

# **Basic Science for Advanced Energy**

**Advanced Energy 2009** 

November 18, 2009

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Division of Materials Sciences and Engineering Office of Basic Energy Sciences, Office of Science U.S. Department of Energy

# **Basic Energy Sciences Mission**

## **Mission:**

- Fundamental research to understand, predict, and ultimately control matter and energy at the electronic, atomic, and molecular levels
- Provide the foundations for new energy technologies to support DOE's missions in energy, environment, and national security
- Plan, construct, and operate world-leading scientific user facilities for the Nation

## **Priorities:**

- Discover and design new materials and molecular assemblies with novel function, through atom-by-atom and molecule-by-molecule control
- Conceptualize, calculate, and predict processes underlying physical and chemical transformations
- Probe, understand, and control the interactions of phonons, photons, electrons, and ions with matter to direct and control energy flow in materials and chemical systems
- To foster integration of the basic research with research in the DOE technology programs and NNSA







# BES Scientific User Facilities: Resources for Energy Research



- 4 Synchrotron Radiation Light Sources
- Linac Coherent Light Source (Under construction)
- 3 Neutron Sources
- 3 Electron Beam Microcharacterization Centers
- 5 Nanoscale Science Research Centers

# Strategic Planning Basic Research Needs To Assure A Secure Energy Future



BESAC Basic Research Needs to Assure A Secure Energy Future Report February 2003

### World's energy needs will more than double by 2050

- Increasing demands for "clean" energy sources
  - Reduce atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels
- Challenges cannot be fully met by existing technologies
- Scientific breakthroughs are required to provide reliable, economic solutions

## 2003 Workshop and Report

- Indentified broad, basic research directions to support the scientific advances to resolve major energy technological changes
- Series of ten follow-on Basic Research Needs workshops
  - >1,500 participants from universities, industry, and federal laboratories
  - In-depth analyses of scientific research that can further our Nation's most challenging energy missions



# Strategies: Ten "Basic Research Needs ...." Workshops



Report of the Report of the Resolution Defenses Production Defense



Hydrogen Economy Solar Energy Utilization Superconductivity Solid State Lighting Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems Clean and Efficient Combustion of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Transportation Fuels Geosciences: Facilitating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Energy Systems Electrical Energy Storage Catalysis for Energy Applications Materials under Extreme Environments

for Advanced Nuclear

Energy Systems

Report of the Basic Energy

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# Directing Matter and Energy: Five Challenges for Science and the Imagination



- Control the quantum behavior of electrons in materials
- Synthesize, atom by atom, new forms of matter with tailored properties
- Control emergent properties that arise from the complex correlations of atomic and electronic constituents
- Synthesize man-made nanoscale objects with capabilities rivaling those of living things
- Control matter very far away from equilibrium



# New Science for a Secure and Sustainable Energy Future



## Goals :

- Make fuels from sunlight
  - Generate electricity without carbon dioxide emissions
- Revolutionize energy efficiency and use

### **Recommendations:**

- Work at the intersection of control science and complex functional materials
- Increase the rate of discoveries
- Establish "dream teams" of talent, equipped with forefront tools, and focused on the most pressing challenges to increase the rate of discovery
- Recruit the best talent through workforce development to inspire today's students and young researchers to be the discoverers, inventors, and innovators of tomorrow's energy solutions



# **Energy Sustainability and Control Science**



# Priority: Science and Discovery Invest in science to achieve transformational discoveries

## Focus on transformational science

- -Connect basic and applied sciences
- -Double the Office of Science budget
- -Embrace a degree of risk-taking in research
- -Create an effective mechanisms to integrate university, national laboratory, and industry activities

## Develop science and engineering talent

Train the next generation of scientists and engineers
Attract and retain the most talented researchers

## Collaborate universally

- -Partner globally
- -Support the developing world
- -Build research networks across departments, government, nation and the globe



# **Energy Frontier Research Centers**

## Tackling Our Energy Challenges in a New Era of Science

- To engage the talents of the nation's researchers for the broad energy sciences
- To accelerate the scientific breakthroughs needed to create advanced energy technologies for the 21st century
- To pursue the fundamental understanding necessary to meet the global need for abundant, clean, and economical energy

46 centers awarded (\$777M over 5 years), representing 102 participating institutions in 36 states and D.C.

