Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources

The Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources (OEMR) is responsible for coordinating energy and mineral resource planning and policy development for the State.

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Idaho Updates

Idaho Minerals
Perpetua Resources’ would provide the only domestically mined source of the critical mineral antimony; 90% of the antimony global market is supplied by other nations. Antimony is a critical mineral that is essential for liquid metal, large-capacity battery technology.

Link: Perpetua Resources Welcomes Use of Defense Production Act for Battery Metals - NXTmine

Brainteaser:
How well do you know Idaho energy?

Answer three energy trivia questions to get your day off to a good start.

1) How many producing wells in Idaho provide commercially significant volumes of “raw” natural gas and to which pipeline?
   A) 3, Rogers
   B) 9, Williams
   C) 7, Williams
   D) 4, Teton

2) What three minerals does Idaho lead the nation in producing?
   A) lead, zinc, pumice
   B) Quartz, potassium, feldspar
   C) Olivine, calcite, talc
   D) Fluorite, talc, olivine

3) Hydropower supplies approximately how much electricity for Idaho?
   A) 30%
   B) 70%
   C) 10%
   D) 50%

*Answers are listed on the bottom of this newsletter.

Link: Energy and Mineral Resources – Governor's Office of (idaho.gov)

Hybrid and Electric Vehicles
Idaho could receive more than $30 million over the next five years to ensure resident commuters and tourists have access to convenient electric hookups along Idaho’s highway system. EVs are becoming more popular in Idaho. The Idaho Division of Motor Vehicles reported a 41% increase from the previous year in registered electric vehicles.

Link: Idaho is behind on its electric vehicle chargers. Federal
funds could soon change that
(msn.com)

Renewable Energy
Researchers at Idaho National Laboratory are looking for field demonstration partners to help investigate how regional hydropower operators can integrate industrial scale energy storage, allowing plants the capability to provide local emergency power during blackouts.

Link: Idaho National Laboratory seeks partner for small hydropower field demonstration - INL

Energy Efficiency
Idaho offers deductions to taxpayers who complete an energy efficient retrofit to their primary residence as an incentive for conserving energy.

Link: Section 63-3022B – Idaho State Legislature

Nuclear Energy
The United States Nuclear Industry Council hosted the ninth Advanced Reactor Summit in Sun Valley, Idaho at the beginning of April. The summit gathered industry experts, engineers, policymakers, educators, researchers, and scientists from around the world to discuss the nuclear energy industry. U.S. Senator Mike Crapo and former Idaho National Laboratory Director Mark Peters were honored at the Trailblazer Awards reception with the Meritorious Achievement Award.

Link: Home | ar-tech-summit (arsummit.org)

OEMR is looking for a Summer Intern

OEMR is looking for candidates who would be interested in serving as a summer intern in our downtown Boise office. The energy sector is evolving and OEMR is interested in having an intern assist with researching energy topics and creating outreach materials to provide education to the public on energy issues.

For additional information please visit the OEMR Internship description.

The deadline to apply is April 29th!
Monthly Tips to be Energy Efficient!

Spring is officially here! Say hello to warmer weather, flowers and yes, the annual spring cleaning we tend to complete each year. This year don’t just clean, but recognize ways you can conserve energy by changing your filters and cleaning your windows to allow for more sunshine to enter your home and reduce your lighting consumption.

Link: Spring Cleaning Tips for Energy Efficiency | Department of Energy

Your laundry room is a room that gets much use during spring cleaning season. Consider implementing these energy efficiency practices into your spring cleaning routine to save you money.

Link: 16 Ways to Save Money in the Laundry Room | Department of Energy

Mineral Snapshot

As of April 2022, Idaho has over 8,000 mines ranging from small to some of the largest producing facilities in the world. Read the Idaho Mining Snapshot to become familiar with major exploration and developments occurring in Idaho.

View the entire Mineral Snapshot

Community in Action

This month we wanted to highlight local communities that are taking the initiative to conserve energy on their own and encourage those in their community to do the same.

Boise School District

Boise School District is educating, and conserving energy as a community. Below find ways this school district is going beyond the classroom to provide educational opportunities. Thank you Boise School District for sharing your efforts and for your amazing work!

1) The Boise School District is integrating an energy efficiency case study with the assistance of district office staff, facilities staff, administration and an Idaho Power cohort.

