

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

Issue 4 December 2011

## Performance Awards

### GreenGov Awards

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) recognized two DOE sites for the 2011 GreenGov Presidential Awards:

- ♦ **The Green Innovation Award** – The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) designed a net-zero energy data center that creates as much energy as it consumes by using the climate as a natural coolant, capturing waste heat to ventilate in the cooler months, and employing advanced equipment to minimize energy usage. The data center consumes 81 percent less energy than its predecessor, reduces greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 5,000,000 pounds of carbon dioxide equivalent and is expected to reduce electricity costs by \$200,000 per year.
- ♦ **The Green Dream Team Award** – Bonneville Power Administration, was recognized as a prime contributor and member of EPA's Region 10 Federal Green Challenge Team. The Team created a collaborative, interagency support program to help 52 Federal agencies at more than 90 locations meet sustainability goals and targets. The Federal Green Challenge helps regions across the country use a "bottom up" approach that encourages local and regional partners to share best practices that complement agency-wide goals. In 2010, partners reduced their combined carbon footprint by more than 172,000 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e, resulting in over \$1 million in avoided costs.

For more information visit: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2011/11/01/greengov-presidential-award-winners-2011>.

### Green Light Awards

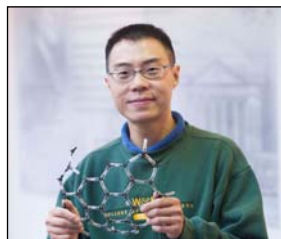
The U.S. Green Building Council East Tennessee Chapter selected Oak Ridge National Laboratory for its inaugural East Tennessee Green Light Award for exemplary contributions to sustainability in the built environment. ORNL has one million square feet of LEED buildings on site, a first for Tennessee and DOE. For more information visit: [http://www.ornl.gov/info/press\\_releases/get\\_press\\_release.cfm?ReleaseNumber=mr20111130-00](http://www.ornl.gov/info/press_releases/get_press_release.cfm?ReleaseNumber=mr20111130-00).

## DOE Success Stories

### Inventing Supercapacitors at Jefferson Lab

Jefferson Lab scientist Xin Zhao was recently named a co-winner of a 2011 award from the World Technology Network for his patented supercapacitor design that uses graphene. His invention could lead to high-capacity, high-power energy storage systems.

"It is very special," Zhao said of his invention's first use of vertically standing graphene in a supercapacitor. "There are many applications for graphene-based supercapacitors. Graphene makes the supercapacitors lighter and can increase energy density and power density of these energy storage devices. And also, to build graphene from carbon-enriched gases by plasma-enhanced-chemical-vapor-deposition (PE-CVD) is very low-cost." To read more visit: <http://www.ornl.gov/news/OnTarget/>.



## Sustainability Superstar

Eliza Hotchkiss at NREL successfully revised FEMP's Architectural and Engineering Services Procurement Guide with the help of Molly Riddell (NREL) and Kim Petry (DOE). The final version will be released by December 31. For more information, email [eliza.hotchkiss@nrel.gov](mailto:eliza.hotchkiss@nrel.gov).



*Send us your champion!*

## Did You Know?

Light-emitting diode—or "LED"—holiday light strings can save money, be safer, and last longer than traditional holiday decorations. Read more at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

## Upcoming Events and Milestones

Dec. 1: PPTRS closes for data entry

Dec. 6: *From Awareness to Action*, The USDA BioPreferred® Seminars  
<http://www.energyworkshops.org/BioPreferredAwarenessToAction/>

Dec. 9: Consolidated Energy Data Report (CEDR) due to SPO

December 13-15:  
POWER-GEN International, Las Vegas, NV  
[www.power-gen.com/index.html](http://www.power-gen.com/index.html)

Dec. 15: EISA Sec 432 implemented project upload

Dec. 31: Happy New Year!

Jan. 6: Success stories for DOE Annual Energy Report due to SPO

## Wiki for DOE

DOE's internal Wikipedia page "Powerpedia," can now be accessed from all DOE Field Offices and Labs. Check it out and post your site's information: <https://powerpedia.energy.gov>.



Sustainability Performance Office  
[sustainability@hq.doe.gov](mailto:sustainability@hq.doe.gov)  
202-586-8645

Sharepoint: [www.tinyurl.com/doesustainabilitysharepoint](http://www.tinyurl.com/doesustainabilitysharepoint)

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