Pursue *collaborative* basic research that addresses both energy challenges and science grand challenges in areas such as:

- Solar Energy Utilization
- Combustion
- Bio-Fuels
- Catalysis
- Energy Storage
- Solid State Lighting



Geosciences for Energy Applications

- Superconductivity
- Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems
- Materials Under Extreme Environments
- Hydrogen



# **Energy Frontier Research Centers**

46 centers awarded, representing 102 participating institutions in 36 states plus D.C Energy Frontier Research Center Locations ( \* Leads; • Participants)



# Northeastern Chemical Energy Storage Center (NECESC) Clare Grey (Stony Brook University)

Summary statement: A fundamental understanding of how key electrode reactions occur, and how they can be controlled will be developed, so as to identify critical structural and physical properties that are vital to improving battery performance; this information will be used to optimize and design new electrode materials.



## **RESEARCH PLAN AND DIRECTIONS**

The processes that occur in batteries are complex, spanning a wide range of time and length scales. The assembled team of experimentalists and theorists will make use of, and develop new spectroscopy, scattering, imaging and theoretical methodologies to determine how electrodes function in real time, as batteries are cycled.







## Center for Emergent Superconductivity Seamus Davis (Brookhaven National Lab)

The objectives of CES are to explore and develop higher temperature and higher critical current superconductivity with the potential for application to a superconducting power grid.



CES RESEARCH PLAN AND DIRECTIONS

CES research will be directed towards three key areas: finding new strongly correlated superconducting materials, understanding the mechanisms leading to higher temperature superconductivity, and controlling vortex matter so as to raise the loss-less current carrying performance of these superconductors.













## Re-Defining Photovoltaic Efficiency Through Molecule Scale Control James Yardley (Columbia University)

The Columbia EFRC will create enabling technology to re-define efficiency in nanostructured thinfilm organic photovoltaic devices through fundamental understanding and through molecule-scale control of charge formation, separation, extraction, and transport.



## **RESEARCH PLAN AND DIRECTIONS**

Fundamental understanding of photo-physical and kinetic properties on the nanoscale will allow us to design systems for efficient photovoltaic generation and separation of charges. By using new conducting materials such as graphene we can transport these charges to macroscopic electrical systems, providing basis for revolutionary low cost, high efficiency devices.



## Energy Materials Center at Cornell (EMC<sup>2</sup>) Héctor D. Abruña (Cornell University)

Summary statement: We aim to achieve a detailed understanding, via a combination of synthesis of new materials, experimental and computational approaches, of how the nature, structure, and dynamics of nanostructured interfaces affect energy generation, conversion and storage with emphasis on fuel cells and batteries.



## **RESEARCH PLAN AND DIRECTIONS**

The major challenges relate to materials performance in energy generation, conversion and storage technologies especially fuel cells and batteries. To address these, we will prepare and characterize novel nanoscale materials including ordered intermetallic phases and "atomically engineered" complex oxides. These will be characterized through novel experimental tools and computational platforms.





Cornell University

#### Center for Electrocatalysis, Transport Phenomena, and Materials for Innovative Energy Storage Dr. Grigorii Soloveichik (GE Global Research)

Electrocatalysis, transport phenomena and membrane materials research aime to three novel components of an entirely new high-density energy storage systen combining the best properties of a fuel cell and a flow battery: organic carriers, electro(de)hydrogenation catalysts, and compatible PEM



Yale

UNIVERSIT

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**RESEARCH PLAN AND DIRECTIONS** 

Challenges: Effective electrocatalysts for (de)hydrogenation of organic carriers Transport of protons and electrons Compatibility of cell components

Approaches: Combination of modeling, synthetic chemistry and electrochemistry Unique aspects: Using PEM fuel cell with organic carriers instead hydrogen gas Potential outcome: High-density mobile and stationary energy storage systems

STANFORD

VERSITY



## Polymer-Based Materials for Harvesting Solar Energy T. P. Russell, P. Lahti (U. Massachusetts)

Summary statement: Maximize the collection and conversion efficiency of a broad frequency range of the solar spectrum using the guided self-assembly of polymer-based materials so as to optimize the design and fabrication of inexpensive devices.



