

The greengov Leader

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"As we recover from this recession, the transition to clean energy has the potential to grow our economy and create millions of jobs - but only if we accelerate that transition. Only if we seize the moment."

– President Obama

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CEQ News

GreenGov: Getting Results

Since President Obama signed [Executive Order 13514](#) and kicked off the [GreenGov Challenge](#), the Federal community has been working to demonstrate what leadership by example means in projects around the country. On July 21, CEQ released a number of [success stories](#) that highlight how beneficial energy and environmental outcomes leads to good economic results—consistent with estimates that meeting President Obama’s sustainability goals would save taxpayers up to \$11 billion in energy costs over the next decade.

With nearly 500,000 buildings, more than 600,000 vehicles, and \$500 billion in annual purchasing power, the Federal Government has a responsibility to operate efficiently and intentionally when it comes to leveraging our market scale to foster a clean energy economy. These initial success stories show how Federal agencies are making good on that promise.

Federal Electronics Stewardship Taskforce Issues National Strategy

On July 20, the Interagency Task Force on Electronics Stewardship (Task Force) [released a National Strategy for Electronics Stewardship](#), which specifies Federal actions for ensuring electronics stewardship in the United States. Under the authority of Executive Order 13514, CEQ established the Task Force, co-chaired by CEQ, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the General Services Administration (GSA) in 2010 to develop a national strategy for electronics stewardship.

The National Strategy provides four overarching goals, and outlines action items and associated projects for each goal. As described in the Strategy, the four goals are:

- Build Incentives for Design of Greener Electronics, and Enhance Science, Research and Technology Development in the U.S.;
- Ensure that the Federal Government Leads By Example;
- Increase Safe and Effective Management and Handling of Used Electronics in the U.S.; and ,
- Reduce Harm from U.S. Exports of E-Waste and Improve Safe Handling of Used Electronics in Developing Countries.

Under the strategy, GSA will remove products that do not comply with comprehensive and robust energy efficiency or environmental performance standards from its information technology purchase contracts used by Federal agencies, and will ensure that all electronics used by the Federal Government are reused or recycled properly. In addition, EPA and GSA will promote development of new environmental performance standards for categories of electronic products not covered by current standards. Several Federal agencies will work together to identify methods for tracking used electronics in Federal agencies to move toward reuse and recycling.

Call for 2011 GreenGov Symposium Speaker Abstracts and Registration Now Open

The 2011 [GreenGov Symposium](#) will be held on October 31 through November 2, 2011, in Washington, DC. This year's event will be co-sponsored by CEQ and the Association of Climate Change Officers (ACCO). Registration is now open for the Symposium. **Register before August 15 to take advantage of the early bird special rates.**

Additionally, ACCO and CEQ are looking for speakers with subject matter expertise on sustainability efforts in Federal government operations, including clean energy, waste, water, supply chain, green buildings, sustainable communities, fleet management and vehicle technologies, climate risk and resilience, defense and national security, and education and training. **To submit a speaker application form, please [download](#) and submit the form by August 1.**

OMB to Eliminate Duplicative Federal Data Centers

As part of the President's Campaign to Cut Waste, on July 20 OMB [announced](#) that in 2012 it will close 178 duplicative Federal data centers, for a total of 373 data centers that will be shut down by the end of 2012. The announcement puts the Administration ahead of schedule in meeting the President's goal of shutting down 800 data centers by 2015, a move that is expected to save taxpayers more than \$3 billion. Since 1998 the number of Federal data centers rose from 432 to more than 2,000. To date, agencies have closed 81 data centers and will close 114 more during this calendar year for a total of 195 in 2011.

Agency News

USACE Unveils New Sustainability Awards Program

In June, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) [announced](#) its first ever Sustainability Award winners. "The purpose of the awards is to recognize and reward excellence for the development, management and transferability of activities and/or programs that improve environmental quality, enhance the mission, and help USACE achieve its sustainability goals as described in E.O. 13514," said Christine Godfrey, Acting Chief of USACE's Environmental Community of Practice.

