

Leading the way to a more sustainable Federal Government



Happy Earth Month!

COP 21 Signing

The White House commemorated Earth Day by joining with about 170 other countries to sign the Paris Agreement, a historic deal to reduce carbon emissions across the globe. The April 22nd signing made for the largest number of countries that have ever signed an international agreement in one day. While the signing at the United Nations is historic, dozens of countries also convened on Friday to discuss how they can accelerate momentum even more—by pushing for the Agreement to begin years earlier than anyone expected. For more information on COP21, visit whitehouse.gov.

GSA Hackathon



Federal Chief Sustainability Officer Christine Harada, and Hackathon Participants

On April 22, Federal Chief Sustainability Officer Christine Harada participated as a judge in the U.S. General Services Administration's (GSA) first Earth Day Hackathon. The goal of this competition was to have industry, academia and government develop smart technology solutions (in the form of an application, application programming interface, web/mobile application, data mashup, and/or dashboards) that have the capability to provide GSA with key insights and recommendations for future enhancements. CEQ proposed two projects to present at the Hackathon, including a Federal dashboard on Sustainable Purchasing, and a website or app that allows Federal agencies or the public to assess whether or not their property is located in an area of wildfire risk. The four winning teams were awarded \$3,750 in cash prizes. For more information, visit the GSA website.

Keep the Earth Day Momentum Going--Take EPA's ENERGY STAR Pledge

Are you looking for a way to inspire your office, family members and/or friends to save energy? Invite them to take the ENERGY STAR Pledge. Over 3 million people have already taken the pledge, making a commitment to save energy by incorporating efficient behaviors and product purchases into their daily lives. Make a difference in protecting the environment from climate change by taking the pledge [today](#).

News from the White House Council on Environmental Quality

GreenGov Presidential Awards Call for 2016 Nominations

CEQ is pleased to announce that the nomination process for the White House Council on Environmental Quality's 2016 GreenGov Presidential Awards is open and will close on May 20th. The GreenGov Presidential Awards honor exceptional federal personnel, teams, agencies, projects, facilities, and programs that exemplify the Administration's charge to lead by example in sustainability. CEQ invites federal civilian and military personnel to participate in the Awards nomination process, as we celebrate extraordinary achievement in the pursuit of President Obama's Executive Order 13693, *Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade*. For information on award categories and submission instructions, go to the GreenGov portion of the [FedCenter.gov website](#).

CEQ at Sustainable Brands Networking Dinner

Federal Chief Sustainability Officer Christine Harada spoke at the Sustainable Brands Networking Dinner in Detroit, MI on April 12th. Hosted by Ford Motor Company, the dinner convened a group of top business executives to discuss the future of sustainability and innovation. Harada brought greetings from the White House, and discussed how the Administration's priorities for a sustainable and energy efficient future align with the priorities of the global business community. While in Detroit, Harada also participated in meetings with federal officials on sustainability efforts, and met with DTE Energy regarding federal energy management and fleet electrification efforts.

Electric Vehicle Updates:

CEQ helps Coordinate Evaluation of EV Charging for the White House

On April 11th and 12th, a National Renewable Energy Laboratory "Tiger Team" conducted an evaluation of potential electric vehicle charging stations on West Executive, East Executive, State Place, and The Ellipse on the White House grounds. The Office of Federal Sustainability facilitated the evaluation in coordination with the White House Office of Administration, Office of Science and Technology Policy, General Services Administration, and National Park Service. Pending results of the Tiger Team evaluation, it will be determined how many unmetered level-one stations can be installed this year, and how many metered, level-two and above stations can be installed at a later date.

White House Stakeholder Meeting: "Meeting the Evolving Charging Needs of America's EV Drivers"

On April 15th, Chief Federal Sustainability Officer Christine Harada participated in a White House electric vehicle stakeholder meeting entitled, "Meeting the Evolving Charging Needs of America's EV Drivers." In addition to federal agency representation, attendees included automakers, charging station providers, utilities,

and other electric vehicle stakeholders. The purpose of the meeting was to identify opportunities and challenges for moving electric transportation forward, including identifying how the government and stakeholder groups can work together to better plan for and support the evolving transportation market.

Federal Fleet Electrification Acceleration

On April 18th, CEQ met with the General Services Administration (GSA) to discuss automaker ability to supply federal agency demand for electric vehicles. GSA has secured a bulk purchase discount for the Ford Focus Electric Vehicle if federal agencies commit to ordering 500 vehicles in May 2016. During the meeting, GSA provided information on the anticipated delivery schedule for the vehicles if the agency bulk purchase target is met.