### **RESEARCH PLAN AND DIRECTIONS**

Organic-based devices, while relatively inexpensive and easy to fabricate, have low efficiencies. They are also plagued by low long-term stability problems. We face the challenge of producing affordable, efficient and robust photovoltaic devices.



Hubs appropriated in FY 2010:

- Fuels from Sunlight (SC lead)
- Energy Efficient Building Systems Design (EERE)
- Modeling and Simulation for Nuclear Fuel Cycles and Systems (NE)

Each Hub will comprise a world-class, multi-disciplinary, and highly collaborative research and development team.

Strong scientific leadership *must* be located at the primary location of the Hub. Each must have a clear organization and management plan that "infuses" a culture of empowered central research management throughout the Hub.

The Department hopes to add additional Hubs in FY 2011.

![](_page_18_Picture_8.jpeg)

# Fuels from Sunlight: A Hub Approach?

# Take the "Beat-the-Leaf" Challenge

#### Basic Research Needs for Solar Energy Utilization

Report of the Basic Energy Sciences Workshop on Solar Energy Utilization April 18-21, 2005

# Fuels from Sunlight: Critical Issues in Research

![](_page_20_Picture_1.jpeg)

Photon absorption and harvesting

How do we control light harvesting to utilize all of the photons?

-Need to know how to design and control exciton transfer in molecular systems

-Need red absorbers to harvest the bulk of the solar spectrum

ps-ns

# Charge separation and transport

How do we avoid recombination of photogenerated charge carriers?

-Need to overcome geminate recombination in organic systems

-Need to design transport to reduce nongeminate recombination in all systems

![](_page_20_Picture_11.jpeg)

## Photocatalysis

How do we produce fuels with the energy provided by visible light absorption?

-Need hetero/homo geneous catalytic systems for water splitting

-Need to couple light absorption to catalytic processes for C-C bond formation

![](_page_20_Picture_16.jpeg)

# Landscape for Solar Fuels Production: From Basic Research to Market

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

Science

# DOE Energy R&D Program Features

|   | Investigators<br>and their<br>institutions  | Central location?  | Diversity of<br>Disciplines<br>Per Award | Period of Award<br>and Management  | Award<br>Amount   | Core Motivation  |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| Energy<br>Innovation<br>Hubs              | Large set of<br>investigators spanning<br>multiple science and<br>engineering disciplines<br>and possibly including<br>other non-science<br>areas such as energy<br>policy, economics, and<br>market analysis. May<br>be led by Labs or<br>universities, nonprofit<br>organizations or<br>private firms. The<br>model is the three<br>existing Office of<br>Science Bio-energy<br>Research Centers. | Lead institution must<br>provide a central<br>location and strong<br>scientific leadership.<br>There must be a<br>culture of<br>empowered central<br>research<br>management. | Many                                     | Five years with 5-year<br>renewal possible; the<br>"bar" is significantly<br>higher for further<br>renewals. Managed by<br>Offices across DOE. A<br>Board of Advisors<br>consisting of senior<br>leadership will<br>coordinate across DOE. | ~\$22 million<br>in the first<br>year with up<br>to \$10<br>million for<br>infrastructur<br>e start-up;<br>~\$25 million<br>per year in<br>subsequent<br>years. | Integrate from fundamental research<br>through potential<br>commercialization. The breadth and<br>emphasis of activities will be<br>influenced by the nature of the<br>Hub. Some Hubs may place a<br>greater emphasis on basic and<br>applied research, while others may<br>focus more on technology<br>development. DOE determines the<br>topical areas of the Hubs and FOAs<br>are topic-specific. |
| Energy<br>Frontier<br>Research<br>Centers | Self-assembled group<br>of ~6-12 investigators.<br>May be led by DOE<br>laboratories or<br>universities. About<br>two thirds of 46 EFRCs<br>are led by universities.  | Mostly multi-<br>institutional centers,<br>but with a clearly<br>defined lead<br>institution<br>responsible for<br>management.   | Several                                  | Five years with 5-year<br>renewal possible.<br>Managed by the Basic<br>Energy Sciences<br>program in the DOE<br>Office of Science.   | \$2-5M/year   | Fundamental research with a link to<br>new energy technologies or<br>technology roadblocks. The<br>investigators proposed the subject<br>matter from among a large set of<br>scientific grand challenges and<br>energy-relevant topics identified in<br>and the FOA.   |
| ARPA-E                                    | Single investigator,<br>small group, or small<br>teams.   | Variable depending<br>on project   | Few                                      | 1-3 years<br>Managed by ARPA-E,<br>which reports to the<br>Secretary of Energy   | \$0.5 -<br>10M/year   | High risk translational research<br>driven by the potential for significant<br>commercial impact in the near-term.<br>In general, DOE determines the<br>topics of interest, except for the<br>initial FOA, which was broad-based.  |

