

THE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY-ENERGY

OVERVIEW

ABOUT ARPA-E

The Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) invests in transformational ideas to create America's future energy technologies. ARPA-E focuses exclusively on early-stage technologies that could fundamentally change the way we generate, use, and store energy.

ARPA-E invests in innovative ideas from academia, private industry, national labs, start-up companies, and small businesses—providing project teams with an average award of \$2-3 million over several years. Every project team receives hands-on guidance to meet ambitious technical milestones that push the boundaries of energy innovation. ARPA-E's unique Technology-to-Market program also empowers project teams with business insight and strategies to accelerate the adoption of their potentially game-changing technologies.

To date, ARPA-E has invested in more than 400 energy technology projects across 30 focused program areas. The Agency also issues periodic open funding solicitations to address the full range of energy-related technologies, as well as funding solicitations aimed at supporting America's small business innovators.

ARPA-E HISTORY

In 2005, leaders from both parties in Congress asked the National Academies to identify concrete steps that federal policymakers could take to bolster U.S. competitiveness in science and technology to help the U.S. prosper and stay secure in the 21st century. The National Academies recommended that Congress establish an Advanced Research Projects Agency within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). In 2007, Congress passed, and President Bush signed into law, the America COMPETES Act, establishing ARPA-E. In 2009, Congress appropriated and President Obama allocated the new agency's first \$400 million in funding.

ARPA-E is modeled after the successful Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) in the Department of Defense (DoD), the agency credited with such innovations as GPS, the stealth fighter, and computer networking.

“Pound for pound, dollar for dollar, it's hard to find a more effective thing government has done than ARPA-E.”

– FedEx Founder, chairman, president, and CEO Fred Smith

ARPA-E'S UNIQUE PROCESS

For ARPA-E, ultimate success is moving transformational energy innovations out of the lab and into the market. ARPA-E's goal is always to best position a project so partners are likely to commit to next-stage development once ARPA-E's investment period is over.

ARPA-E advances its early-stage technologies to the market with four measurable, results-oriented handoff strategies:

- **Strategic partnerships** with private companies that can license, acquire, and buy technologies help project teams advance along a clear path to market after their time with ARPA-E.
- **New company formation**, which takes place when ARPA-E project teams at labs or universities “spin out” their work, is a way to facilitate and expedite the commercialization process for technologies.
- **Public development** from other parts of the government, including the DoD and other agencies in DOE, can further advance projects after ARPA-E's initial investment.
- **Follow-on investment** from private investors during or after an ARPA-E award can provide project teams with the strategic funding needed to move their technologies forward.

As of early 2016, 45 ARPA-E projects had attracted more than \$1.25 billion in private-sector follow-on funding. In addition, 36 ARPA-E project teams have formed new companies to advance their technologies, and 60 ARPA-E projects have partnered with other government agencies for further development.

ARPA-E LEADERSHIP



Dr. Ellen D. Williams is the Director of ARPA-E, responsible for oversight of the Agency. Prior to joining ARPA-E, Dr. Williams served as the Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Energy and as the Chief Scientist for BP. She is currently on a leave of absence from the University of Maryland where she has served as a Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Physics and the Institute for Physical Science and Technology since 2000.



Shane Kosinski is ARPA-E's Deputy Director for Operations, responsible for oversight and operations of all ARPA-E programs. Previously, Kosinski served as the Acting Deputy Director for ARPA-E and led the effort to stand up the ARPA-E Program Office and develop the means to efficiently and effectively obligate ARPA-E's Recovery Act funding. Kosinski previously worked in the DOE's Office of the Chief Financial Officer where he led several agency-wide efforts for the 2009 Presidential Transition and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.



Dr. Eric A. Rohlfing is ARPA-E's Deputy Director for Technology, responsible for oversight of all technology issues relating to ARPA-E's programs. He joined ARPA-E from DOE's Office of Science, where he most recently served as Director of the Chemical Sciences, Geosciences, and Biosciences Division in the Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES). Dr. Rohlfing also held postdoctoral appointments at Exxon Research and Engineering Company and Los Alamos National Laboratory.



David Henshall is ARPA-E's Deputy Director for Commercialization, responsible for oversight of all Technology-to-Market issues related to ARPA-E programs. Henshall previously served as an ARPA-E Technology-to-Market Advisor responsible for helping projects in ARPA-E's SWITCHES program transition from lab to market. Henshall is a successful entrepreneur with 20 years of experience building high-performing teams and increasing sales and profitability for multiple wide-bandgap semiconductor companies.

THE ARPA-E ENERGY INNOVATION SUMMIT

ARPA-E hosts the premier U.S. energy technology event: the annual ARPA-E Energy Innovation Summit. The Summit brings together thought leaders from academia, business, and government to discuss cutting-edge energy issues and facilitate relationships to help move technologies into the marketplace. In 2016, the Summit attracted more than 2,000 attendees representing a mix of research institutions and universities, investment firms, government agencies, and small and large businesses. Previous Summit keynote speakers have included former President Bill Clinton, Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates, former Vice President Al Gore, Xerox CEO Ursula Burns, and Tesla CEO Elon Musk. The 2017 Summit will be held Feb. 27-Mar 1 at the Gaylord Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. Additional information and registration details can be found at www.arpae-summit.com/.

“After 25 years of my career with a defense contractor and having seen every conference and every exhibit known to man, I truly believe that this was the best conference I have ever attended. It was well organized, informative and most importantly inspirational and moving.”

- past Summit attendee

“A must attend for anyone in industry, academia and government involved in energy-related innovation.”

- past Summit attendee

CONTACT US

For additional information on ARPA-E, please visit our website, arpa-e.energy.gov.

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