

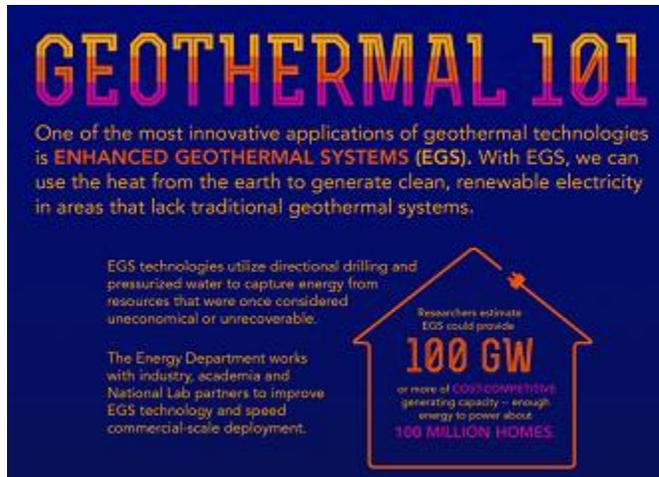
BUDGET TIME: Last week, Deputy Secretary Poneman detailed President Obama's \$28.4 billion FY 2014 budget request for DOE, an 8% increase over the current funding level. The Budget represents the President's continued commitment to an all-of-the-above energy strategy that prioritizes investments in innovation, clean energy technologies, and national security. <http://go.usa.gov/TjYA>



A SOLAR BOOST FOR NATURAL GAS: Researchers at PNNL are working to use solar power to increase the energy content of natural gas. As the New York Times explains, "The new system captures solar energy in a chemical form, using the sun's heat to break open the molecules of natural gas and water and reshuffle them into something that burns better: carbon monoxide and pure hydrogen." <http://nyti.ms/14tz5lj>



JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH: This week, the Desert Peak 2 project in Nevada became the nation's first Commercial, Grid-Connected Enhanced Geothermal System. The USGS estimates that there are 100 to 500 gigawatts of potential geothermal capacity in the United States. <http://go.usa.gov/TjgY>



FOR MORE INFOGRAPHICS: Check out a collection of DOE's outstanding infographics on our Pinterest page: <http://bit.ly/XRqzCH>

HOW DO YOU SAY "HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM" IN CZECH?: This month the NNSA and the Czech Republic's Nuclear Research Institute removed 68 kilograms of HEU, enough material for two nuclear weapons, from the Czech Republic. With this shipment, the Czech Republic becomes the tenth country from which all HEU has been removed since President Obama announced an international effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear material around the world. <http://go.usa.gov/TjgQ>

SWEET SUCCESS: Scientists at LBNL are improving methods to release sugars from cellulosic biomass for the production of advanced biofuels. Read more: <http://go.usa.gov/TjYI>

A RAINBOW OVER PADUCAH: Check EM's Flickr feed for the latest photos from sites across the country, including a rainbow at Paducah's East End Smelter demolition. <http://bit.ly/15iFzCW>



EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW: Check out DOE's new Virtual University page for all of your training needs. <http://go.usa.gov/Tjgw>

KEEP THEM COMING: Got a story idea for *Plugged In!*? Birthstones or milestones? Shoot an email to PublicAffairs@hq.doe.gov.

...AND FINALLY: <http://bit.ly/13cNwZX>

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