

TRANSFORMING U.S. ENERGY INNOVATION

ADDENDUM

TO CHAPTER 4 ON ENERGY RD&D PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

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As discussed in Chapter 4 of the *Transforming U.S. Energy Innovation* report, DOE as a whole neither conducts a systematic evaluation of its partnerships with the private sector nor possesses a way of learning from previous projects to inform new project selection and management. However, the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) has been very active over the past 5–10 years in developing tools to learn from their previous experience. This Addendum summarizes the most important initiatives at EERE which are serving to improve the selection and management of public-private partnerships to promote energy technology innovation.

Making Key Documents to EERE Programs Available Online in a Centralized Fashion. The following webpage <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/pir/table.html> makes key *overview, planning, implementation, and results* documents from all EERE programs (i.e., EERE Corporate, Biomass, Geothermal Technologies, Fuel Cell Technologies, Solar Energy / SunsShot, Wind Power, Water Power, Building Technologies, Advanced Manufacturing, Vehicle Technologies, Federal Energy Management, and Weatherization & Intergovernmental) available in a centralized fashion. This information can enable best practices to emerge.

Conducting (and Developing Guidelines for) Retrospective Benefits Analysis of Different Programs. EERE has devoted significant effort to developing guidelines for conducting retrospective benefits analysis. This work can be found at: http://www1.eere.energy.gov/ba/pba/program_evaluation/index.html. EERE has also made publicly available a website with links to different types of retrospective analysis on the different EERE programs

(http://www1.eere.energy.gov/analysis/pe_plans_reports.html). EERE's work on Retrospective Benefits analyses as well as some of EERE's other evaluation work can be found at: http://www1.eere.energy.gov/analysis/pe_plans_reports.html.

Conducting Annual Merit Review & Peer Evaluation Meetings. The Annual Merit Review & Evaluation meetings are used to evaluate whether activities (mostly those funded by competitive solicitations) are being effective using peer review. These meetings result in the preparation of evaluation documents of work "in-progress," which are also available online. This link http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/annual_review.html provides information on the Annual Merit Review & Evaluation meeting for the Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Program. This link http://www1.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/resources/vt_merit_review_11.html provides information on the Vehicle Technologies Program.

Conducting and Publishing Case Studies on Their Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Work. EERE has supported case studies on SBIR grants on energy. See http://www1.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells/pdfs/sbir_proton.pdf for an example. More broadly, EERE has an effort underway to link SBIR companies with the Clean Energy Alliance of Business Incubators to provide mentoring and other support to these companies. This effort includes regular monitoring by a third party to evaluate the effectiveness of this partnership.