Funding for Clean Energy Technologies in Uncertain Times: The U.S. Department of Energy

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# DOE FY 2012 Budget Outlook

- ARPA-E
  - FY 2011: \$179M
  - FY 2012
    - Administration Request: \$550M
    - House (passed): \$100M
    - Senate (committee): \$250M
- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)
  - FY 2011: \$1.825B
  - FY 2012
    - Administration Request: \$3.2B
    - House (passed): \$1.304B
    - Senate (committee): \$1.795B
- Potential Sequestration
  - Full cuts in 2015 affect DOE Security (-10%) and Non-Security (-7.5%) spending

## DOE's Proposed FY 2012 Focus

#### ARPA-E

- Energy Storage, Energy Capture and Conversion, Solar
  Energy, Fuel Cells, Biofuels, Rare Earth Metal Substitution,
  Grid Hardware and Software, Energy Efficient Buildings
- R&D
  - Solar Energy, Biofuels and Biomass, Geothermal Energy, Nuclear Energy, and Carbon Capture and Sequestration
- Loan Guarantees
  - \$200M to support credit subsidy for \$1–2B in loan guarantees for innovative projects

## DOE SBIR / STTR Programs

- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs
  - Authorization extended through December 16, 2011
- DOE's FY 2012 SBIR/STTR Phase I FOA
  - Nuclear Energy-related Lifecycle Topics, Energy Storage, Energy Efficiency Technologies, Fossil Energy Research, Advanced Nuclear Technologies
  - Maximum Award: \$150,000 over 9 months
  - Phase 2 Award: \$1M over 2 years

## DOE Inspector General Report

- Management Challenges at the DOE (November 2011)
   FY 2012 Management Challenges
  - Operational Efficiency & Cost Savings, Contract & Financial Assistance Award Management, Cyber Security, Energy Supply, Environmental Cleanup, Nuclear Waste Disposal, Human Capital Management, Stockpile Stewardship
  - Noteworthy Conclusions
    - Establish BRAC-style commission to analyze DOE labs and technology complexes
    - Need to re-focus R&D on near-term emerging technologies
    - Need to invest in R&D for transportation and electric grid related technologies

#### The Aftermath of Solyndra

- White House Review of DOE Loan Guarantees
  - Started Nov. 28th; public findings expected in February
- Congressional Hearings Continue
  - House Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
- DOE Inspector General Testimony (Nov. 30, 2011)
  - Six criminal prosecutions on ARRA spending
  - As of Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, 43% of ARRA funds not yet spent
  - Loan Guarantee Program did not properly document relevant risks prior to granting loan guarantees
  - ARPA-E had not yet instituted a number of policies & procedures in the areas of monitoring and oversight of awardees, termination for non-performing awards, technology transfer and outreach, and invoice review

## Advice for Funding Recipients

- There is no such thing as free money
  - You are expected to accomplish what you proposed
  - The Government does expect to get its money back
- Compliance with the rules really does matter
  - Develop and implement a compliance program
  - It is not better to beg for forgiveness than ask for permission
- There is a time and place for unbridled enthusiasm
  - Applications and public statements don't contain a disclaimer
  - The regulatory environment and associated markets are continuing to evolve

# Other Potential Funding Sources

- Regional GHG Reduction Programs
  - Primarily Energy Efficiency
- State Clean Energy Funds and Incubators
- US Export-Import Bank
  - Working capital guarantees, export credit insurance, loan guarantees, and direct loans for clean energy and environmental technologies
- Potential Federal Clean Energy Standard
  - Legislation to be proposed by Sen. Bingaman 2012?
    - CES of 45% by 2015, and 95% by 2050
    - EIA analysis: CES causes near-term rise in natural gas prices, and long-term rise in electric prices

#### Tax Incentive Overview

- Production Tax Credit (PTC)
  - Extended to 12/31/12 for wind, and to 12/31/13 for geothermal, biomass, hydro, landfill gas, and marine
- Investment Tax Credit (ITC)
  - 30% ITC extended to all PTC-eligible projects
- Grant in Lieu of ITC
  - Expires December 31, 2011
  - Efforts to extend underway, but potential for success is uncertain

#### **Questions**?

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