

Department of Energy

Fiscal Year 2022 Conference Activity

Conferences play an important role in advancing the Department of Energy's (DOE) priorities by providing opportunities for collaboration with academia, the scientific community, and other stakeholders on our national security, environment, energy, and science missions. While conferences serve a valuable purpose, DOE continues to manage conference activity in a cost-effective manner that demonstrates responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

To ensure costs were appropriately controlled when sponsoring and approving participation in a conference, DOE confirmed that all conference activity supported the Department's mission, costs were authorized, and conference planners, Agency sponsors, and attendees understood their responsibility to conserve funds. The Department adhered to widely accepted cost control measures such as ensuring conference attendance was necessary, encouraging the use of Federal Facilities, consolidation of conferences, limitation of food and beverage, early planning, exploring the feasibility of conducting virtual and hybrid conferences, and adhering to government travel restrictions.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, seven (7) Program Offices within the Department hosted a total of nine (9) Agency-Sponsored reportable conferences. They reflect mission-related conference activity by the Department as it moves forward, closer to the important conference activity as reported in the pre-pandemic timeframe.

Department of Energy
Fiscal Year 2022 Conference Activity

	Purpose of Conference	Date of Conference	Location	State, Country	DOE Attendees	Total Net Costs
2022 Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy (ARPA-E) Energy Innovation Summit	The 2022 ARPA-E Energy Innovation Summit was dedicated to transformative energy solutions. This annual event brought together leaders from academia, business, and government to discuss cutting-edge energy issues and facilitate relationships to move technologies towards the marketplace. As such, this meeting was an important forum for DOE to share new ideas and information with academia, industry, and government representatives and accelerate transformational energy solutions to better advance U.S. economic and energy security goals. The objective was in direct alignment with the interests, goals, and mission of DOE and ARPA-E.	23 – 25 May, 2022	Aurora	CO, US	293	\$650,104
Summit: ArcticX Committing to a Sustainable Arctic	The event took place at the Dena’ina Center in Anchorage, this summit focused on driving energy technologies for a more sustainable Arctic region. Attendees from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Alaska Native communities, national laboratories, and Arctic businesses gathered to leverage the strength and knowledge of local entrepreneurs to advance energy affordability, reliability, and innovation. The connections forged will further DOE’s mission of promoting a just energy transition in the Arctic and around the world.	23 – 23 May, 2022	Anchorage	AL, US	58	\$173,665

Conference Title	Purpose of Conference	Date of Conference	Location	State, Country	DOE Attendees	Total Net Costs
Workshop on Fusion Energy Development via Public-Private Partnerships	<p>The purpose of this workshop is to have focused discussions with stakeholders from national laboratories, the private sector, universities, and other organizations regarding the implementation of a new fusion-development public-private-partnership (PPP) program, including a milestone-based PPP. These discussions will inform both near-term Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) and longer-term strategies as part of a bold decadal plan to accelerate fusion energy RD&D (research, development, and demonstration) and realize a commercially relevant fusion pilot plant (FPP). This workshop represents the first step following the White House Summit (March 17, 2022) on Developing a Bold Decadal Vision for Commercial Fusion Energy.</p>	1 - 3 June, 2022	Washington	DC, US	84	\$317,147
2022 DOE Cybersecurity and Technology Innovation Conference	<p>The DOE Cybersecurity and Technology Innovation Conference was designed to bring together the DOE enterprise, the federal interagency, academia, international partners, and private industry to advance cybersecurity and information technology (IT), and information sharing efforts across DOE's diverse and shared missions. Attendees included DOE Federal employees, contractors from DOE Headquarters to support the conference, employees from the National Laboratories, plants, sites, and the Administrations, as well as federal employees from across the interagency, academic partners, international representatives, and private industry—anyone working at the forefront of IT, innovation, and cybersecurity.</p>	13 – 16 June, 2022	Portland	OR, USA	392	\$761,526

Conference Title	Purpose of Conference	Date of Conference	Location	State, Country	DOE Attendees	Total Net Costs
8th Workshop on Signatures of Man-Made Isotope Production (WOSMIP VIII)	This event aimed to support the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO PrepCom) International Monitoring System (IMS) and International Data Centre (IDC), and unite experts from radioisotope and nuclear explosion monitoring communities for a 4-day scientific meeting. This provided a unique forum for technical discussions and collaborations to discuss the impact of radioisotopes released from civil and industrial sources on nuclear explosion monitoring in support of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), IMS, and IDC.	20 – 23 June, 2022	Stockholm	Sweden	15	\$146,532
2022 6th Annual Cost Estimating Community of Practice (CECOP) Symposium	The symposium provided an opportunity for cost estimating personnel from Headquarters and all the Management & Operating sites, and other federal and contractor project management staff to receive information and training on cost estimating activities, requirements, and best practices. It also provided a forum for Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE) estimating analysis and modeling personnel to engage with colleagues and leadership to share experiences and lessons learned from across the nuclear security enterprise. The symposium contributed to the path DOE is following to be removed from the GAO's "High- Risk List."	2 – 3 Aug, 2022	Washington	DC, US	157	\$246,343

