



Energy and Environment Quarterly

U.S. Department of Commerce; Office of Administrative Services; Office of Real Estate, Policy, and Major Programs; Energy, Environmental and Transportation Division



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DOC Receives Presidential Energy Award

The Department of Commerce (DOC) Energy Management Team was selected for a Presidential Award for Leadership in Federal Energy Management by the White House Council on Environmental Quality. An awards banquet was held Thursday, October 29, at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center.



Members of the DOC team for the Presidential Award for Leadership in Federal Energy Management.

The DOC team received the award for their efforts and leadership in promoting and improving energy use in facilities and operations. Energy intensity across the Department has been reduced 19.9 percent from FY 2003 and water intensity has

been reduced by 30 percent from 2007.

DOC leverages in-house staff, seeks commercial and Federal energy experts, and implements Energy Savings Performance Contracts and Utility Energy Service Contracts to help accomplish energy conservation goals.

Employees creatively approach challenges through energy working groups, employee Green Teams, and energy awareness campaigns.

DOC also established various interagency agreements to provide technical support for energy audits, renewable energy projects, and sustainable buildings.

Members of the DOC Presidential Energy Award team were James Boyd (NOAA), John Bollinger (NIST), Jana Brooks (OS), William Freeman (NOAA), Rosaline Hill (OS), Jatin Patel (NIST), Joseph Prebble (OS), Robert Scinta (OS), and Genevieve Walker (OS). *EO*

BEA Cell Phone Drive Awards Ceremony

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) was the winner of the Herbert C. Hoover Building's (HCHB) Green Team sponsored cell phone collection drive in May. BEA, one of the smaller bureaus within the Department, successfully beat out larger competitors largely due to the efforts of Bonita Ennis, who spearheaded the effort.

During the drive, 128 cell phones were collected, with BEA donating over one-third of the total. As the winning bureau, BEA selected the charity, Doorways for Women



Steve Landefeld, Director of BEA, Bonita Ennis, and OAS Acting Director, Doug Elznic.

and Children, to receive the donation on behalf of the Department.

The Office of Administrative Services (OAS)

presented BEA with a
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Did You Know...

In the U.S., an additional 5 million tons of waste is generated during the holidays? Four million tons of this is wrapping paper and shopping bags.

A Message from Our Director

We have just completed Energy Awareness Month in October and I would like to take the time to urge you to continue working toward greening the Department.

DOC employee efforts have significantly contributed to making DOC sustainable and helped meet conservation goals. The examples you have set in energy reduction have already been recognized as some of the best in the Federal Government. The Department was recently recognized by the White House with the 2009 Presidential Award for Leadership in Federal Energy Management. In addition, the National Institute of Standards and Technology was awarded the Department of Energy 2009 Federal Energy and Water Management Award.

With the signing of the

new Executive Order 13513, *Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance*, the Federal workforce has been called upon by the President to provide leadership and direction for the nation in environmental, energy and economic performance. OAS and DOC have accepted the President's challenge and new efforts to "green" the Department will be unveiled in the coming year.

With your support, DOC will continue to lead the way to a sustainable future for all. ☞

Douglas F. Elznic

Douglas F. Elznic
Acting Director, Office of
Administrative Services

BEA

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certificate of achievement during a small awards ceremony in October.

The HCHB Green Team will be sponsoring another recycling initiative in the coming months. These initiatives are a great way to get involved and give back to the community because all donations are given to worthy charities.

The Energy, Environmental, and Transportation Division collects used cell phones as well as print cartridges on a continuing basis in room 1036. ☞



Save Energy. Save the Future.

In a proclamation declaring October as Energy Awareness month, President Obama stated that "The Federal Government can and should lead by example when it comes to creating innovative ways to reduce green house gas emissions, increase energy efficiency, conserve water, reduce waste and use environmentally-responsible products and technologies."

To help build a culture of energy consciousness, the Energy, Environmental and Transportation Division (EETD) hosted the 2009 Energy Conservation Fair for the Department's employees on October 14.

EETD highlighted the Department's energy saving initiatives as well as provided educational opportunities for employees to identify and improve energy efficiency at their desk and at home.

Additionally, EETD charters the DOC's Energy Working

Group, comprised of all bureaus within the Department. This group provides guidance and support to implement new initiatives in the HCHB and DOC-wide. ☞



One of the presenters highlighting water conservation measures that can be taken at home.

Environmental Planning Division Created

The Office of Real Estate Policy and Major Programs has added a new Division that focuses on Environmental Planning.