# **Connecting Basic and Applied Science**

- Workshop and report planned: Science for National Need Bringing forefront scientific knowledge and state-of-the-art tools to solving grand energy challenges
  - To explore basic science research that is coupled more closely to industry or applied science needs.
  - Identify grand science challenges that will have transformational

- BES Overview Brochure summarizes research has had commercial and national impact
  - Revision underway

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![](_page_23_Picture_7.jpeg)

# Funding Opportunities: FAQs

## How do I get DOE/BES support?

- Respond to "Open Call For Proposals" (go to grants.gov).
- Hypothesis driven, fundamental science project energy relevance.
- White papers/pre-proposals are encouraged but not required.
- All proposals peer reviewed.

## • How much support can I get?

- How much support do you need? (10 CFR 605)

## • How long will it take for me to find out if my project is funded?

- Open call is a continuous process (no fixed deadline for submission).
- Reviews take 4 6 months to complete, awards are made base on strength of the merit review and available resources.
- Proposals can be held up to one year for consideration.

![](_page_24_Picture_12.jpeg)

# **Review and Selection of Research Projects**

All research projects supported by the Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES) undergo regular peer review and merit evaluation based on procedures set down in 10 CFR Part 605 for the extramural grant program

1) **Scientific and/or technical merit of the project;**- for example, the influence that the results might have on the direction, progress, and thinking in relevant scientific fields of research; the likelihood of achieving valuable results; and the scientific innovation and originality indicated in the proposed research.

2) **Appropriateness of the proposed method or approach**;- for example, the logic and feasibility of the research approaches and the soundness of the conduct of the research.

3) **Competency of the personnel and adequacy of proposed resources**; and- for example, the background, past performance, and potential of the investigator(s); and the research environment and facilities for performing the research.

#### 4) Reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget.

26

Office of Science (SC) Merit Review System

- <u>SC Grant Application Guide</u>
- 10 CFR Part 605

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# More Information? www.sc.doe.gov/bes/

Serving the Present ... Shaping the Future

![](_page_26_Picture_2.jpeg)

What's NEW **FY 2010 CMSN Graduate Fellowships** Early Career Research

Staff Contacts Core Research Areas EFRCs Program Summaries Judget Proposal Submission How to Apply for a Grant Peer Review Policies Construction Review DOE LESSOR **BES Documents Overview Brochures** Workshop Reports Accomplishments Presentations Archives User Facilities DOE Laboratories Advisory Committee BES and Congress Strategic Plans ES&H Policy Work Life Policy

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BES Job Openings

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#### Monday, November 16, 2009 Office of Science

GOV

Basic Energy Sciences (BES) supports fundamental research to understand, predict, and ultimately control matter and energy at the electronic, atomic, and molecular levels in order to provide the foundations for new energy technologies and to support DOE missions in energy, environment, and national security. The BES program also plans, constructs, and operates major scientific user facilities to serve researchers from universities, national laboratories, and private institutions.

SEARCH

#### Additional Search Engines

The BES program is one of the Nation's largest sponsors of the natural sciences by funding experiments at more than 160 research institutions through the following three Divisions:

- Materials Sciences and Engineering Division
- Chemical Sciences, Geosciences, and Biosciences Division
- Scientific User Facilities Division

• FY 2010 CMSN Funding Opportunity Preliminary Proposal Deadline: November 2, 2009

Office of Science - Graduate Fellowship Program Deadline: November 30, 2009

#### Harriet Kung

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- BES and DOE staff Phone Directory
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## Sciences ges in Science and Energ

Basic Energy

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Click on images for reports. List of BES reports.

![](_page_26_Picture_30.jpeg)

# \* Or just Google "DOE + BES"

# **Questions?**

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