Conference Title	Purpose of Conference	Date of Conference	Location	State, Country	DOE Attendees	Total Net Costs
2022 Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group (EMI SIG) Annual Meeting	This year was the 36th EMI SIG Annual Meeting where emergency management professionals and response subject matter experts throughout the Enterprise, along with local, state, federal and international stakeholders assembled. The meeting goal was to identify common policy issues, standard procedures, current initiatives, lessons learned and best practices to better implement continuity of operations and emergency management programs across the Department in support of the DOE/NNSA mission and Emergency Management Enterprise goals.	22 – 26 Aug, 2022	San Jose	CA, US	134	\$556,325
Global Clean Energy Action Forum (GCEAF) - Clean Energy Ministerial 13 (CEM-13) Mission Innovation 7 (MI-7)	This event was hosted as a joint ministerial. CEM and MI together consists of 31 countries that work closely with the private sector, industry, research institutions, finance institutions, and philanthropic organizations. Their objective, as in the past, was to drive deployment and innovation of energy efficiency and clean energy, including renewables, nuclear, and abated fossil energy.	21 – 23 Sept, 2022	Pittsburgh	PA, US	113	\$404,287

Conference Title	Purpose of Conference	Date of Conference	Location	State, Country	DOE Attendees	Total Net Costs
Energy Storage Grand Challenge Summit	<p>The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) launched its Energy Storage Grand Challenge (ESGC) in 2020, presenting a comprehensive set of objectives and coordinated activities to ensure an efficient transition to ubiquitous energy storage in a decarbonized energy system of our near future. With an emphasis on concepts of "innovate here, build here, deploy everywhere," the aggressive goal of the ESGC is to develop and domestically manufacture energy storage technologies that can meet all U.S. market demands by 2030. Five integrated tracks have been established to ensure coordination among the various DOE offices and the Research & Development activities of the national laboratories. Subsequent DOE-led Earthshots have prioritized energy storage as a key factor in the Biden Administration's transition to a clean and equitable energy system. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2022 has provided a mechanism to build partnerships across governments, industry, academia, and communities to achieve these goals.</p>	27 – 28 Sept, 2022	Lemont	IL, US	102	\$225,984

Compelling and Unique Circumstances for events
exceeding \$500K in total DOE Net Cost

2022 ARPA-E Energy Innovation Summit
Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center
Aurora, CO

Compelling and unique circumstances that warrant a waiver

The 2022 Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) Energy Innovation Summit is dedicated to transformative energy solutions. This annual event brings together leaders from academia, business, and government to discuss cutting-edge energy issues and facilitate relationships to move technologies towards the marketplace. As such, this meeting is an important forum for DOE to share new ideas and information with academia, industry, and government representatives and accelerate transformational energy solutions to better advance U.S. economic and energy security goals. This objective is in direct alignment with the interests, goals, and mission of DOE and ARPA-E.

This meeting will allow the Department and its representatives to advance energy related science and technology, and participate in technology transfer and outreach activities, including: 1) presentation of ARPA-E-funded R&D projects; 2) participation in discussion panels; 3) collaborative engagement with representatives from industry, academia, and government; and 4) sharing best practices on core concepts and skills to transition and accelerate ARPA-E projects to the next stage of development and market adoption.

The Agency has more active and alumni prime- and sub-award recipients from DOE National Laboratories that could benefit from the Summit's focused technology transfer programming and collaboration opportunities. This waiver will allow ARPA-E to ensure that the National Laboratories can showcase their ARPA-E-funded projects instead of ARPA-E significantly limiting attendees from the National Laboratories. This waiver will also ensure that relevant technology transfer and licensing personnel from the National Laboratories can attend the event.

Secretarial Conference Waiver

Based on the above representations of the Acting Director of ARPA-E, I have determined that exceptional circumstances exist whereby spending in excess of \$500,000 on attendance at this conference is the most cost-effective option to achieving a compelling purpose.



David M. Turk
Deputy Secretary of Energy

09/03/21

Date

2022 DOE Cybersecurity and Technology Innovation Conference
Portland Hilton Downtown, Portland, OR
June 13 - 16, 2022

Compelling and unique circumstances that warrant a waiver:

The DOE Cybersecurity and Technology Innovation Conference is an annual capstone event designed to strengthen relationships, expand upon cybersecurity and innovation strategies and tactics with our geographically dispersed partners, provide development opportunities and promote a diverse workforce by sharing best practices and lessons learned. The event will drive the technology roadmap for a new hybrid workplace environment. The agenda is being crafted to advance innovation and cyber priorities in a way that dovetails with the Secretary's goals of combating the climate crisis, creating clean energy union jobs, and promoting energy justice.

