

The Office of Strategic Programs (OSP) increases the overall effectiveness and impact of all EERE activities through key cross-cutting initiatives and strategic analysis, communications, and technology-to-market activities. OSP’s work directly contributes to EERE’s mission, facilitates and amplifies the successes of EERE technology offices, and soundly and consistently informs the Assistant Secretary’s decisions.

What We Do

OSP performs four critical functions that cut across EERE programs:

- ✓ **Accelerates commercialization and market adoption of EERE technologies**, reduces key market barriers, and assists private-sector pursuit of first-market opportunities through partnerships with universities, small businesses, non-profits, national laboratories, venture capital companies, entrepreneurs, and state/local governments.
- ✓ **Provides a robust portfolio-based analytical foundation** by conducting analyses that evaluate different technology research and policy portfolios and investing in retrospective and prospective evaluations of EERE impacts.
- ✓ **Catalyzes international markets** for U.S. clean energy products through technical and policy assistance, analysis, and promotion of standards, test procedures, and certifications used in the United States.
- ✓ **Communicates objectively and transparently** to multiple stakeholder groups and the public about EERE’s portfolio, resources and activities. OSP staff also help to accelerate adoption of new technologies and processes.

Program Goals/Metrics

Technology-to-Market

- Continue to scale up Lab-Corps, an effort to foster a culture of market-based commercialization among national laboratory researchers, from the FY 2014-2015 pilot to a broader effort that engages additional national laboratories.

- Continue the Technologist in Residence pilot, which pairs national laboratory researchers with manufacturing, encouraging the partners to forge long-term relationships with national laboratories that result in high-impact collaborative research and development.
- Build out the “middle ground” of commercialization support between early-stage concept and deployment with new programming that builds collaboration between technology developers and other pillars of the U.S. innovation ecosystem.
- Continue working closely with other agencies such as the Department of the Interior on the Energy Transition Initiative (ETI). This program would expand planning and deployment efforts to Alaska and deepen engagement with Puerto Rico. ETI will maintain its key relationships with partners like Hawaii to provide decision support tools and lessons learned for other locations in the U.S. looking to pursue ambitious sustainable energy goals.

Strategic Priorities and Impact Analysis

- Complete at least four new retrospective impact and Return On Investment (ROI) evaluation studies that quantify EERE impact and guide future EERE program implementation.
- Provide core funding to support the Clean Energy Manufacturing Analysis Center (CEMAC) to develop, conduct, and issue cutting-edge clean energy manufacturing analysis.
- Support joint efforts with the Office of Nuclear Energy to explore the industrial scale integrated energy systems utilizing both renewable and nuclear energy technologies.

International

- Develop clean energy markets for U.S. manufacturers through policy and technical assistance on grid integration of renewables, building code development and enforcement, and PV reliability standards in partnership with major emerging economies.
- Continue sponsorship of joint clean energy research under the U.S.-Israel Energy Cooperative Agreement.

(Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Requested
Technology-to-Market	\$6,263	\$5,974	\$11,500
Strategic Priorities and Impact Analysis	\$6,506	\$6,769	\$6,000
International	\$3,682	\$3,789	\$6,000
Communications and Outreach	\$4,549	\$4,468	\$4,500
Total, Strategic Programs	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$28,000

Communications

- Expands support for digital communications, including social media, video storytelling, and website enhancements.

Key Accomplishments

- Completed the first Lab Corps pilot aimed at empowering researchers to commercialize their laboratory work and promote an entrepreneurial culture at the national laboratories. One participant claimed that “six weeks in Lab Corps is equal to 6-12 months of bench work in the lab.”
- Launched the Small Business Vouchers pilot aimed at improving small business’s awareness of—and affordable access to—DOE laboratory intellectual and physical assets to advance DOE’s clean energy mission. The first round of competition closed in October 2015. In one month, more than 900 accounts were created by small businesses on www.sbv.org and 462 requests for assistance were received by EERE.
- Launched the Cleantech University Prize (Cleantech UP), which helps students develop entrepreneurial skills to move clean energy technologies to the marketplace. Cleantech UP is composed of a national training center—the Cleantech UP Hub—and eight annual Cleantech UP Collegiate Competitions for cash prizes. The Cleantech UP Hub then hosts the winning teams at a national competition for student start-ups. The initiative builds on its precursor—the DOE National Clean Energy Business Plan Competition, which from 2011 to 2014, expanded student engagement in clean energy technologies and attracted more than 1,000 teams, resulting in more than 70 ventures, 120 jobs, and \$60 million in follow-on funding.
- Supported the Solar Decathlon, a competition that challenges college teams to design, build, and operate cost-effective, energy-efficient, and attractive solar-powered homes using commercially available technologies.
- Released a report quantifying the benefits and some impacts of renewable portfolio standards (RPS) in the United States in 2013. The report—one in a series of reports—found benefits from reduced greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution alone of \$7.4 billion in 2013. While not directly comparable, a previous study found the annual costs of compliance with RPS policies to be only \$1 billion, indicating that the benefits of RPS policies vastly exceed the costs of compliance.
- Partnered with U.S. industry representatives and technical experts to support the development of South Africa’s first national standard for cool surfaces, including rooftops and other applications. The newly adopted standard, which is consistent with specifications in the U.S., helps cut greenhouse gas emissions and creates new opportunities for American businesses.
- Published a Market Opportunity Analysis for use of energy performance contracts (EPC) in China and the U.S., a combined \$20 billion market. Recognized three exemplary EPC pilot projects in China with deep energy savings ranging from 25% to 51%, reflecting millions of dollars in potential trade and investment.
- Provided technical assistance in grid modeling that Chinese officials used to increase their domestic deployment targets—doubling the cap on maximum wind penetration and nearly doubling the 2015 solar PV deployment target (from 20 GW to 35 GW).
- Catalogued more than 2,200 news stories on EERE accomplishments in 2015 and appeared in publications such as the *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Newsweek*, and *The Boston Globe*. Of these articles, the “Top 10” had a potential reach of 36 million print and 46.6 million online readers.