

# U.S. Department of Energy Sustainability Performance Office DOE Sustainability SPOTlight

Issue 48 August 2015

## SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

### SPO Issues Conditional Award Notices to SPOFOA Projects

The Sustainability Performance Office recently issued conditional award notices to project applications submitted to the SPO Funding Opportunity Announcement. In total, over sixty applications were received through the inaugural program, covering improvements to facility energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy, potable water use, and high performance sustainable buildings (HPSB). Final awards will be completed in the coming months. For more information, please contact [SPOFOA@hq.doe.gov](mailto:SPOFOA@hq.doe.gov).

### EFCOG Subgroup Merger and Changes to SAN Calls

Earlier this year, the Energy Facilities Contractors Group (EFCOG) merged two subgroups—the Energy and Sustainability sub-group and the Environmental sub-group—to form the Sustainability and Environmental Sub-group (SESG). As the two former groups shared a common core mission, the merger creates opportunities for collaboration and partnerships between the groups' members.

Recently, the SESG partnered with the Office of Sustainability Support on a new alternating monthly teleconference series schedule, modifying the existing monthly Sustainability Assistance Network (SAN) teleconference schedule. The new teleconferences will be conducted during the established SAN timeslot [third Thursday of each month from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM (Eastern)]. The first SESG webinar will be held on August 20, 2015, the next SAN webinar will be on September 17, 2015, and so on. Agendas will be sent to SAN and SESG mailing lists prior to each webinar.

For more information on the new teleconference series, please contact [Monica Witt](#) (Chair, SESG) or [Beverly Whitehead](#) (SAN Coordination, AU-21).

### GAO Issues Report on Green Building Requirements, Challenges

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) recently issued a report to the U.S. Senate outlining the use of third party green building certification systems and challenges to implementing federal green building requirements. GAO surveyed five agencies in their review—DOD, DOE, EPA, GSA, and VA—and noted the age of facilities and mission demand as the primary obstacles to incorporating sustainability requirements in federal facilities. DOE was also mentioned specifically, noting the specialized nature of the DOE mission as a challenge to successfully integrating sustainability into its operations.

To view the report, please visit: <http://www.gao.gov/assets/680/671618.pdf>.

## SUSTAINABILITY SUPERSTAR



The SPO extends a sincere note of appreciation to Brian Sullivan.

Brian supported the SPO for more than 3 years and championed efforts to streamline and improve DOE sustainability data collection, reporting, and analysis.

Brian is currently supporting an IBM/Carnegie Mellon University smarter buildings partnership aimed at reducing energy and facility operating costs.

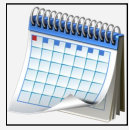
Thanks for your contributions and dedication to the SPO mission!

***Send us your Superstar!***



**Have Questions or Comments for the Sustainability Performance Office?** The Sustainability Performance Office is looking for your feedback. Please direct questions, comments, superstar nominations, or success stories to [sustainability@hq.doe.gov](mailto:sustainability@hq.doe.gov).

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND MILESTONES



Aug 10: [Advanced Utility Energy Services Contracting Workshop](#)

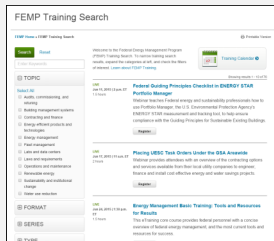
Aug 10: [ESPC Workshop](#)

Aug 10: [Data Center Energy Efficiency Best Practices Workshop](#)

Aug 11-13: [Energy Efficiency Exchange 2015](#)

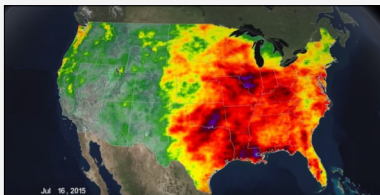
Aug 26: [Introduction to UESCs](#)

## ON-DEMAND TRAINING



Visit the Federal Energy Management Program's [Training Search](#) for a comprehensive collection of on-demand trainings.

## VIDEO SPOTLIGHT



[Rainfall Accumulation Across the United States \(1/1/15-7/16/15\)](#)

## SUSTAINABILITY RESOURCES

### GSA Sponsors E-Waste Event in DC Area

On August 12, GSA will host an e-waste recycling event at its Springfield, Virginia facility. This disposal event provides federal agencies a free opportunity to dispose of unneeded and inoperable electronic assets. Participants will receive certification that items were properly disposed of in accordance with EPA regulations. Eligible electronics include computer equipment, monitors, televisions, cell phones, and copiers.

For more information on this event, visit: <https://interact.gsa.gov/gsa-event/e-waste-event-sponsored-gsa-ncr-personal-property-management-division-2>.

## SUCCESS STORIES

### WAPA's Latest Project Helps Transmit Renewable Energy

Earlier this year, Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) Transmission Infrastructure Program (TIP) completed the Electric District No. 5 to Palo Verde Hub project. The 109-mile transmission line project increases transmission capacity and reliability to deliver energy, including renewable energy, to consumers in Arizona, southern Nevada, and southern California. The project was developed in coordination with the Southwest Public Power Resource group, a collection of 14 public power companies and tribes that include several Western firm electric and transmission service customers.

For more information on WAPA's Transmission Infrastructure Program, visit: <https://www.wapa.gov/transmission/TIP/Pages/tip.aspx>.

### NREL Celebrates Colorado Bike to Work Day

On June 24, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)—joining the greater Denver area—celebrated Bike to Work Day. NREL also participated in the Bike to Work Day Business Challenge, achieving first place in Jefferson County for organizations with more than 300 employees. In total, 238 NREL employees participated, the highest participation rate in Jefferson County. In addition, seventeen employees participated in a group ride from Boulder to Denver. Overall, 850 organizations took part in the Bike to Work Day event state-wide; NREL ranked 13<sup>th</sup> among all Colorado business organizations.



For more information on the event, visit: <http://biketoworkday.us/>.

### DOE #LabsRoadShow - Lab Contributions in Photos

The second stop on the [DOE National Labs Road Show](#) explores lab contributions. DOE labs have advanced science and research in many obvious areas, but many other significant contributions may surprise you. To view a photo slideshow highlighting a few select contributions, visit: <http://energy.gov/articles/20-amazing-things-national-labs-have-done>.



The **greengov** Leader  
Council on Environmental Quality

Check out CEQ's latest *GreenGov Leader* newsletter: <https://www.fedcenter.gov/assistance/newsletters/greengovleader/>



Please consider the environment before printing. If you do print, please consider printing draft quality with black ink.

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