The new Environmental Planning Division (EPD) is responsible for integrating the overall environmental policy development and planning functions of the Department. The EPD is the designated Departmental representatives for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) program and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

The primary goal of the EPD is to provide oversight and ensure compliance with NEPA, NHPA, and other relevant regulations. This is

accomplished by providing consistent and uniform application of environmental policies, guidance, and practices and assisting in the development of strategies and programs that support OREPMP's core mission of conservation and environmental protection.

The NEPA Coordinator for the new division is Ms. Genevieve Walker. She may be contacted at gwalker@doc.gov, 202-482-2345. ☞

Did You Know...

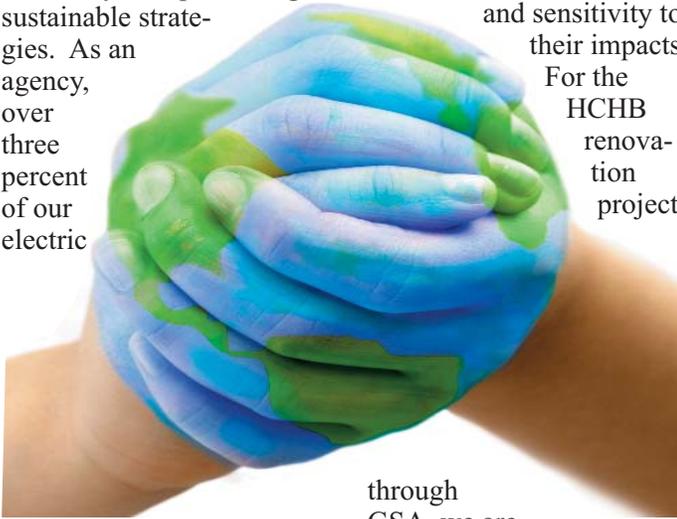
Energy fuels cars, furnaces, and national economies. It also costs money, affects our lives, and sometimes makes headlines.

If you want to understand where your gasoline comes from, what determines the price of electricity, or how much renewable energy the United States uses, then you are not alone. Energy Explained from the U.S. Energy Information Administration tells you all of this and more at www.eia.doe.gov/energyexplained.

Energy and Sustainable Initiatives

The Department of Commerce (DOC) is taking steps to secure a more sustainable future. DOC is already using clean energy, increasing energy efficiency, and promoting sustainable strategies. As an agency, over three percent of our electric

Performance criteria involve: energy savings, water efficiency, CO2 emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts. For the HCHB renovation project



consumption is from renewable sources. We have reduced our energy usage by over nine percent compared to 2003 levels.

Energy meters have been installed on many of the buildings throughout the Department and are continuing to be placed in areas where they are still needed. Energy meters allow us to keep track of a building's energy usage, making comparisons possible from year to year.

Additionally, all new building and major renovation projects strive for LEED – (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification. LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system, providing third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance.

through GSA, we are striving for LEED – Gold

certification that is a step higher than our minimum goal.

DOC has also entered into several interagency agreements to further the energy program. The Department of Energy will provide support for the enhancement of the energy program website, assess petroleum reduction within our fleet, and assist with the development of a Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan.

An interagency agreement with the National Technical Information Service has initiated an energy data management program here at DOC Headquarters. Once fully implemented, this program will have the capability of providing real-time energy and water use data for the

Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB). Benefits of the program will include a heightened energy awareness for HCHB staff, rapid troubleshooting capabilities for building management, and more accurate data for energy reporting and energy project evaluations. If successful, this program may be implemented Department-wide.

As an agency, DOC continues to search for innovative ways to reach our energy and sustainability goals. *so*

HCHB Cafeteria Goes Green

Americans use an estimated one trillion disposable plates and utensils every year, enough to circle the equator three times. Due to the overwhelmingly destructive and voluminous amount of plastic and polystyrene, or Styrofoam, waste created daily, and the efforts of concerned employees, the HCHB Cafeteria has gone green!

