becomes an official government information product. The end result is innovative web products that are easy to use and error free.

Expected Completion: Site Launched February 2012. Project Ongoing.

New Initiative: Energy.Data.gov

In June 2011, Energy.Data.Gov was launched as an online community designed to facilitate public discussion and awareness of our Nation's energy activities. The site contains data, tools, apps, maps, challenges, blogs, and forums for discussion to foster transparency of energy data and public participation around energy issues and activities.

The Energy Department is a leading partner in establishing and developing the Energy.Data.Gov community and in promoting innovative uses of energy-related data.

The Energy.Data.Gov community is coordinated through a cross agency work group that includes participants from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Transportation, the General Services Administration, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and others who contribute data, tools, and ideas to make the site a valuable resource for the public. The Energy Department participants provide strong support and leadership for this group.

The Department's program offices, national laboratories, and technology centers provide data, visualizations, and applications to support a variety of audiences. From an application that helps drivers find fueling stations for alternative fuel vehicles while on the go to maps displaying average electricity prices across the U.S., the resources provided on Energy.Data.Gov are targeted to helping the public make the most of their energy dollars.

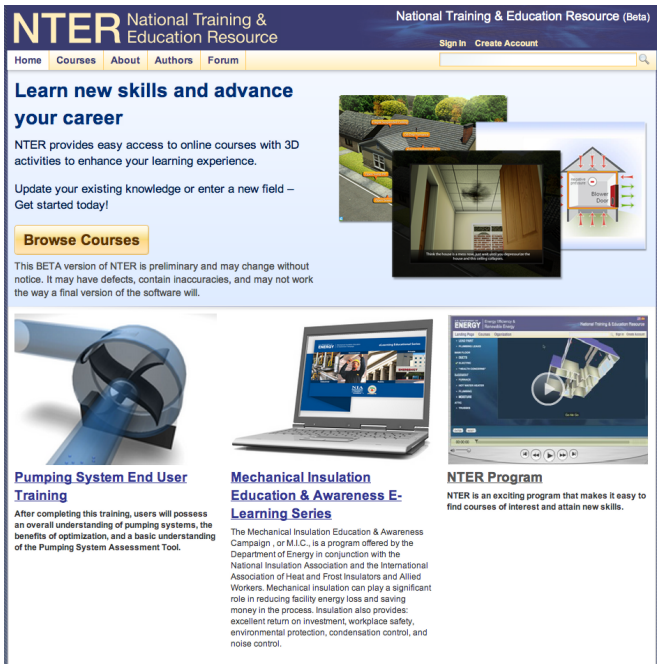
The Department also uses Energy.Data.Gov as a platform for sharing data on energy issues of public concern. Datasets related to the 2010 BP oil spill and its oil and gas recovery efforts are posted for public use, and other areas of high public interest are currently being developed.

The Energy.Data.Gov community leverages Open Government data transparency efforts and fosters cross government collaboration to identify new ways to use and combine government energy data to meet the needs and interests of the public. The Energy Department is actively leading the effort to connect the valuable energy information resources available in our national laboratories and programs with innovators inside and outside the government to find new ways to use energy data to serve the public. Throughout 2012 and 2013 the Department will focus on cross agency collaboration through leadership and participation in Energy.Data.Gov.

Expected Completion: Project Ongoing.

New Initiative: National Training and Education Resource (NTER)

The Energy Department's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) created a web-based next-generation learning platform, used to train and certify a new green economy workforce, as part of their mission to "strengthen America's energy security, environmental quality and economic vitality".



The open source National Training and Education Resource (NTER), now in beta, offers a specialized search engine and a growing ecosystem for education and training activities. NTER also offers easy-to-use tools to enhance or augment training and workforce development conducted across the country. A number of agencies, community colleges, technical training institutes, and graduate schools are using NTER to provide training, share courses, and offer portable certifications to a wide range of customers. The distributed hosting capability is promoting greater sharing and increased collaboration across agencies and classrooms.

The multi-media, interactive, self-paced training modules can help educate a wide range of audiences, from elementary school students to prospective

employees finishing community college or graduate school. While NTER is not intended to replace the need for formal, hands-on training or instructor-led classes, instructors, and teachers can use the content in their classroom settings.

As additional courses and educational materials are created from various projects and mission activities they can be added to the NTER system. This will enable the public to access an ever-growing range of science, technology, engineering and math educational content, and vetted technical training curricula to help prepare for energy careers.

