



SUNY Federal Relations Update Friday, May 8, 2009

FY 2010 Budget Update #1

The Obama Administration released yesterday a set of detailed budget requests for FY2010, the first full budget year for the new White House. The Budget Appendix is now available, but the White House is expected to make public supplementary materials next week. Although a skeleton budget was released back in February, the budget released yesterday provides the first glimpse at many of the Administration's proposals in detail.

The Budget Appendix is available at the following White House site:
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Appendix/>.

The Administration's overall \$3.6 trillion proposal calls for \$17 billion in savings over last year. \$11.5 billion would come from the discretionary spending controlled by the Appropriations panels. Most of the rest, \$3.6 billion, would come from President Obama's plan to curtail the role of private lenders in the federal student aid program. About half of the discretionary cuts would come from the Pentagon budget, as previously announced by Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates.

I will be sharing information about various aspects of the budget as it affects colleges and universities via several SUNY Federal Relations Updates today and next week. This FY 2010 Budget Update #1 will focus on the Department of Energy.

Obama Administration FY 2010 Budget Proposal for the US Department of Energy

This brief summary the DOE 's proposed budget was prepared by the Association of American Universities. Additional information about the FY 2010 DOE budget request, including Secretary Chu's Budget Presentation, key budget highlights (Steve Isakowitz' Presentation) and the full budget justification, are available at: <http://www.energy.gov/about/budget.htm>.

Department of Energy FY10 Budget Summary

The Department of Energy (DOE) is requesting \$26.4 billion in discretionary budget authority for FY10, which includes funding for the agency's energy research, science, environmental management, and defense programs. This represents an increase of \$146 million, or 0.6 percent, over the FY09 level of 26.2 billion.

The DOE Office of Science budget would grow by nearly four percent. The funding request for the DOE Office of Science is \$4.9 billion, an increase of \$184 million, or 3.9 percent, above the FY09 funding level. This funding is in addition to the \$1.6 billion the Office of Science is receiving under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

The President's FY10 budget for the Office of Science includes \$100 million for second-year funding for the 46 Energy Frontier Research Centers (EFRCs) that were just announced. This is the same amount provided for the EFRCs in FY09. The budget includes no funding for new EFRC awards.

The FY10 request for the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) is \$10 million, targeted specifically for program direction, not program funding. The new agency, which is still getting organized and has just issued its first program announcement, received \$400 million in the Recovery Act and an additional \$15 million in FY09 appropriations.

New Energy Innovation Hubs to receive \$280 million

The budget proposes \$280 million for the establishment of eight new multi-disciplinary Energy Innovation Hubs focused on addressing basic science, technology, and economic and policy energy challenges.

These hubs would support cross-disciplinary R&D focused on barriers to transforming energy technologies into commercially deployable materials, devices, and systems. The eight centers are expected to be competitively awarded and modeled after the existing DOE Bioenergy Research Centers, which bring together diverse teams of researchers from a variety of universities, national laboratories, and other organizations.

Each hub would be funded at approximately \$25 million a year for five years with the possibility of a five year renewal. To accommodate start-up costs, the FY10 budget allocates \$35 million for each hub. The topic areas for the eight Energy Innovation Hubs and the DOE offices that will be responsible for each are listed below:

- Energy Efficient Building Systems Design (Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy)
- Solar Electricity (Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy)
- Grid Materials, Devices, and Systems (Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability)
- Carbon Capture and Sequestration (Office of Fossil Energy)
- Extreme Materials (Office of Nuclear Energy)
- Modeling and Simulation (Office of Nuclear Energy)
- Fuels from Sunlight (Office of Science)
- Batteries and Energy Storage (Office of Science)

The DOE budget includes funding for a new clean energy education initiative called, REgaining our ENERGY Science and Engineering Edge (RE-ENERGYSE).

Total funding for the initiative is \$115 million. Some \$80 million of the total is for higher education programs including fellowships, internships, post-doctoral opportunities and development of interdisciplinary masters programs in areas of clean energy. The remaining \$35 million is designated for technical training programs, mostly at community colleges, and new energy-related K-12 education efforts. While this broad education effort cuts across DOE program offices, its funding is shown in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), not in the DOE Office of Science.