2) The Boise School District established a sustainability committee comprised of committee students, teachers, city council, Idaho Power, school board members and parents who will address ways to conserve energy among various schools in the district. For more information about this initiative, please view The Boise School District’s website: Keys To Wise Use of Energy - Boise School District (boiseschools.org)

3) The Boise School District is hosting the annual "Power Down Day" on Friday, April 22nd to reduce non-essential energy use for the day.
Boise State University offers many different programs that support energy conservation. The University has earned a silver rating in recognition of its sustainability achievements from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System program. Current energy efficiency practices used by Boise State include:

1) The University uses solar power to heat the campus’s recreational center pool and offers a solar charging station outside the library.

2) The University contracts with the City of Boise to use district geothermal water as a heat source for eleven campus buildings and proactively is upgrading existing lighting to LED in academic buildings, athletic facilities and parking garages.

3) The Micron Business and Economic Building speaks to Boise State’s commitment in providing energy efficient resources for its students and staff to include solar power, geothermal heating, automation controls for HVAC, energy efficient lightening and ventilation recovery and more.

4) The Sustainability Stewards Program empowers faculty and staff to serve as a liaison between their sustainability department and other university departments by informing staff about ways to reduce individuals’ energy use as a community.

Celebrate Earth Day the week of April 18th with Boise State by attending the following events:

1) See Boise State University’s energy conservation efforts up front by attending a Sustainability Tour on Wednesday, April 20th from 2:00-3:30 MST.

2) Sign up to attend a dinner and discussion regarding Climate Solutions for Idaho on Thursday, April 21st from 5:30 PM-8:30 PM MST.

3) Plant a tree for Arbor Day on Friday, April 29th from 2:00-4:00 PM and look at Idaho Power's Shade Tree Project an an additional measure to conserve energy.
Earth Day- Friday April 22, 2022

The Department of Energy is holding a webinar on Friday, April 22nd at 1:00 MST to discuss energy efficient tips and provide advice on how homeowners can save on their utility expenses. The week of April 18th, stories will be shared about real homeowners who have saved on their energy costs by making more efficient energy choices.

Link: https://www.energy.gov/earth-day

Reminder:

The federal residential solar energy credit is a tax credit that can be claimed on federal income taxes for 26% of the cost of a solar PV system installed in 2020-2022. Refer to the Homeowner's Guide for more information.

Events in May

CORRECTION: On behalf of OEMR, we sincerely apologize for the confusion regarding the previous announcement you received reporting Dr. Noël Bakhtian as the new CAES director. Philip Reppert is the new CAES director, effective April 11, 2022.

Contact the Center for Advanced Energy Studies for more information.

Upcoming EV Interest Group Webinar

Emily Her from the Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources will be presenting on the state's EV charging efforts. The presentation will cover Idaho's Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Program (EVSE), the funding Idaho can expect to receive from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and EV Programs and incentives for potential EV buyers and EV charging site hosts.
Recent Articles

“EM- Idaho Buried Waste Project Celebrates Major Cleanup Accomplishment” (Department of Energy)

“8 Online Tools to Help Save Energy and Money” (Department of Energy)


“Biden Administration Announces $500 Million for Energy Efficiency in Public Schools.” (The Hill)

“How a few geothermal plants could solve America’s lithium supply crunch and boost the EV battery industry.” (The Conversation)

“Easy Energy Savings Tips for Apartments or Rental Homes” (Department of Energy)

“U.S. Residential Electricity Expenditures Increased by $5 per month in 2021” (U.S. Energy Information Administration)

“Tough Water Year, Experts predict worsening Idaho drought.” (E&E News)

Meet OEMR Staff

Lori Wolff - Interim Administrator
Marissa Warren - Energy Program Manager/ISEA
George Lynch - Legal Counsel/Minerals Program Manager
Tammy Japhet - Financial Manager
Amanda Galvez - Fiscal Specialist/State Energy Loan Program
Emily Her - Policy Analyst/Transportation, EVSE
Alexa Sakolsky-Basquill - Policy Analyst/Energy Efficiency, GLBE, EE Awards
Andrew Mentzer - Policy Analyst/Minerals
Brenna Garro - Policy Analyst/Renewables

OEMR Programs

OEMR offers the following programs:

Energy Efficiency Awards
*Applications are now being accepted for 2022 Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Awards- Apply today!
Government Leading By Example
Government Leading by Example – Energy and Mineral Resources (idaho.gov)

State Energy Loan Program
State Energy Loan Program – Energy and Mineral Resources (idaho.gov)

Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Program (EVSE)

Answers to the Brainteaser:
1) C- 7, Williams Pipeline
2) A- Lead, Zinc, Pumice
3) D- 50%

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