Attendees will include DOE Federal employees, contractors from DOE Headquarters to support the conference, employees from the National Laboratories, plants, sites, and the Administrations, as well as federal employees from across the interagency, academic partners, international representatives, and private industry—anyone who is working at the forefront of IT, innovation, and cybersecurity.

Since 2004, OCIO has hosted these conferences to address critical technology innovation and cybersecurity issues for DOE. The conferences provide timely opportunities for stakeholders to evaluate their individual program, office, or site efforts from a broader enterprise perspective, and enable collaboration across the shared mission space.

OCIO will host this year's Cybersecurity and Technology Innovation Conference June 13 – 16, 2022 in Portland, Oregon. To protect the health and safety of all conference attendees, OCIO will host a hybrid conference in 2022, which will allow for both in-person and virtual attendance. Even with a virtual component, conference in-person attendance is anticipated to total more than 500 in-person attendees and will require an investment of over \$500,000.


Since the last conference, DOE has experienced significant cyber events, such as the Log4j and SolarWinds incidents and continues to deal with escalating cyber threats, elevating the prominence of DOE's cybersecurity mission space. DOE's leadership in scaling technology modernization and innovation across the Enterprise continues apace, with the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Government Reform inviting CIO Dunkin to testify on DOE's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) scores and recommend changes to FITARA. The 2022 Conference agenda will be developed with substantial input from across the DOE enterprise, and each session will be crafted to drive innovation and cyber priorities in a way that dovetails with the Secretary's goals of combating the climate crisis, creating clean energy union jobs, and promoting energy justice. The Conference will be a venue for training and practical exercises to enhance the capabilities of the IT and cyber workforce and equip DOE enterprise employees with best practices and lessons learned, which they will take back to their respective offices.

Conference Waiver

Based on the above representations of the Chief Information Officer, I have determined that exceptional circumstances exist whereby spending in excess of \$500,000 on attendance at the 2022 Cybersecurity and Technology Innovation Conference is the most cost-effective option to achieve a compelling purpose.



Deputy Secretary of Energy



Date

2022 Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group (EMI SIG) Annual Meeting
San Jose Marriott, San Jose, CA
August 22 – 26, 2022

Compelling and unique circumstances that warrant a waiver:

Since 1986, EMI SIG has been a nationally recognized and highly respected organization within the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA). It has provided a unique platform that serves as a hub for subject matter experts across all disciplines, and representatives from all DOE sites, to network, collaborate, support, and learn from their professional counterparts.

Many DOE accomplishments are directly attributed to the EMI SIG subcommittee contributions, including the rewrite of DOE Order 151.1D, *Comprehensive Emergency Management System* and its implementation complex-wide; review and revision of the Emergency Management Guides associated with DOE Order 151.1D; writing and revising the Criteria and Review Approach Documents (CRADs); and development of emergency management training and products used to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the DOE emergency response throughout its labs, plants, and sites.

EMI SIG members are essential to ensuring that the DOE is trained and prepared to respond to any site or national emergency involving its assets or personnel. In addition, it works to ensure that DOE emergency response personnel are ready to fold in to the whole-of-government response to a national emergency.

Throughout the year, subcommittee interactions take place through monthly virtual meetings. The subcommittees commit to create value-added products that will enhance the DOE community. The capstone of all these contributions is the EMI SIG Annual Meeting: an opportunity to recognize and showcase their arduous work and achievements.

San Jose, CA was selected as this year's city due to its proximity to Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory, and the California branch of Sandia National Laboratories. These four laboratories will partner together to co-host social events and networking opportunities designed to strengthen relationships with our geographically dispersed members.

NA-40 will host a hybrid annual meeting in 2022, which will allow for both in-person and virtual attendance. Unlike previous annual meetings, it will combine the pre-COVID in-person experience together with the all-virtual events hosted in 2020 and 2021. This combination will create a more robust experience for its 1,200 members to collect insight, technical and non-technical support, and facilitate communication, coordination and collaboration between DOE contractors, federal employees, and DOE/NNSA Headquarters on emergency management topics of interest and shared needs.

Conference Waiver

Based on the above representations from the Office of Emergency Operations, I have determined that exceptional circumstances exist whereby spending in excess of \$500,000 on attendance at the 2022 EMI SIG Annual Meeting is the most cost-effective option to achieve a compelling purpose.



Deputy Secretary of Energy

04/26/22

Date