The award categories and the winners are:

Sustainability Hero Award: Patricia Donohue of North Atlantic Division; **Green Dream Team Award:** Federal Non Tactical Vessel Fleet Biodiesel Interagency Working Group; **Green Innovation Award:** U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center; **Good Neighbor Award:** Central City Project Delivery Team of Southwestern Division; **Lean, Clean and Green Award:** Base Realignment and Closure Act 133 Program Management Team for New York District; and, **Building the Future Award:** Emerson Commons Fit-Up of Baltimore District.

DOD Releases Operational Energy Strategy, Updated Sustainability Website

On June 14, the Department of Defense (DoD) [released](#) for the first time a strategy to transform how the Department uses energy in military operations. DoD's Operational Energy Strategy outlined three principal ways to ensure that the armed forces will have the energy resources they require to meet 21st century challenges: 1) Reduce the overall demand for energy in military operations; 2) Expand and secure the supply of energy to military operations; and 3) Integrate operational energy consideration into the full range of planning and force development activities. By reducing demand, expanding supply, and building an energy-secure force, DoD will use less energy, have more secure energy sources, and lower energy costs. DoD will release an implementation plan for its Strategy, which will include targets and timelines, within 90 days.

DoD makes up 80 percent of the Federal Government's energy use and spent \$15 billion on energy in 2010, 75 percent of which was for military operations.

DoD also [launched](#) a new Sustainability area of its DENIX (DoD Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Network and Information Exchange) Website in June.

The area features DoD sustainability policies, plans, guidance, and success stories.

DOE Announces an Energy Savings Performance Contract with Forest Service

On June 22, the Department of Energy (DOE) announced an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) with the U.S. Forest Service. Administered by DOE, the Forest Service contract with Honeywell International will improve the energy efficiency of facilities in the Forest Service's Northern Region, which encompasses 25 million acres in 5 states. The project will leverage almost \$2.5 million in private investment to install energy efficient and renewable energy technologies, including a 4.9 kilowatt photovoltaic (PV) system at the Kings Hill Ranger Station in Montana. The resulting improvements will save the Forest Service over \$267,000 in energy costs in the first year and approximately 14 billion British thermal units (Btu) per year—enough to power 147 homes for a year.

An ESPC is a partnership between a Federal agency and an energy service company (ESCO), where the ESCO conducts a comprehensive energy audit for the Federal facility and identifies improvements to save energy. The ESCO guarantees that the improvements will generate energy cost savings sufficient to pay for the project over the term of the contract. After the contract ends, all additional cost savings are accrued by the agency.

[From FedCenter.Gov](#)

New Water Efficiency Program Area Announced

By user request, FedCenter has added a new topic to its program area lineup—Water Efficiency. This area provides tools, techniques, and approaches Federal environmental managers and facility managers to use for improving water use efficiency for both potable and non-potable water resources.

Announcements

July

- **DOE's Buildings R&D Breakthroughs: Technologies and Products Supported by the Building Technologies Program Report**
- **The U.S. Army's Southern Region Review Now Available**
- **The U.S. Army's Northern Region Review Now Available**

Upcoming Events

July

7/31 **Energy and Water 2011: Efficiency, Generation, Management, and Climate Impacts**
(Until 8/3)

August

8/4 **DOE's Energy-Efficient Product Procurement Webinar**

8/7 **GovEnergy**
(Until 8/10)

8/8 **OPM's Environmental Policy Issues Seminar**
(Until 8/19)

8/21 **StormCon**
(Until 8/25)

8/23 **2011 Environmental Justice Conference**
(Until 8/26)

September

9/11 **Distribution Systems Symposium & Exposition**
(Until 9/14)

9/20 **Labs21 Annual Conference 2011**
(Until 9/22)

9/22 **Evaluating Water Use Efficiency**
(Until 9/23)

9/27 **7th Annual American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association**
(Until 9/29)

October

10/3 **2011 Water and Health Conference: Where Science Meets Policy**
(Until 10/7)

10/5 **EPA's Combined Heat and Power Partnership Meeting**

10/5 **WaterSmart Innovations Conference and Exposition**
(Until 10/7)

10/31 **2011 GreenGov Symposium**
(Until 11/2)

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Office of the Federal Environmental Executive
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