

Dear Colleagues,

The holiday season is a time to reflect on the past year and to give thanks for our good fortune. This season, I wanted to take a moment to thank all of you for your incredible work. I'm constantly impressed by and proud of the ingenuity, talent and commitment of our workforce.

The Department of Energy has a lot to be proud of this year. We have expanded the frontiers of science, reduced nuclear dangers, and laid the foundation for a clean energy economy. As we approach the New Year, the dedicated, hardworking employees and contractors of the Department will continue to play an important role in meeting the great challenges of our time and building a stronger America.

In recognition of the holidays, I am authorizing an early release of three hours on Thursday, December 23rd for DOE employees. For more information on the early release, please click [here](#). Additionally, I am authorizing a three-hour early release on Thursday, December 30th, in recognition of the New Year's holiday.

I look forward to continuing our important work together towards a healthier planet and a stronger, safer and more prosperous future.

I wish you and your loved ones a holiday season filled with joy and happiness.

Steven Chu