

The greengov Leader

Volume 1

December 21, 2010

Issue 5

“As the largest consumer of energy in the U.S. economy, the Federal government can and should lead by example when it comes to creating innovative ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency, conserve water, reduce waste, and use environmentally – responsible products and technologies.”

– President Barack Obama, October 5, 2009

News at CEQ

GreenGov Federal Sustainability Symposium

In October, the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) hosted the 2010 GreenGov Symposium to bring together leaders from Federal, state and local governments, nonprofit and academic communities and the private sector to identify opportunities around greening the Federal Government. The three-day event, held at The George Washington University (GW), included plenary presentations from CEQ Chair Nancy Sutley, Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, and Janine Benyus, President and co-founder of the Biomimicry Guild. During the Symposium, Chair Sutley and Secretary Chu announced plans to install solar panels and a solar hot water heater on the roof of the White House. “Around the world, the White House is a symbol of freedom and democracy,” Secretary Chu said. “It should also be a symbol of America’s clean energy future.” The Symposium also featured a live webcast conversation, sponsored by GW’s Planet Forward, with Department of Housing and Urban Development Deputy Secretary Ron Sims, Mayor Ralph Becker from Salt Lake City, Sean Greene, Associate Administrator for Innovation at the Small Business Administration and Laura Ipsen, Vice President of Global Policy and Government Affairs at CISCO. The Symposium brought together more than 1,200 attendees from the private sector, academia, and Federal, state, and local governments to learn, share, and lead efforts to meet the Federal

Government’s sustainability goals. More than 250 presenters shared their expertise and experiences during sessions on topics ranging from financing renewable energy projects on Federal facilities to greening agency cafeterias. Many of the [GreenGov Symposium presentations](#) are now available on FedCenter.

2010 GreenGov Presidential Awards

Winners of the [2010 GreenGov Presidential Awards](#) were recognized at an awards ceremony held in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building on October 7, 2010. The GreenGov Presidential Awards celebrate extraordinary achievement in pursuit of the goals of Executive Order 13514 on Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance (E.O. 13514). They honor Federal civilian and military personnel, agency teams, agency projects and facilities, and agency programs that exemplify President Obama's charge to the Federal community to lead by example towards a clean energy economy. Those honored this year included two individuals and six teams: **Sustainability Hero Award** - Dr. Anna Jones-Crabtree, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service; **Green Innovation Award** – Barbara C. Lippiatt, U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology; **Lean, Clean and Green Award** – U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho National Laboratory Team; **Good Neighbor Award** – U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Nutrition and Food Services Team; **Building the Future Award** – U.S. Department of Defense,

Department of the Army, Fort Belvoir Residential Communities and the **Green Dream Team Award** – Interagency Working Group on Climate Change and Health Team comprised of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of State, and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.

Agencies' Sustainability Plans Available

Continuing a commitment to lead by example and promote open government, the White House announced the release of Federal Agency Strategic Sustainability Performance Plans from 56 Federal agencies on September 9, 2010. The plans work to achieve the environmental, economic and energy goals called for in E.O. 13514. The plans address current status and future milestones for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions, sustainable building practices, water and energy conservation, pollution prevention and waste elimination, sustainable acquisition, and electronic stewardship.

Federal Guidance on Greenhouse Gas Reporting and Accounting

CEQ released the Final [Federal Guidance on GHG Accounting and Reporting](#) and the associated Technical Support Document on October 6, 2010 in conjunction with Chair Sutley's plenary speech at the GreenGov Symposium. "For the first time, this guidance sets consistent standards and requirements for measuring and reporting the Federal Government's greenhouse gas emissions," said Chair Sutley said. "Today we take an important step forward in transparency and accountability for the Federal Government's greenhouse gas pollution. We continue President Obama's commitment to lead by example toward a healthy and prosperous clean energy future for America." The Guidance serves as the Federal Government's official GHG Protocol and will be used by Federal agencies to develop their first GHG inventories. Federal agencies will submit GHG inventories annually beginning in January of 2011, as called for in E.O. 13514.