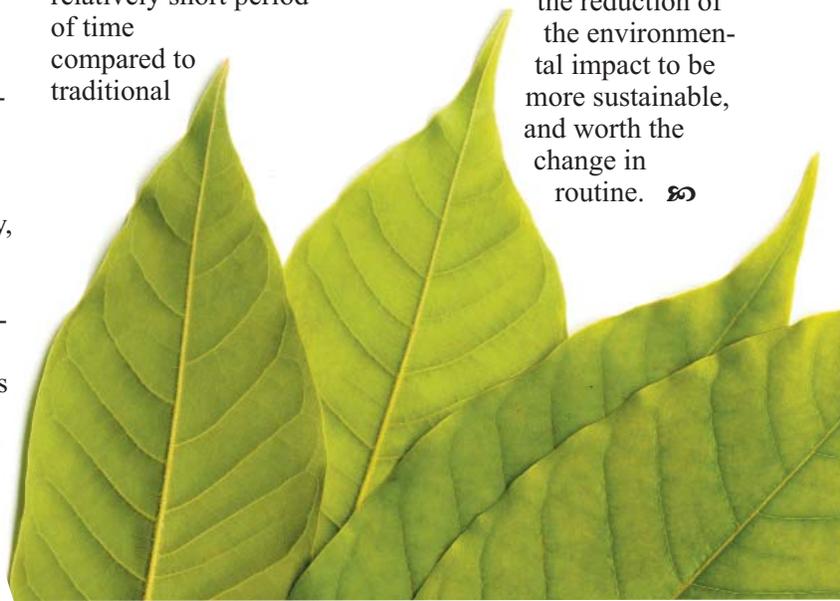
The cafeteria is switching from polystyrene and plastic containers and cutlery to biodegradable, compostable, earth-friendly, bio-based products. Switching to these new products allows DOC to reduce their carbon footprint and become better stewards of the earth.

Conventional plastic is made from petroleum,

but by contrast the new bio-plastic containers available in the cafeteria are made from renewable resources, like corn, sugar cane, and switch grass. The renewable resources used in the manufacturing of these items makes them more sustainable. Additionally, bio-plastics degrade in a relatively short period of time compared to traditional

plastics. As these products degrade, they produce carbon dioxide, water, and soil.

The new containers will be safer for you as polystyrene can leach chemicals into hot foods and liquids. Although the new materials used in the cafeteria may take some getting used to, we hope that you will find the reduction of the environmental impact to be more sustainable, and worth the change in routine. *so*



Green Tips: Ideas for Improving Your Ecological Footprint

The first step to taking a whole-house energy efficiency approach is to find out which parts of your house use the most energy. A home energy audit will pinpoint those areas and suggest the most effective measures for cutting your energy costs.

You can conduct a simple home energy audit yourself by:

- Checking the insulation levels in your attic, exterior and basement walls, ceilings, floors, and crawl spaces;
- Checking for holes or cracks around your walls, ceilings, windows,

doors, lighting and plumbing fixtures, switches, and electrical outlets that can leak air into or out of your home;

- Checking for open fireplace dampers; and
- Making sure your appliances and heating and cooling systems are properly maintained. Check your owner's manuals for the recommended maintenance.

For more information about home energy audits, including free tools and calculators, visit www.energysavers.gov or www.natresnet.org. ☞

Transportation joins Energy and Environment

The Department of Commerce Transportation Program has recently been relocated from the Office of Administrative Operations to the Office of Real Estate Policy and Major Programs (OREPMP).

The purpose of this move was to consolidate and align the program areas of Energy, Environmental and Fleet management into one office, as they are related via the new Executive Order (EO) 13514, *Federal Leadership In*



Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance, signed October 5, 2009.

Two goals of the EO are to establish an integrated strategy towards sustainability

in the Federal Government, and to make reducing greenhouse gas emis-

sions a priority for Federal agencies.

The move to OREPMP will assist all program areas, which overlap in their scope, to receive the attention necessary to meet the aforementioned transportation-related EO goals and all other mandates. ☞

Getting to Know Division Chief - Gregory Falzetta



Mr. Greg Falzetta, Chief, Energy, Environmental, and Transportation Division.

Mr. Greg Falzetta joined the Department in July as Chief of the Energy, Environmental, and Transportation Division.

Greg graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science in Oceanography. He spent the next twelve years in the United States Marine Corps as an Artillery Officer, primarily specializ-

ing in nuclear and chemical weapons, safety, and command and control.

After leaving the Corps, he completed both a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and a Masters of Environmental Engineering at Drexel University.

He was then hired by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) at the William J. Hughes Technical Center (Center) where he served as the Deputy Program Manager for Hazardous Waste Remediation. In this capacity, he managed the investigation, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of all Superfund sites at the Center, with a budget of over \$67 million.

He was also a Contract-

ing Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) and resident engineer for the Center's environmental task order contract. Greg also served as the program manager and technical point of contact for polychlorinated biphenyls, ozone depleting substances, stormwater management, explosives safety, and range management and safety.

While serving as the Environmental Management System (EMS) Coordinator, Greg created and managed the FAA's first ISO 14001 certified EMS.

Most recently, Greg was a staff Environmental Engineer in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Safety and Environmental Compliance Office.

Greg can be reached at either 202-482-1080 or gfalzetta@doc.gov. ☞



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