The site (nterlearning.org) launched in September 2011. Content continues to be added and new institutions are hosting their own NTER systems and becoming part of the ecosystem. NTER will continue to develop as the Energy Department adds enhancements and features in coming years. As an open source project released under GPL2, the NTER source code is already benefiting from contributions made by other agencies and the public.

NTER is being used by number of community colleges, universities, training centers, consortiums, private companies, federal agencies and national labs, serving 2000 students and 430 course authors.

Expected Completion: In 2012-2013, NTER will deploy at 5 additional community colleges, enhance support for deploying educational content on mobile devices, implement expert review to improve the ability to search for trusted content, and add training in the following areas: solar, lighting and day lighting, FEMP, AMO.

New Initiative: Energy.gov Platform Expansion

In June 2011, the Obama Administration launched the Campaign to Cut Waste, an effort to root out wasteful spending at every agency and department in the Federal government, and highlighted Federal Web Reform as a key part of the initiative. Since the Energy Department owns hundreds of websites -- about 87 domains and hundreds of subdomains -- we're answering the Administration's call, seizing the opportunity to streamline web operations, reduce duplicative spending and improve overall web communications.

Here's how:

Step One: Identify our Website Footprint.

In order to determine what to reduce, we need to determine what we have and how much it costs. This past spring, we began an aggressive effort to identify all of the websites the Department owns and maintains in order to educate our website reform efforts.

Step Two: Eliminate Wasteful Spending by Consolidating and Reducing Websites.

For the past several months, we've been working on what we call the Energy.gov Renewal Project, the initiative to provide a one-platform solution (i.e. branding, content management system, hosting, etc.) for our public-facing websites. Where possible, we'll be consolidating our headquarter websites into one Energy.gov platform – eliminating duplicative costs on website infrastructure.

Step Three: Establish Clear Governance and Guidance.

In mid-2010, with the support of Secretary Chu and Deputy Secretary Poneman, the Office of Public Affairs launched the New Media Office, to retool the Energy Department's online presence. While New Media is leading the Department's website reform efforts in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Information Officer, web management and new media staff across the Department have established the Energy Web Council to facilitate the sharing of ideas and web best practices, encourage collaboration and resource sharing, and keep us ahead of the curve in this ever-evolving space.

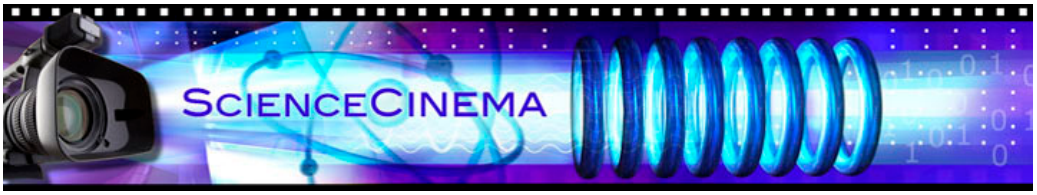
Ultimately, the website reform effort we've launched at the Energy Department aims to save taxpayers more than $10 million per year. Within the past year alone, we've saved taxpayers over $1 million by not building some new websites

and consolidating others.

However, as digital communications becomes even more central to delivering information and services to the public, the Energy Department will need to make new investments in this area. The process we are undertaking now will put those efforts on a much better footing -- rationalizing our approach, making it more strategic and avoiding costly redundancies and inefficiencies. This more strategic approach will get us more bang for the buck, ensuring the American public gets the information they need, while eliminating wasteful spending none of us can afford.

Expected Completion: In August 2011, the Department relaunched Energy.gov with localized information and resources for businesses and consumers as well as 16 subsets as part of the platform. In 2012 and 2013, more websites from nine additional program offices will be incorporated into the Energy.gov platform, allowing for a much richer content ecosystem and better serving customers with the information they are looking for.

New Initiative: ScienceCinema



Within science, the role of multimedia (videos, animation, interactive visualizations) is rapidly expanding as a means to record, share, and collaborate, and it is anticipated that multimedia will become an increasingly prominent form of scientific communications. The collection and dissemination of these new media types are essential elements for accelerating scientific knowledge and discovery. Although search tools for full text searching of scientific documents have existed for some time, these sophisticated techniques have not been leveraged with scientific multimedia . . . until now with ScienceCinema.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) developed ScienceCinema in a public/private collaboration with Microsoft Research. ScienceCinema uses innovative, state-of-the-art audio indexing and speech recognition technology from Microsoft Research to allow users to quickly find videos produced by the DOE National Laboratories and other DOE research facilities. When users search for specific scientific words and phrases, precise snippets of the video where the search terms were spoken will appear along with a timeline. Users can then select a snippet or a segment to begin playing the video at the exact point where the search term was spoken. The speech indexing offers time-saving efficiency to users who don't have to view an entire video if they are only interested in a specific topic within a lengthy video lecture, for example.