GHG Reporting Portal

In coordination with the release of the Federal Guidance on GHG Accounting and Reporting, DOE's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) released the [GHG Reporting Portal](#). This portal provides electronic reporting capability that agencies must use to submit their GHG inventory for fiscal year 2010 to CEQ and OMB for the purpose of measuring progress toward goals established under E.O. 13514. The Reporting Portal also consolidates existing agency reporting requirements for facility operations energy and water use, thus eliminating a requirement for multiple reports.

Commuter Survey Tools Available to Help Agencies Calculate Scope 3 GHG Emissions

Federal agencies now have access to two tools designed to help them estimate their agency's scope 3 GHG emissions associated with employee commuting. FEMP's "Default Methodology Commuter Survey" allows agencies to collect basic information regarding employee commuting activities needed to estimate GHG emissions. A [demonstration of the tool](#) can be accessed on FedCenter. Agencies electing to use this survey should contact [Eliza Hotchkiss](#) (DOE-NREL) by December 31, 2010 for details.

An "Advanced Methodology Commuter Survey," developed by the General Services Administration (GSA) and the Department of Transportation, is also available for agencies that prefer to use a more detailed approach to estimating emissions associated with employee commuting. The "Advanced Methodology Commuter Survey" is available as part of the GSA Carbon Footprint Tool and can be accessed on FedCenter. Agencies can use results from either survey to meet requirements for reporting GHG emissions from employee commuting in their GHG inventories using the FEMP Reporting Portal.

Climate Change Adaptation Task Force

The [Climate Change Adaptation Task Force](#), co-chaired by CEQ, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, released its [interagency report](#) on

October 14, 2010 outlining recommendations to President Obama for how Federal Agency policies and programs can better prepare the United States to respond to the impacts of climate change. Specifically, the report calls for Federal agencies to establish and implement climate adaptation action plans. To meet this goal, the report proposes agencies follow the process used for sustainability planning under E.O. 13514 and calls for the CEQ Chair to issue appropriate implementing instructions in early 2011.

Greening the Supply Chain

On November 16, CEQ Chair Sutley joined GSA Administrator Martha Johnson in Chicago, Illinois, at the first-ever GreenGov Supply Chain Summit to announce a voluntary collaboration between the Federal Government and vendors and suppliers to create a greener and more efficient supply chain. Through the new GreenGov Supply Chain Partnership, Federal suppliers can agree to voluntarily measure, reduce, and report their GHG emissions to. Sixty small businesses are participating in a pilot program that will explore the benefits and challenges of measuring GHG emissions for small businesses.

Agency News

Obama Administration Announces Solar Installation at White House Residence

During the opening plenary session of the first annual GreenGov Symposium held at the George Washington University last month, DOE Secretary Steven Chu and CEQ Chair Nancy Sutley [announced](#) the upcoming installation of solar panels and a solar hot water heater on the roof of the White House. The announcement was made in conjunction with the one-year anniversary of President Obama's Executive Order 13514 on Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance. Secretary Chu explained that "this project reflects President Obama's strong commitment to U.S. leadership in solar energy and the jobs it will create here at home." The panels will convert sunlight directly to electricity while the solar hot water heater will provide heated water for use in the Residence.

VA Announces Funding for Solar Projects at Hospitals, Clinics, and Cemeteries

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) [announced](#) that it has awarded \$78 million in contracts for the construction of solar photovoltaic systems at VA-operated hospitals, clinics, and cemeteries across the country. The projects will be completed by the fall of 2011 and are part of VA's efforts to increase the Department's renewable energy consumption to 15 percent by 2013. VA Secretary Eric Shinseki explained the larger significance of these projects, noting, "With these investments in clean energy and other renewable energy projects for our medical centers, clinics, and cemeteries, we are marching forward with the President's initiative to 'green' the Federal government. The benefits of using solar power are significant, from our reduced utility bills to the quality of the air we breathe. This initiative is good for Veterans and good for our environment."

