The Solar Industry— DOE and National Lab Programs to Accelerate Growth



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The Changing Solar Industry

- The DOE Program
- Funding R&D
- Commercialization
- National Labs R&D and Tech Transfer

Motivation: Growth of Solar Industry



Shipments of PV



- High public interest in solar
- Constraints on carbon emission
- Currently \$12B annual revenue worldwide
- Venture capital investments in solar energy \$160M (2005) \$360M (2006)
- DOE FY07 solar budget \$160M

GERMAN MARKET DOMINATES CONSUMPTION





PV SHIPMENTS AND MARKET SHARE





Funding for the Solar America Initiative will accelerate supply growth & adoption of PV/CSP technologies



Solar Energy Technologies Funding, FY01 – FY08



With one last investment push, the Federal government will realize full value of 30-years of RD&D with a major new CLEAN energy source.

* President's Request for FY07 was \$148M, final FY07 CR provided \$159M.

** President's Request for FY08 was \$148M, current House mark for FY08 is \$200M.

DOE Solar Energy Goals



- Make PV cost-competitive by 2015
 - Reduce module cost (\$/W)
 - Increase energy yield (kWh/kW_p)
 - Extend MTBF (y)
- Increase manufacturing capacity
 - Stimulate investment (MW/y)
 - Improve throughput (MW/Mfg. Line)
 - Expand automation (FTE/MW)
- Address grid-integration and issues of scale
- Solar workforce development

Where does solar industry need to head during next 5 – 15 years?



Increase demand	\rightarrow	Incentives and subsidies
Reduce cost	\rightarrow	R&D
Eliminate barriers to deployment	\rightarrow	Technology and policy



Specific DOE Initiatives



- Funding R&D
- Commercialization
- National Labs R&D and Tech Transfer

Specific DOE Initiatives Funding R&D

TPPs

- Incubator
- University solicitations
- Future funding opportunities
 - Supply chain development



SAI Technology Pathway Partnerships (TPP's) Details of Selected Projects



Projects will have a significant impact on the domestic energy economy:

- Enable expansion of the annual U.S. production capacity of PV systems from 240 MW in 2005 to as much as 2,850 MW by 2010, representing a 10-fold increase.
- Research toward lowering the cost of electricity from PV to \$0.05 \$0.10 per kWh by 2015 – a price that is competitive in markets nationwide. [Range given because of various applications (i.e., residential, commercial, utility)]

Projects will include a broad cross-section of U.S. industry:

- Involving over 50 companies, 14 universities, 3 non-profits and 2 national laboratories in 20 states across the U.S. (subject to change)
- Teams will contribute well over 50% of the funding for these projects.

Selected projects will be lead by the following corporations:

- Amonix (Los Angeles, CA)
- BP Solar (Frederick, MD)
- Boeing (Los Angeles, CA)
- Dow Chemical (Midland, MI)
- General Electric (Newark, DE)
- Miasole (Santa Clara, CA)

- Nanosolar (Palo Alto, CA)
- Sunpower (San Jose, CA)
- Powerlight (Berkeley, CA)
- United Solar Ovonic (Detroit, MI)
- Konarka (Boston, MA)
- GreenRay (Boston, MA)
- Practical Instruments (Pasadena, CA)





DOE's Portfolio Balances Technology, Maturity & Risk, with new early-stage companies adding diversity



Specific DOE Initiatives Commercialization (under development)



- Commercialization and deployment fund
 - \$7.2M in inaugural year for NREL, Oak Ridge, and Sandia
 - Cross "valley of death" between research and commercialization
- EIR program
 - Venture capital EIRs at National Laboratories
- CEBUS
 - Finance domestic clean energy development
 - Mitigate risks facing investors in large-scale production and distribution
 - Increase amount of private capital being deployed

Specific DOE Initiatives National Labs R&D and Tech Transfer

- Technology roadmaps
- PDIL
- Grid integration
- Workforce development
- Technology transfer



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Technology Roadmaps define need





Technology Roadmaps help R&D community respond to changing industry

Technology Roadmaps for each technology





- Wafer Si
- Film Si
- CdTe
- CIGS
- Concentrating PV
- Organic PV
- Sensitized cells
- Revised by community next spring
- Current versions on web:

http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/solar_america/planning.html

NREL Science and Technology Facility Process Development and Integration Laboratory



- Complete PV cell process flow
- NREL and user-contributed equipment
- User facility for companies, NREL, others
- Capabilities
 - Si, CdTe, CIGS, and others
 - Vacuum and AP processing
 - Complete characterization suite
- Enables the study of
 - Cell performance, uniformity, and yield
 - Manufacturing process changes



Solar-Grid Integration: Meeting New Needs



Problem: To facilitate broad deployment of PV while mitigating grid reliability impacts of transient loads and grid frequency/voltage fluctuation, we must:







Develop Solutions for Utilities:

- Conduct detailed analysis of grid effects and requirements through T&D simulation
- Establish grid infrastructure for localized wide-area energy networks, including utility load/production control methodologies
- Utilize prototype testbeds to evaluate characteristics of new PV systems for grid

Make PV Easier for Utilities to Manage:

- Improve stand-alone capabilities of PV systems with marginal storage
- Develop utility-interactive controls for distributed PV installations

Workforce development program



GOAL

A skilled workforce for the solar industry



PRESENT STATUS

Solar companies find it difficult to find applicants with appropriate training

RECOMMENDATION

A program for undergraduates, PhD candidates, post docs, and visiting scientists to do research with scientists at NREL and other National Labs; sabbaticals

BENEFIT

A premier solar labor pool with training and ideas at the cutting edge of research, development, and industrial deployment

Successful Tech Transfer of GaInP/GaAs/Ge cell from NREL to Spectrolab and Tecstar







Mars Rover powered by multijunction cells

This very successful space cell is currently being engineered into systems for terrestrial use Sandia and Emcore Have a Long and Successful History of Technology Transfer and Commercialization (Current: Commercial Development of CPV Technology)





First Company in Science Park Sandia Developed Technology/Staff Photovoltaics and Fiber Optics







Sandia's Current Contributions (WFO):

- 1) Tracking System Design & Hardware (CSP Staff)
- 2) Packaging and Thermal Modeling (Microelectronics Staff)
- 3) Performance Characterization and Reliability Assessments (PV Staff)
- 4) Historical Perspectives (Do's &Don'ts) (multiple staff)



Terrestrial CPV

Role of Sandia in the development of Advent Solar technologies







- Sandia patented and demonstrated the Emitter Wrap Through (EWT) solar cell in its Photovoltaic Device Fabrication Laboratory in CY2000.
- The patent was licensed to Advent Solar, which has gone on to acquire significant venture capital and open a manufacturing plant based on this concept in 2007. Recently shipping first commercial products.
- Co-Founder and CTO of Advent Solar was Former Sandia Solar Staff Member

Looking to the Future



- DOE and National Labs focused on supporting solar industry
 - Funding R&D
 - Technology Roadmaps
 - Tech Transfer
- DOE developing close ties to private sector
 - Venture capital industry
 - Large companies, startups, universities
- Mode of operation is open, transparent, enabling