Energy Department National Laboratories can submit videos directly to OSTI for inclusion in ScienceCinema. Through continued collaboration with the

Laboratories, ScienceCinema supports openness and transparency initiatives within the multimedia environment, while allowing the Laboratories to expand their interactions with stakeholders and the general public. A year after its initial launch, ScienceCinema offers search of 1,600 videos on diverse topics such as climate change, green technologies, energy innovation, fusion science, and other key initiatives including Energy Frontier Research Centers. New indexing processes, just completed, will facilitate even more rapid growth in ScienceCinema and in the turnaround time between Lab video production and the ability to search on every spoken word in the videos.

ScienceCinema, and its audio indexing technology, also caught the attention of the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), which expressed interest in contributing videos for inclusion as well. Reaching another milestone in their long-standing scientific collaboration, the Energy Department and CERN partnered to increase public access to CERN's scientific multimedia through ScienceCinema. Over 800 multimedia files from CERN, covering all aspects of its research in particle physics, are also searchable via ScienceCinema.

As ScienceCinema continues to grow and expand with additional content from the Laboratories and other DOE research facilities, its pioneering search and retrieval capability for multimedia-based science will maximize the use and impact of the Department's research results. Through the use of this technology, scientific and research communities can now find relevant information amongst vast amounts of multimedia content.

Expected Completion: On-demand video-indexing implemented March 2012. Indexing service to accommodate additional video formats expected Winter 2012-2013.

PROGRESS ON OPEN GOVERNMENT PLAN 1.0 INITIATIVES

Outlined below are the primary projects included in the Energy Department's Open Government Plan 1.0. The outline includes a summary of each project as well as completion status.

Open Gov Project	Summary	Completion Status
The L-Prize Competition	The L Prize competition is the first government-sponsored technology competition designed to spur development of ultra-efficient solid-state lighting products to replace the common light bulb.	• 60W replacement completion completed August 2011. • Other competitions ongoing.
OpenNet	OpenNet provides easy, timely access to recently declassified documents, including information declassified in response to Freedom of Information Act requests.	• Ongoing.
Green Energy Portal	The Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) launched the Green Energy Portal in Spring 2010. The portal hosts green energy results from research and development conducted throughout the Department and by DOE-funded awards at universities. These green energy results consist of over 30,000 technical reports and over 2,000 patents from R&D projects representing an investment of several billion dollars.	• Launched Spring 2010. • Ongoing.
Solar Decathlon	The U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon challenges collegiate teams to design, build, and operate solar-powered houses that are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and	• 2011 Competition complete. • Ongoing – next competition

	attractive. The winner of the competition is the team that best blends affordability, consumer appeal, and design excellence with optimal energy production and maximum efficiency.	scheduled for October 2013.
Flagship Initiative: Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Data	As part of the Obama Administration's ongoing commitment to transparency surrounding the response to the BP oil spill, the Department of Energy provided online access to schematics, pressure tests, diagnostic results and other data about the malfunctioning blowout preventer. The site includes oil and gas collection data and high-definition footage of the oil leak.	• Completed November 2010.
Flagship Initiative: Open Energy Information	In December 2009, as part of its efforts to promote clean energy technologies, the Department of Energy launched Open Energy Information. This open-source web platform makes a range of DOE resources and open energy data widely available to the public. The free, editable and evolving wiki-platform enables the sharing of resources by government officials, the private sector, project developers, the international community and others.	• Launched December 2009. • Ongoing.
Flagship Initiative: ScienceEducation.gov	Early in 2010, the Department of Energy unveiled a beta version of a new interagency website with a web 2.0 platform, collecting the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education resources from several federal agencies. ScienceEducation.gov features STEM education information from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Oceanic and	• Launched Winter 2010. • Ongoing.

	Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and the Department of Energy.	
Flagship Initiative: EIA Energy Education and Literacy Initiative	In 2009, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) launched Energy Explained and a redesign of its popular Energy Kids website. Energy Explained offers an encyclopedia of energy topics. The site explains where gasoline comes from, what determines the price of electricity, how much renewable energy the United States uses, and hundreds of other energy topics. It also features a user "star rating" and commenting system to facilitate audience feedback and engagement and builds in viral marketing techniques to market the product and further get the word out. Energy Kids features more than 100 pages of fun educational content for kids, parents, and teachers. Kids can learn about energy and challenge their brains with energy Sudoku, crossword puzzles, and word searches. The site also features energy-related stories, hands-on activities, and research articles for the classroom. It has used audience polling to determine final designs for promotional materials for kids and crowdsourcing to solicit lesson plans from teachers and make them available on the site.	• Launched 2009. • Ongoing.

Transparency: Data.gov	The Department has established a Work Group to identify and develop high-value datasets that contain information that is distinctly different than already existing DOE datasets and publish that information via Data.gov. The Energy Information Administration and the Office of Science and Technical Information have made their High Value Datasets available through Data.gov.	• Ongoing.
Transparency: EIA.gov	The Energy Information Administration (EIA) is a statistical agency within the Department of Energy. EIA's mission is to provide policy-independent data, forecasts and analyses to promote sound policy making, efficient markets and public understanding on energy and its interaction with the economy and the environment. By law, the Energy Information Administration's products are developed independently and are not subject to clearance by the Department or other government agencies. EIA maintains and makes available on its public web site a large number of datasets. High-value datasets are also published through Data.gov.	• Ongoing.
Transparency: OSTI.gov	The Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) fulfills the agency's responsibilities to collect, preserve and disseminate scientific and technical information (STI) emanating from the Department's R&D activities. OSTI's mission is to advance science and creativity by making R&D findings available to the Department of Energy and other researchers and the public. In April 2007, OSTI introduced Science Accelerator, a searchable database of the Department's scientific and technical information, including research	• Ongoing.

	documents and summaries and results from DOE R&D projects. High-value datasets are also published through Data.gov.	
Transparency: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act	The Department of Energy's Recovery Act website provides detailed information on awardees, reports, guidance and contact information for inquiries.	• Ongoing
Transparency: DOE Loan Programs	The Department of Energy maintains updated information about the Loan Guarantee Program and the Advance Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Initiative Program (ATVMIP). A principal purpose of the Loan Guarantee Program is to encourage innovative and commercial use of new or significantly improved technologies in U.S. energy projects. ATVMIP provides loans to automobile manufacturers for the cost of re-equipping, expanding or establishing manufacturing facilities in the U.S. to produce advanced technology vehicles and qualified other components. DOE provides updated information about the progress of both programs including solicitation and application information, all offers of conditional commitments, and closed loans and loan guarantees.	• Ongoing.

Transparency: Fossil Energy R&D Project Database	The Department of Energy Office of Fossil Energy regularly manages more than 300 active research and development projects spanning a wide range of coal, petroleum and natural gas topics. The public can access information on each of these projects through the Fossil Energy Online Project Database.	• Ongoing.
Transparency: 2008 Presidential Transition Materials	During the 2008 Presidential Transition, four detailed volumes were prepared on the Department of Energy. These volumes are available online in the DOE Freedom of Information Act reading room, along with all other documents provided to the DOE Transition Team.	• Completed.
Transparency: Nuclear Waste Fund Fee Adequacy Reports	In February 2010, the Department of Energy General Counsel announced that all future determinations about the adequacy of the Nuclear Waste Fund Fee will be made available to the public on the DOE website, starting with a fee adequacy determination for 2008.	• Ongoing.
Transparency: Patent Waivers and Ex Parte Communications Postings	The Department of Energy General Counsel's office grants patent waivers, which determine the ownership of patents generated under DOE awards. DOE is required by law to make waiver determinations public. Patent waiver determinations are posted on the Department of Energy General Counsel website. In October 2009, the Office of General Counsel released guidance on exparte communications (i.e., written, electronic, or oral communication that is not provided to all interested parties) during informal	• Ongoing.

	rulemaking proceedings. Memos concerning ex parte communications must be emailed to expartecommunications@hq.doe.gov.	
Transparency: EIA Data Sets	• Annual 2008 U.S. Crude Oil, Natural Gas, and Natural Gas Liquids Reserve • Natural Gas Price Data • 1949-2008 Heating Degree-Days by Month • 1949-2008 Cooling Degree-Days by Month • Annual 2008 Shipments of Solar Thermal Collectors by Market Sector, End Use, Type • Annual 2008 Electric Sales, Revenue, and Price – Table 10 • Annual 2008 Net Generation by State by Type of Producer by Energy Source	• Completed.
Transparency: OSTI Data Sets	• DOE Green Energy Data Service • Information Bridge XML Data Service • Energy Citations Database XML Data Service • DOEpatents XML Data Service • Geothernal/Geothermal Legacy Data XML Data Service	• Completed.

