

Dear Colleague,

At the end of last month, we released the Department of Energy's draft Strategic Plan for public comment. That document speaks to the full breadth of the Department, including the energy, basic science, nuclear security, and environmental cleanup missions and provides an articulation of our management principles. Additional reports and implementation plans will follow that provide greater detail about how each program line will accomplish our goals.

Our next step in energy will be to develop a DOE-Quadrennial Technology Review (QTR), as recommended by the President's Council of Advisors on Science & Technology (PCAST).

The DOE-QTR will focus on energy technology innovation and include:

- A description of the country's current energy landscape, identification of challenges to energy system transformation, and a clear vision of the Department's goals for energy innovation;
- A discussion of the roles of government, industry, national laboratories, and universities in energy system transformation;
- Roadmaps for advancing key energy technologies, including current status, historical pace of development and market diffusion, their technological potential, factors affecting their market prospects, and research and demonstration milestones;
- Principles by which the Department can judge the priority of various technology efforts; and
- The connections of energy technology innovation to energy policy.

A DOE-QTR will require strong input from many sources both inside and outside of the Administration. It will draw on the deep energy expertise within the Department and our National Laboratories, and we will need your input to establish strong and lasting results. We also plan to engage industry, business, state and local governments, nongovernmental organizations, and consumers as to how the Department can support energy technology innovation that enables energy transformation. The DOE-QTR will create a robust, multi-year energy technology roadmap with integrated views of short-, intermediate-, and long-term energy objectives.

I have asked Steve Koonin, Under Secretary for Science, to lead development of the DOE-QTR. He will announce the additional details of this effort soon. I have set an aggressive goal of having a draft document delivered to me by this July. Dr. Koonin's DOE-QTR team will coordinate closely with the CFO's Program Analysis & Evaluation team to coordinate data calls and share program responses as we start the formulation of the FY 2013 budget request. This will help couple the DOE-QTR effort to development of the FY 2013 budget request and minimize the demands on our program offices.

To allow Dr. Koonin to focus on this important task, for the duration of the DOE-QTR project, I am delegating Director of the Office of Science Bill Brinkman to serve in Under Secretary Koonin's role on several Department-wide executive boards. Dr. Brinkman will take on responsibility for issues coming before the Operations Management Council, the Information Management Governance Council, and the Energy Systems Acquisition Advisory Board.

In keeping with the President's commitment to transparency, the Department will adopt a policy of posting online all meetings with external parties that specifically discuss the DOE-QTR. Dr. Koonin will issue more detailed guidance on the transparency process soon.

You'll be able to follow the QTR project on PowerPedia at <https://powerpedia.energy.gov/wiki/DOE-QTR>.

We look forward to getting started on this project, which will help move us further down the path towards a clean energy future.

Sincerely,

Steven Chu