

# The greengov Leader

Volume 1

March 24, 2010

Issue 1

***“Together we can put our government and our country on a path to a clean energy future.”***

– President Barack Obama

**Welcome to the *GreenGov Leader*** and thank you for answering President Obama’s call to put your GreenGov ideas into action. This monthly newsletter is for the community of leaders across the Federal government who are making the President’s challenge a reality. The *GreenGov Leader* will highlight your success stories – like GSA’s new program to green our Federal cafeterias – and it will help you stay engaged with a growing community across the nation. Join the conversation by signing up for the [GreenGov Collaborative](#) to share your ideas.

—Michelle Moore, Federal Environmental Executive

## **President Announces Federal GHG Target, Calls on Feds to put GreenGov Ideas into Action**

### **Federal Government Commits to 28 Percent GHG Reduction**

On January 29, 2010, President Barack Obama [announced that the Federal Government will reduce its greenhouse gas \(GHG\) pollution by 28 percent by 2020.](#) “As the largest energy consumer in the United States, we have a responsibility to American citizens to reduce our energy use and become more efficient,” said President Obama. The Federal Government spent more than \$24.5 billion on electricity and fuel in 2008 alone. Achieving the Federal GHG pollution reduction target will reduce Federal energy use by the equivalent of 646 trillion BTUs, resulting in a cumulative total of \$8 to \$11 billion in avoided energy costs through 2020. The Federal target is the aggregate of 35 Federal Agency self-reported targets, as required under President Obama’s [Executive Order 13514](#) on sustainability.

**What sustainability feature would you most like to see in your agency?**

1. A green roof
2. A bicycle rack and shower room
3. A green cafeteria
4. Teleworking/alternative work schedules

To see results, go to the [GreenGov Collaborative](#)

### **President Asks GreenGov Participants to Turn Ideas into Action**

In announcing the Federal GHG target, the [President called on Federal employees](#) to “...act on the GreenGov Challenge, choose an idea you can champion and help us lead by example.” More than 14,000 Federal and military personnel shared their ideas on greening Federal operations and facilities. Over 5,300 ideas and 165,000 votes were submitted, covering topics such as energy efficiency, water conservation, and waste reduction. The [GreenGov Collaborative](#) is your opportunity to work with colleagues across the



government to share your best ideas and strategies, ask questions, and recruit allies in your efforts to create a more sustainable Federal Government. Some of the topics already under discussion include:

- Measuring building energy use
- Teleworking
- Recycling

## Agency Leaders Report Progress on E.O. 13514, Discuss Next Steps

### CEQ and Agencies Testify before Senate Committee

On January 27, 2010 the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management held a hearing on “Cutting the Federal Government’s Energy Bill: An Examination of the Sustainable Federal Government Executive Order.” Federal leaders on sustainability testified, including Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Chair [Nancy Sutley](#), [Richard Kidd](#) from the Department of Energy, Dr. [Dorothy Robyn](#) from the Department of Defense, and [Sam Pulcrano](#) from the U.S. Postal Service. Agencies are already planning projects that will help them meet the goals of the Executive Order, such as:

- The General Service Administration is utilizing \$5.5 billion in the Recovery Act to renovate and build high-performance green Federal buildings.
- The Army Corps of Engineers is building a 500-MW solar installation at Fort Irwin in California.
- The Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, which recently broke ground, will be one of the largest bioenergy plants in the nation when complete.

### Federal Sustainability Officers Meet to Chart Path Ahead

On February 3, 2010 the Steering Committee on Federal Sustainability, which includes representatives from every major Federal agency, met with officials from Office of Management and Budget, CEQ, and the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE) to discuss progress on implementing the Executive Order. All reporting agencies met the January 4, 2010 deadline to submit greenhouse gas reduction targets based on their Scope 1 and Scope 2 direct emissions, which

includes electricity and fuel use. Agency Senior Sustainability Officers discussed progress to date and exchanged ideas for meeting their goals. On June 2, 2010 agencies will be required to submit Scope 3 indirect emissions targets (e.g. employee commuting); the United States will be the first country to set such targets. In the weeks following the meeting, OFEE hosted a series of workshops for agency officials to discuss both the sustainability plans and Scope 3 targets.

### EPA Releases Stormwater Guidance for Federal Facilities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently [announced new guidance for Federal agencies to reduce stormwater runoff](#) from Federal building projects, as required by Executive Order 13514. The guidance calls for innovative approaches to preserving local water systems by using porous pavement, green roofs, rainwater capture for landscape irrigation, and other strategies.

## Leading by Example

### Waste Reduction Awards

The [winners of fourth annual Electronics Reuse and Recycling Campaign](#) (ERRC), representing eight teams from six agencies, were recognized in a ceremony in Washington, DC. A total of 137 facilities participated in the Campaign, which resulted in more than 15.8 million pounds of electronics reused or recycled, an increase of more than 6 million pounds from the previous year’s Campaign.

### GSA to Green Federal Cafeterias

The General Services Administration plans to begin offering Federal employees [healthier and more sustainable food choices](#). As part of the President’s commitment to promote wellness and green the Federal government, GSA has created a new national template for food service requirements that will require healthier and more sustainable food options at Federal facilities nationwide. The State Department’s Washington, DC headquarters will be one of the first cafeterias designed under these criteria. GSA manages 350 federal cafeterias, directly or under contract.



### **Fort Hood, TX forms Cen-Tex Sustainability Partnership**

The commander of Fort Hood met with city managers, planners, and environmental professionals to develop a partnership to promote sustainable development, growth and living in Central Texas. The [Cen-Tex Partnership](#) involves the communities of Fort Hood, Killeen, Copperas Cove, Harker Heights and Gatesville with the mission of establishing goals and objectives toward a greener and more sustainable Central Texas, including land use, multi-modal transportation, better handling of materials and resources, and improved quality of life.

### **From FedCenter**

[USDA Adds New Products to Biobased Designation](#)

[EPA Creates New Office of Sustainable Communities](#)

[Federal Energy Management Program First Thursday Webcasts](#)

[EPA's Latest Solid Waste Generation, Disposal, and Recycling Facts and Figures](#)

[EPA, DOE Announce New Steps to Strengthen Energy Star](#)

### **GreenGov Symposium Coming This Fall!**

The date and location for the GreenGov Symposium will be announced here and on the GreenGov Collaborative in the near future. The Symposium will build on past successes at the Federal Environmental West and East Symposiums. Stay tuned for more information on GreenGov 2010 to be posted on the Collaborative in the coming weeks.

GreenGov Leader

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive

Council on Environmental Quality

Executive Office of the President