

Foreword

From the outset of his tenure as President, George W. Bush has been steadfast in his belief that America's strengths in innovation and technology should be brought to bear on the challenges of global climate change. From his White House Rose Garden speech of June 2001, which launched his National Climate Change Technology Initiative, to the communiqué coming out of the G8 Summit in Gleneagles, Scotland, in July 2005, and the Asia-Pacific Partnership for Clean Development, also in July 2005, both of which emphasize demonstration and deployment of clean energy technologies, the President has consistently championed a major role for new and advanced technology as a means to *both* reduce greenhouse gas emissions *and* spur the economic growth necessary for enabling investment in new capital and equipment.

Acting on his vision, the President initiated a Cabinet-level reorganization of Federal climate change science and technology activities and began strengthening the Federal Government's nearly \$3 billion annual portfolio in climate-related technology R&D. The goal of this R&D is to expand options and lower the cost of technologies that reduce GHG emissions and further the President's vision in this area. Today, many Federal R&D agencies are working with universities, Federal laboratories, research institutions and consortia, private partners, and other governments in an ambitious technological undertaking. This undertaking has the potential to transform the primary economic activities that give rise to greenhouse gas emissions, including those that produce and use energy.

This *Strategic Plan*, therefore, affords an auspicious moment of opportunity in the climate change technology arena. Through an integrated framework of sound guidance, clear goals and next steps, the *Plan* will guide and galvanize the Federal Government's extensive and diverse technical efforts. Moreover, the *Plan* provides a long-term planning context that illuminates the nature of the challenge, as well as the opportunities for technology, which will better inform future Federal R&D planning.

The *Plan*, along with a companion document, *Vision and Framework for Strategy and Planning*^{*}, lays the foundation for setting priorities through its technology strategies and criteria for investment. In its sections about our current portfolio, the *Plan* highlights what we regard as the more important investment opportunities at this time. Since the *Plan* is forward-looking, and because current priorities will evolve over time, we are also seeking public input on future research directions.

Indeed, we hope this *Plan* provides a focal point for enhancing dialogue and entering into new partnerships with interested parties outside the U.S. Government. Therefore, I invite readers to avail themselves of the opportunity to comment on this document – a preliminary *Plan* – using the guidance found in the end of Chapter 1. Thank you in advance for your interest and attention.

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^{*} *Vision and Framework for Strategy and Planning*, U.S. Climate Change Technology Program, U.S. Department of Energy, DOE/PI-003, August 2005. See also: <http://www.climatechange.gov>.