Guidance for Federal Employee Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

CEQ is developing *Guidance for Federal Agency Implementation of Workplace Charging*. The Guidance is written pursuant to the *Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act*. Section 1413(c) authorizes GSA and other federal agencies to install and operate plug-in electric vehicle (PEV) charging stations for privately owned PEVs in parking areas used by federal employees and authorized users, and provides for the collection of fees to recover these costs. Agency Chief Sustainability Officers are currently reviewing the first guidance document that covers Un-metered Level 1 (UML1) charging. CEQ is consulting with the Office of Science and Technology Policy to develop a second guidance document that covers other PEV charging scenarios, including metered and Level 2 PEV charging stations.

White House and Department of Transportation Lead a Federal Delegation on Clean Transportation



Federal Chief Sustainability Officer Christine Harada and Federal Delegation at Tesla Fremont, CA Factory

CEQ, along with several federal agencies, led a delegation on clean transportation in Nevada and California from April 25th through April 29th. With stops at Tesla Motors' Gigafactory, site visits to a diverse set of innovative electric vehicle (EV) companies, and a symposium on electric vehicles at UC Berkeley, this tour will help drive a discussion on moving the needle on EV deployment, exploring non-traditional markets for EVs, and ensuring that all Americans can access electric transportation.

Federal Agency/Military News

DOE Steps Up EV Charging Capabilities

The U.S. Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory recently installed four new electric-vehicle charging points on its campus near Chicago. The new charging stations were designed at Argonne and are supported by a solar panel that can provide enough power to charge four electric vehicles at the same time. There are now a total of 30 charging points at Argonne, and more installations are on the horizon. Through Argonne's workplace charging program, employees can charge their personal vehicles while the stations are not in use by fleet vehicles. Enrollment in the program is required and there is a monthly fee for use of the charging station.

U.S. Navy and GSA Join CDP

The U.S. Navy has joined the General Services Administration (GSA) in asking their largest suppliers to disclose their greenhouse gas emissions, and strategies for cutting them, via the CDP Supply Chain Program. Leading companies from across the globe measure and disclose their environmental information via the CDP supply chain, making that data available to those whom they do business with. This move will leverage the significant buying power of the Navy, helping to cut its carbon footprint and lessen its dependence on fossil fuels. GSA became the first federal government agency to participate with CDP in 2015.

GSA Works to Offer Agencies New Solutions for Adopting EV Technology

The General Services Administration (GSA) is offering purchasing and leasing customers the opportunity to acquire Level II Electric Vehicle Charging stations through GSA Fleet. GSA will procure charging stations using a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA). Station delivery is expected within 45 days of order placement. GSA also has awarded a new government-wide BPA that provides federal agencies with the latest in telematics technology at competitive prices. Telematics devices collect, record, and transmit vehicle operational data. For more information, visit <http://www.gsa.gov/fleetsolutions> or email the Fleet Solutions team at fleetsolutions@gsa.gov.

Updated Foodkeeper APP to be Released in May

Developed by the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (with Cornell University and the Food Marketing Institute), the [FoodKeeper](#) app educates users about food and beverage storage to help them maximize the freshness and quality of these items. By helping users understand food storage, the application empowers consumers to choose storage methods that extend the shelf life of their items. The application features product pages on more than 400 items, and even offers a calendar that gives users an easy way to keep track of when their food is nearing the end of its life cycle. The updated version of the app will include Spanish language functionality.

Food loss and waste is the single largest component of disposed U.S. municipal solid waste, and landfills are the third largest source of methane in the U.S. Methane has a global warming potential 25 times greater than CO₂. In 2015, USDA Secretary Vilsack and EPA Deputy Administrator Meiburg announced the nation's first food loss and waste reduction goal, which calls for a 50% reduction by 2030 against a 2010 baseline.

DOE's Energy Exchange Returns this Summer

The Energy Exchange Training and Trade Show comes to Providence, Rhode Island this August, providing an educational and networking forum for those seeking to expand their knowledge of building operations, energy management, and sustainability in the federal sector. Organized by the U.S. Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), this event brings together experts and on-the-ground practitioners to share and discover best practices to help federal agencies achieve their energy goals. For more information, visit the event [website](#).

