



State of Idaho
December 2022

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 of Idaho. Stay contacted with our office by following us on the following communication outlets.

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Minerals

The Payette and Boise National Forests are seeking public comment regarding environmental impacts associated with the Stibnite Gold Project. The Forest Service held three in person meetings in December. For more information regarding the public comment period click on the [link](#).

Electric Vehicles

Electric vehicle charging stations are on the rise in Eastern Idaho. Between June 2021 and June 2022 the number of electric vehicles registered in Idaho has increased by 40%. For more information click on the [link](#).

Renewable Energy

The International Energy Agency has reported the

Brainteaser:

How well do you know Idaho energy and minerals?

In preparation for the new year, we are going back to previous trivia questions that were asked earlier in the year. See if you can recall the answer to the following trivia questions to get your afternoon off to a good start.

- 1) In what year did the first commercial geothermal power plant come online in the U.S. northwest, specifically in south-central Idaho? How much power does it produce?
 - A) 2005, 10 MW
 - B) 2008, 10 MW
 - C) 2008, 20 MW
 - D) 2022, 20 MW
- 2) The Idaho Department of Lands is responsible for overseeing 1,567 active mines and 28 active dredge and placer operations. To regulate all 1,595 mining permits, the Idaho Department of Lands divides Idaho into mineral zones depending on staff's availability. How many mining zones does the Department of Lands identify in Idaho?
 - A) Five
 - B) Seven
 - C) Two
 - D) Thirteen
- 3) About 70% of the energy consumed in Idaho comes from out of state. Which two sectors account each for about 30% of the state's total energy use?

global renewable energy capacity will increase by 2,400 gigawatts between 2022 and 2027. This is an 85% increase in comparison to the growth rate in the past five years. Both higher fossil energy prices and concerns about the energy supply disruptions are driving the acceleration of wind, solar and other renewables. For more information click on the [link](#).

Energy Efficiency

The International Energy Agency shows global energy efficiency has improved by 2% this year in comparison to 2021. This is nearly double the rate of growth over the past five years. The electrification of transportation and heating are good examples of the improvement made towards energy efficiency. For more information click on the [link](#).

Nuclear Energy

The Idaho National Laboratory offers virtual tours of the world's first nuclear power plant and the nation's first electricity-generating nuclear reactor, the Experimental Breeder Reactor I. The virtual tour discusses what scientists thought would happen if the atom was split up to when electricity was generated by nuclear power. For more information regarding the virtual tours click on the [link](#).

- A) Residential and Commercial
- B) Transportation and Commercial
- C) Industrial and Commercial
- D) Industrial and Transportation

**Answers are listed on the bottom of this newsletter.*

Federal Funding Opportunities

OEMR staff track and monitor energy related federal funding opportunities and post notifications to our website. For further information through the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources please see our [Federal Funding Opportunities](#) page and subscribe to our [weekly grant newsletter](#).

For further BIL funding opportunities please follow this link to the [DOE Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Program & Funding Opportunity Announcements](#).

For further funding opportunities from the DOE please follow the following links: [Grants.gov](#), [EERE Funding Exchange](#), and [OCED Funding Exchange](#).

- [Geothermal Heating and Cooling Technologies at Federal Facilities](#)
- [Registration is Open for the National Community Solar Partnership \(NCSP\)](#)
- [Element Demonstration Facility](#)

Additional Funding Opportunities

- [DOE Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Office's Funding Opportunity Exchange](#)
- [USDA Funding Opportunity websites](#)
- [Local Infrastructure Hub](#)

Recently Announced Funding Opportunities

- [Renew America's School Grant](#)
- [Long Duration Energy Storage Demonstration Initiative and Joint Program](#)
- [Regional Direct Air Capture Hubs](#)

Surveys and Newsletters

The Office of Energy and Mineral Resources is seeking feedback from residents and businesses about their energy experience. This information will help our office better understand opportunities, priorities and

perceptions regarding how we keep the lights on. Please take a few minutes to share your feedback about energy in Idaho through the following survey links:

Consumer: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZVFGDS>

Industry: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PXSXVJT>

Are you interested in receiving more information on electric vehicles? If so, register for [OEMR's Electric Vehicle Newsletter](#)

The State of Idaho is Seeking Qualified Consultants for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Study



The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources (OEMR) and The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) are interested in working with qualified Respondents from interested firms to submit a proposal to provide consulting services for the 2022 State of Idaho Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Baseline Plan project. The three offices are seeking a consultant to assist the State of Idaho in completing a Siting, Feasibility and Access Study for direct current fast charging (DCFC) buildout.

