

***"In order to create a clean energy economy that will increase our Nation's prosperity, promote energy security, protect the interests of taxpayers, and safeguard the health of our environment, the Federal Government must lead by example."***

-Executive Order 13514



## Welcome Kate Brandt!



On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Kate Brandt was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Administration's Federal Environmental Executive.

Kate brings extensive experience in energy and environmental policy to CEQ, including work as Senior Advisor at the U.S. Department of Energy in the Office of the Under Secretary for Science and Energy, Director for Energy and Environment in the Office of Presidential Personnel at the White House, Special Advisor for Energy to the Secretary of the Navy, and Policy Analyst in the White House Office of Energy and Climate Change.

Her knowledge and expertise will be valuable assets in CEQ's work to minimize the Federal Government's environmental impact and make Federal facilities and activities more sustainable.

## [OFEE News]

### Additional \$2 Billion for Energy Savings Performance Contracts

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, President Obama [announced](#) the doubling of his initial goal for [energy savings performance contracts \(ESPCs\)](#) for the Federal Government to improve energy efficiency at no net cost to taxpayers. The commitment involves an additional \$2 billion goal in Federal energy efficiency upgrades to Federal buildings over the next 3 years, which, combined with initial commitments of \$2 billion in 2011, will result in a total of \$4 billion in energy efficiency performance contracts through 2016. Federal agencies have already exceeded the President's initial goal, committing to over \$2.7 billion in ESPCs.

### Capital Solar Challenge

On April 17<sup>th</sup> at the White House, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan announced the [Capital Solar Challenge \(CSC\)](#). The CSC asks Federal agencies to work with DOE and GSA to identify opportunities for solar deployment in the National Capital Region on buildings, open land, and publically-assisted housing, using innovative financing and procurement models such as power purchase agreements and bulk purchasing. This month GSA initiated the contracting process that will eventually lead to the development and issuance of a Request for Proposal related to a bulk procurement of solar arrays for various sites throughout the National Capital Region. Agencies that are interested in participating in the CSC should contact Danny Gore at DOE's Federal Energy Management Program or Ron Allard at GSA's National Capital Region team.

### GreenGov Renewable Energy Workshop

OFEE hosted a GreenGov Workshop on Renewable Energy Purchasing and Deployment on May 14<sup>th</sup>, which included private sector and Federal leaders in renewable energy, as well as a keynote address from Secretary of the Navy, Ray Mabus. Secretary Mabus emphasized the importance of renewable energy to the Administration and military security. Private sector and Federal panelists discussed the challenges and opportunities in renewable energy deployment for Federal agencies, and provided illustrative examples of how the Federal government is responding to President Obama's goal of 20% renewable energy consumption by 2020.

### **EPA's RE-Powering America's Land Initiative**

EPA and OFEE are working together to align EPA's efforts to develop renewables on contaminated sites with Federal renewable energy consumption goals. The EPA's RE-Powering America's Land Initiative promotes the reuse of contaminated lands, landfills and mine sites, including sites designated by RCRA or Superfund, Brownfield sites, and more, for renewable energy development. The Initiative promotes these investments through a combination of tailored redevelopment tools, outreach and technical assistance. The potential development benefits of siting renewables on contaminated lands include the reduction of development pressures on open space, the ability to leverage existing infrastructure, reduce project cycle times through streamlined permitting and zoning, and improve project economics with reduced land costs and tax incentives. There are 476 Federal facilities with current or former contaminated areas, many of which have potential for renewables production. With the new Federal goal for 20% renewable energy consumption by 2020, the EPA initiative is a great opportunity for Federal agencies interested in onsite renewable energy production to consider these underutilized sites. More information on the Initiative is available [here](#).

## **[CEQ News]**

### **GreenGov Green Button Workshop**

On June 5<sup>th</sup>, CEQ hosted the GreenGov workshop on the [Green Button Initiative](#), an industry-led response to a White House call-to-action to provide utility customers with easy and secure access to their own energy usage information in a consumer-accessible and computer-friendly format. The event brought together Federal sustainability officers, energy managers, and other key government stakeholders in an effort to increase Federal awareness of Green Button and provide resources to promote the use and adoption of Green Button throughout the Federal community. Agencies are encouraged to use Green Button data to help achieve optimal energy usage efficiencies and to meet their reporting and benchmarking requirements. GSA has already begun to implement Green Button to help save energy and lower costs across the Federal Government.