Transparency: DOE Health, Safety and Security Datasets	The Department of Energy's Office of Health, Safety and Security (HSS) is deploying a business intelligence (BI) tool to analyze datasets from the Computerized Accident/Incident Report System, the Occurrence Reporting and Process System and the eDOE Information Security System. The business intelligence tool will be used to make the three datasets publicly available on a searchable website over the course of the next few years.	• Completed.
Transparency: Environmental Management Newsletter	Since last year, the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management (EM) has published the EM Update Newsletter twice each month on projects and programs funded by EM's $6 billion base program. The EM American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Newsletter is published each month and focuses on Recovery Act-funded EM programs and related job creation. These newsletters are emailed to key stakeholder groups and are posted on the EM webpage.	• Ongoing.
Transparency: National Environmental Policy Act Categorical Exclusions	The Department of Energy's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Program fosters public participation and engagement through several features, such as the Public Participation Calendar, online draft and final NEPA documents, Lessons Learned Quarterly Reports and NEPA Document Status and Schedules. In October 2009, the Department adopted a new policy requiring online publication of Categorical Exclusion (CX) NEPA determinations. The Department of Energy is the first Federal agency to systematically publish its Categorical Exclusions on its website. The General Counsel's office can host workshops and	• Ongoing.

	webcasts to help interested agencies adopt similar policies.	
Transparency: Records Management	The Department of Energy Records Management Program ensures compliance with existing Federal requirements, by promoting the management of records throughout their life cycle in an economical, efficient and effective manner.	• Ongoing.
Transparency: National Library of Energy	The Department of Energy continues to explore the feasibility of establishing a National Library of Energy (NLE) as a national resource to advance energy literacy, innovation and security. In addition to its public-facing open government benefits, in collaboration with DOE's Chief Learning Officer, it would effectively serve the DOE community as a virtual learning and continuing education facility. If funding can be secured, the NLE will be operated as a virtual library using federated search technology to retrieve decentralized information from DOE offices and national laboratories. Thereby, it will be a low-cost, modern alternative to a centralized, physical structure, while delivering superior service. The NLE will be an easy-to-use, transparent pathway to information about the vital work that DOE and its program offices, national laboratories, and other facilities have done,	• Ongoing.

	currently are doing, and plan to do to advance the Department's mission on behalf of the American people.	
Transparency: Energy Department FOIA Portal	The DOE is committed to improving its FOIA performance, by favoring disclosure and transparency, engaging DOE's leadership and staff more fully, working cooperatively with FOIA requesters, anticipating interest in records before requests are made and making requested records available promptly. Previously, FOIA materials are available in 20 different DOE Reading Rooms. The documents have been consolidated into one searchable database and placed on the FOIA Portal. Public users are now capable of conducting subject matter requests and viewing all documents that are related to the subject matter that have been released under FOIA. In addition, public users can register their interests and receive notifications of relevant FOIA records as they are made available. This reduces the number of duplicative requests as well as providing the public with a one stop search for records of interest. The Portal also helps DOE officials understand the needs and interests of the public.	• Launched Spring 2011. • Ongoing.

Participation: Social Media Tools	Secretary of Energy Steven Chu and the Department of Energy are using Energy.gov, Facebook, Youtube, and other new media tools to educate and engage the public about the Department's plans and priorities.	• Ongoing.
Participation: Small Business Conferences/Summits	Office of Economic Impact and Diversity assists small businesses that are interested in working with the Department of Energy. In 2012, instead of holding a single national conference, the Department is spreading out across the country, partnering with its National Laboratories and field sites to bring Regional Small Business Summits to local areas. These Small Business Summits will bring small business owners and Departmental small business advocates together to talk about the best ways the Department can partner with the small business community.	• Ongoing.
Participation: Advanced Projects Research Agency –Energy (ARPA-E)	The Advanced Projects Research Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) was authorized by the 2007 America COMPETES Act to fund projects that will reduce our nation's dependence on foreign energy imports, curb U.S. energy-related emissions, and improve energy efficiency across all sectors of the U.S. economy. In March 2010, the Department of Energy hosted the inaugural ARPA-E Energy Innovation Summit in Washington, DC as an opportunity for the country's energy leaders to share ideas and identify key technology opportunities in the field. The Summit has become an annual event.	• ARPA-E's Energy Innovation Summits are held annually.