2010 Federal Electronics Challenge

The Office of the Federal Environmental Executive and EPA announced the recipients of the 2010 Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) Awards. The 2010 FEC Awards recognized 38 Federal facilities from ten Federal Agencies for their leadership in Federal electronics stewardship during fiscal year 2009. Collectively, the [2010 award winners](#):

- Purchased more than 58,000 green electronics registered with [EPEAT](#), a system that helps purchasers evaluate, compare and select electronic products based on their environmental attributes;
- Reused, donated and recycled over 51,000 pieces of office electronics;
- Reduced GHG emissions equivalent to taking 7,000 passenger cars off the road for a year;
- Saved taxpayers nearly \$11 million.

For 2010, the FEC recognized eight Gold Level Award recipients. Each Gold Level Award recipient completed mandatory activities in all three of the electronics life-cycle phases (acquisition and procurement, operation and maintenance, and end-of-life management); completed nine additional optional activities; and mentored two other Federal

facilities or agencies on electronics issues. The FEC also recognized fourteen Silver Level Award recipients, who each completed mandatory activities in two of three of the electronics life-cycle phases and six additional optional activities; and sixteen Bronze Level Award recipients, who each completed mandatory activities in one of three of the electronics life-cycle phases and three additional optional activities.

From FedCenter.gov

Announcements

November

- [Listening Session for the Next NPDES General Permit for Discharges Incidental to the Normal Operation of Vessels](#)
- [DOE, EPA Release 2011 Annual Fuel Economy Guide](#) ★
- [Federal Employee Commuter Tool Available](#) ★
- [Review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Carbon Monoxide](#) ★
- [Home Energy Score Pilot Program Launched](#) ★
- [Increase in the Energy Efficiency Levels for the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code \(IECC\)](#) ★
- [Advanced Methodology Commuter Survey Tool Now Available](#) ★

December

- [CEQ Memo Establishes a Task Force to Prepare National Strategy for Electronics Stewardship](#) ★
- [Call for Nominations for the 2011 Annual Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Awards](#) ★

Upcoming Events

December

- 12/06 [ACES, A Community on Ecosystem Services](#) (Until 12/09)
- 12/07 [35th Annual A&WMA/EPA Information Exchange](#) (Until 12/10)

- 12/08 [Procurement: What Role Can it Play in Driving Greater Product Stewardship?](#)
[World Energy Engineering Conference](#) (Until 12/10)
- 12/13 [Water Quality Standards Academy \(Classroom\)](#) (Until 12/17)
- 12/14 [Applied Contaminant Chemistry and Transport in Soil and Groundwater](#) (Until 12/15)
- 12/15 [Renewable Energy on Potentially Contaminated Land: DOE's Technical Assistance Program \(Webinar\)](#)
- 12/16 [Monitored Natural Attenuation of Petroleum and Chlorinated Hydrocarbons in Soil and Groundwater \(Classroom\)](#)
- January
- 1/11 [The 2011 North American Environmental Field Conference and Exposition](#) (Until 1/13)
- 1/12 [Midwest Energy Solutions Conference](#) (Until 1/14)
- 1/18 [Underground Storage Tank Installation Training \(Online\)](#)
- 1/25 [Underground Storage Tank Inspection \(Online\)](#) (Until 1/26)
- 1/31 [Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration \(AHR\) Expo](#) (Until 2/2)
- February
- 2/1 [ESPC Comprehensive Workshop \(Classroom\)](#) (Until 2/3)
- 2/3 [10th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth](#) (Until 2/5)
- 2/8 [11th International Colloquium on Environmentally Preferred Advanced Power Generation \(ICEPAG\)](#) (Until 2/10)
- 2/25 [Tribes, Land, and the Environment](#)
- 2/27 [WM Symposia 2011](#) (Until 2/28)

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Office of the Federal Environmental Executive
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Executive Office of the President