U.S. Department of Defense Solar Updates:

- * On April 22 DOD broke ground on a 12 MW DC solar facility on a 37-year real estate out grant agreement at Naval Support Activity (NSA) Mid-South in Millington, TN. The facility is part of a greater project to be developed adjacent to the installation, totaling 68.5 MW DC.
- * On April 28 DOD broke ground in Albany, GA, on a 44 MW DC solar facility on a real estate out grant agreement which will be one of Georgia's largest solar installations.
- * The Army announces completion of negotiations to develop and install a large-scale renewable energy solar project at Fort Rucker, Alabama. This project is a joint effort between the Army Office of Energy Initiatives, Fort Rucker, the Alabama Power Company, the Army Corps of Engineers, the General Services Administration (GSA), and the Mission and Installation Contracting Command. This project will have a capacity of up to 10 megawatts alternating current of renewable energy.
- * The U.S. Army is collaborating with the Alabama Power Company to develop an approximate 10 megawatt (MW), alternating current, large-scale renewable energy solar project. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 14th. This project is one of four large-scale renewable energy projects being developed on Army installations in Alabama. Other projects include an 18,000 MW hours per year solar project and a 25 MW Combined Heat and Power generation facility at Redstone Arsenal, and a 10 MW AC solar project at Fort Rucker.

Heard Around the Water Cooler

Big Savings on the Horizon as DOD Makes Energy-Saving Upgrades

Dominion Virginia Power has completed a utility energy service contract at the U.S. Department of Defense's Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall (JBM-HH) Directorate of Public Works. The project is estimated to save \$189,697 per year. JBM-HH provides installation services and base support to Military District Washington/Joint Forces Headquarters in the National Capital Region. Energy conservation measures for the project included high efficiency lighting upgrades and lighting controls; water conservation upgrades; HVAC improvements including high efficiency boilers and chillers, variable frequency drives and high efficiency motors; and energy management controls improvements. (Source- DOE FEMP Digest)

DOE Invests in Clean Energy at Federal Facilities

The U.S. Department of Energy has announced that four projects will receive \$2.85 million to deploy renewable energy technologies at facilities throughout the federal government. DOE's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) works to bring clean and energy efficient projects to federal facilities. *The Assisting Federal*

Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies (AFFECT) selections are aimed at increasing photovoltaic (PV) and biomass generation. The total investment is nearly \$75 million, with cost shared with industry.

Projects funded under the FEMP program include:

* The State Department will bundle together solar photovoltaic projects at 10 overseas U.S. diplomatic posts into its first multi-site energy savings performance contract (ESPC). The projects range from 200 kilowatts to eight megawatts, totaling 11.9 megawatts. The proposed project will more than double the use of renewables.

* The U.S. Forest Service will have a 0.76-megawatt project to deploy roof, ground, and carport-mounted solar panels, ranging from 6 to 100 kilowatts at 11 installation sites across Oregon and Washington. The project will provide 100% of the electricity needs for four sites, and more than 50% of the electricity needs at the remaining seven locations.

* The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in El Paso, Texas, will have a 0.79-megawatt PV installation that combines a ground and carport system at the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC). This installation will provide 30% of EPIC's energy use using the ENABLE ESPC contract, which offers a standardized, streamlined process for small federal facilities to install targeted energy conservation measures in six months or less. The project will be the DEA's first renewable energy system, and the first ESPC that will advance agency expertise in renewable energy system installation and integration that can be used by other DEA facilities.

* The U.S. Marine Corps Installation Command in Albany, Georgia, will install a ten-megawatt biomass steam turbine generator that will reduce annual electricity consumption by approximately 4,600 megawatt-hours annually. The model project demonstrates how military installations can work toward federal energy goals and mandates, while achieving a net-zero status and addressing energy security challenges.

(Source- EERE Network News)

Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies 2016

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) titled "Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies (AFFECT) 2016" this Spring.

The FOA will provide grants to federal agencies for establishing a program that provides an effective agency process to use Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) ENABLE and subsequently applying the process to identified energy-savings projects. **ESPC ENABLE** is a streamlined ESPC for small sites that is limited to five types of energy conservation measures:

1. Lighting
2. Water
3. Controls for heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC)
4. Replacement of HVAC equipment
5. Solar photovoltaics.

Announcements

- When using Twitter, highlight what your agency is doing using hashtag #ActOnClimate.
- If you are a Federal employee, don't forget to check out what's new on FedCenter.gov. If you are a member of the general public, visit the [CEQ Website](#).
- May is Bike Everywhere Month! Find more information about festivities [here](#).

For more information and to view the full Notice of Intent, visit the AFFECT section of the [FEMP website](#).
(Source- DOE FEMP Digest)