Participation: Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF)	The Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF) is an international initiative focusing on the development of cost-effective carbon sequestration technologies. CSLF was created in 2004 by the Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy. Membership is open to national government entities, and CSLF is currently comprised of 23 countries and the European Commission. The Forum features an online Registry of CSLF Stakeholders, and CSLF meetings are open to the public.	• Ongoing.
Participation: EnergyEmpowers.gov	The Department's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) developed a new service blog to share stories from American citizens, businesses and towns that are pushing the limits of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.	• The site was consolidated into Energy.gov in December 2010 and the content continues via the Energy Blog.
Participation: Enforcement and Verification of Appliance Energy and Water Conservation Standards	As part of the Department of Energy's efforts to step up enforcement and verification of appliance energy and water conservation standards, the Office of General Counsel has created a web resources and email, energyefficiencyenforcement@hq.doe.gov, where the public can report an appliance regulation violation.	• Ongoing.
Participation: DOE Office of Science Committees of Visitors	The Department of Energy's Office of Science has established at least one Federal Advisory Committee for each of its science programs in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972. These expert committees provide independent advice to the Director of the Office of Science on scientific and technical issues relating to the Offices of	• Ongoing.

	Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Basic Energy Sciences, Biological and Environmental Research, Fusion Energy Sciences, High Energy Physics and Nuclear Physics. Federal Advisory Committees manage Committees of Visitors (COV), which assess Office of Science programs on a regular basis.	
Collaboration: Multilingual WorldWideScience.org	In June 2010, the Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) launched the beta version of Multilingual WorldWideScience.org at the International Council for Scientific and Technical Information annual conference in Helsinki, Finland. The site offers real-time searching and translation of globally-dispersed collections of scientific literature. This new capability is the result of an international public-private partnership between the WorldWideScience.org Alliance and the Microsoft Research. Multilingual WorldWideScience.org builds on its previous English-only capabilities to allow users to search non-English databases in China, Russia, France and several Latin American countries and receive search results translated into one of nine languages, including English, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Korea, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian.	• Ongoing.

Collaboration: State Energy Efficiency (SEE) Action Network	In February 2010, the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) jointly announced the creation of the State Energy Efficiency (SEE) Action Network to help states achieve maximum cost-effective energy efficiency improvements in homes, offices and buildings by 2020. The SEE Action Network will drive energy efficiency through a set of goals developed in the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency.	• Ongoing.
Collaboration: DOE and NSF Collaboration on Large Hadron Collider	U.S. participation in the design and construction of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN in Geneva, Switzerland is supported by the Department of Energy's Office of Science and the National Science Foundation (NSF). More than 1,700 scientists, engineers and graduate students from U.S. universities and national laboratories have participated in six LHC experiments. DOE and NSF have developed a website highlighting American participation in LHC experiments.	• Ongoing.
Collaboration: DOE Science News via the AAAS EurekAlert!	EurekAlert! is an online global news service operated by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Through collaboration with the Department of Energy Office of Science, EurekAlert! features "Department of Energy Science News" with press releases and information about research advances funded by the Department.	• Ongoing.

Collaboration: Energy Information Administration	The Energy Information Administration (EIA) partners with a number of organizations and stakeholder groups. Examples of EIA's leadership in collaboration include: - Partnering with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) to host the EIA's International Energy Outlook; - Collaborating with National Energy Education Development (NEED) to promote educational materials and lesson plans for teachers and students; etc.	• Ongoing.
Collaboration: Science.gov	The Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) launched Science.gov in December 2002 as an interagency initiative among 18 U.S. government science organizations within 14 Federal agencies. This website serves the information needs of science professionals, students, educators and the business community. Now in its fifth generation, Science.gov features over 40 databases.	• Ongoing.

CONCLUSION

The Energy Department recognizes that transparency, partnership and collaboration are critical to the success of the Department and the nation. The Department will continue employing these principles in our strategic planning and operations, but it needs the help of the American people. Please continue the conversation about open government at the Energy Department at www.facebook.com/stevenchu and send your ideas on how the Department can improve its Open Government Plan and initiatives to open@hq.doe.gov.