### **GreenGov Presidential Award Nominations Closed**

On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, nomination submissions for the White House Council on Environmental Quality's 2014 [GreenGov Presidential Awards](#) closed. The awards celebrate extraordinary achievement in the pursuit of President Obama's Executive Order 13514 on Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance, honoring exceptional Federal personnel, teams, projects, facilities, and programs that exemplify the President's charge to lead by example in sustainability. CEQ received a total of 113 nominations in seven different categories. This year's GreenGov Presidential Award finalists will be announced in Fall 2014, and winners will be recognized with an award ceremony at the White House.

## **[News]**

### **EPA Proposes Power Plant Rules**

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the EPA released the [Clean Power Plan Proposed Rule](#) to cut carbon emissions from existing power plants, the largest single source of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The plan is flexible; recognizing the critical role of states in aiding the Federal government in cutting air pollution, and promoting specific efforts tailored toward individual states' differing pollution sources and opportunities for improvement. Under the Clean Power Plan's proposed rule, states will develop unique, rate-based goals for carbon emission reductions from the power sector.

### **National Climate Assessment**

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) released the [Third National Climate Change Assessment: Climate Change Impacts in the United States](#), which identifies and explicates the current and predicted changes in short-global climate cycles and their effects on American water, agriculture, forests, citizen health, and more. The assessment

### **Army Debuts Innovative Solar Projects**

The Army recently announced two exciting solar energy projects in [Arizona](#) and [Georgia](#), which employ unique methods of solar deployment with no upfront costs. Rather than a traditional third-party PPA, Army made use of the GSA Areawide authority, which allows for contracting of utility services, including development of solar energy projects, with power purchased by the Army. Utilizing easements on Army land, Fort Huachuca in Arizona will see an 18-megawatt project, and Georgia installations will have three 30-megawatt projects installed throughout the state.

### **GSA Cuts Carbon Pollution in Shipping Contract**

Under the [newest domestic delivery services contract](#) awarded by GSA on May 1<sup>st</sup>, shipping providers will measure and report the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the packages they deliver for Federal agencies. During the procurement, GSA considered bidders' estimates of past and future emissions, as well as their emissions-reducing practices. Agencies will now be able to see the emissions from the packages they ship, and can consider means of achieving emissions reductions, such as shipping by ground instead of by air.

### **Federal Green Challenge Broadens Water Goals**

Spearheaded by EPA's Sustainable Materials Management Program, the [Federal Green Challenge](#) has spurred Federal agencies nation-wide to lead by example in environmental protection by working to minimize their environmental impact. On May 28<sup>th</sup>, the Federal Green Challenge expanded its water goals to include: 1) decrease annual storm water runoff from existing sites by 5% or more through the construction of green infrastructure, and 2) reduce Federal purchasing of bottled water.

Improving storm water management may help agencies increase energy efficiency, improve aesthetics, and decrease costs, and bottled water reductions will cut costs and encourage the use of reusable water bottles.



### **GSA Implements Deep Energy Savings Retrofit ESPC**

On June 11<sup>th</sup> the IRS New Carrollton Federal Facility in New Carrollton, MD hosted a groundbreaking to kick off an ESPC between GSA and energy services company, Ameresco. Speakers at the event included GSA Administrator Dan Tangherlini, CEQ Federal Environmental Executive Kate Brandt, DOE Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy and Efficiency Dr. Kathleen Hogan, and Ameresco President/CEO George P. Sakellaris. The New Carrollton Facility's Deep Energy Savings Retrofits, which include 11,000 new LED lights, an 808kW solar array to shade the parking lot, and 1MW of onsite solar and geothermal generation, will result in 60% energy savings, reduce annual GHG emissions by 20,000 metric tons, dramatically cut utility costs, and help the building meet state storm water requirements. This highly successful ESPC is a part of the [Presidential Performance Contracting Challenge](#) and makes a considerable contribution toward the President's initial \$2 billion ESPC goal.

Don't forget to check out [what's new](#) on FedCenter.gov.