The purpose of this project is to analyze DCFC needs and feasibility for light-duty battery electric passenger vehicle travel in Idaho and identify priority locations along key travel corridors in the state to deploy universal DCFC infrastructure through the end of 2026. To view the Alternative Fuel Corridors and DCFC in Idaho click on the [link](#).

Proposals are due **January 18, 2023 at 4:00 pm MDT**

The RFP may be accessed at the following link under "Consultant Agreements."
<https://itd.idaho.gov/business/>

The Baseline Plan was developed pursuant to the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program created under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The Baseline Plan may be viewed on OEMR's NEVI webpage. <https://oemr.idaho.gov/programs/national-electric-vehicle-infrastructure-program/>

Energy Outlook

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) has released a short-term outlook on the energy industry for the month of December. The report looks at macroeconomic conditions and its effect on energy markets in the future, estimated natural gas inventories, predictions on electricity generation from renewable energy sources, and expected oil and diesel prices and production. For more information on the energy outlook click on the [link](#).

- Global oil inventories fall by 0.2 million barrels per day in the first half of 2023. EIA forecasts that global oil inventories will be higher at the end of 2023 than we had forecasted, which results in Brent crude oil price forecast averaging \$92 per barrel in 2023.
- EIA forecasts U.S. diesel refining margins to decrease by 19% in 2023 compared with 2022.
- EIA expects natural gas prices to increase due to higher winter natural gas demand and rising LNG exports. The price averages more than \$6.00 per million British thermal units in the first quarter of 2023, a \$.50 increase from November's monthly average. Price volatility remains high, but EIA predicts natural gas prices should begin declining after January.
- EIA predicts U.S. natural gas production to increase by almost 1% in 2023, thus increasing more crude oil production in 2023 than previously forecasted.
- Based on S&P Global macroeconomic model, EIA assumes U.S. GDP will remain flat in 2023.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding Update

As of November 2022, over \$1.1 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced with over 100 specific projects identified to receive funding. Idaho is set to receive approximately \$975 million for transportation, over \$85 million for clean water and more than 27,000 households have received access to affordable internet.

Energy Efficiency

The Department of Energy's 12 Days of Energy Savings

1) **Energy Efficient Appliance:** Look for two price tags when shopping for an appliance; the purchase price and the cost of operating the appliance during its lifetime.

2) **Energy Efficient Windows:** According to the

Ways to Reduce Energy Usage this Winter.

1) **Portable Battery:** A portable battery charger can be used to charge a phone when one is away from an outlet.

2) **Portable Charging Device that Uses Hydrogen**

Department of Energy, heat gain and heat loss through windows are responsible for 25%-30% of residential heating and cooling energy use.

3) **LED Light Strings:** According to the Department of Energy, LED or light emitting diode light strings can use 90% less energy than regular incandescent light strings. They last about ten times longer, produce less heat and are more durable.

4) **Insulation:** Fill leaks or cracks in a home with weatherstripping or caulking. By properly sealing a home, insulation can keep a home comfortable for less money.

5) **Home Energy Assessment:** By determining a home's efficiency, this allows occupants to identify where improvements need to be made. A professional home energy assessment can be performed in person or remote.

Click the [link](#) for all 12 tips associated with taking energy efficient actions.

or a Miniature Fuel Cell: The charging device uses a special cartridge that reacts with air and water to produce an electric current.

3) **Blankets:** Gifting a blanket can be inexpensive, convenient and beneficial to individuals looking to decrease their heating costs at home.

4) **LED Lightbulbs:** According to the Department of Energy, LED lightbulbs have the potential to save up to 75%-80% more energy than an incandescent lightbulb.

5) **Energy Efficient Power Strips:** Electronics that are in the off mode but plugged into an electrical socket can still consume energy. By using a power strip and turning the switch off when the electronics are not in use, saves not only energy for the consumer but costs associated with the energy use.

Click on the [link](#) for additional ideas.

Recent Articles

["DOE National Laboratory Makes History by Achieving Fusion Ignition."](#) (Department of Energy)

["Kore Power raises \\$75 million to Build Lithium-ion Battery Cells in Arizona."](#) (Canary Media)

["Utah's Low Electricity Rates Attributed to Power Grid Modernization."](#) (The Center Square)

["NREL Unveils Benchmark for Tracking Long-Term Cost Trends in Latest Solar and Storage Price Report."](#) (Utility Dive)

["Renewables to Overtake Coal and Become the World's Biggest Source of Electricity Generation by 2025, IEA says."](#) (CNBC)

["Intermountain Gas Submits Request to Increase Idaho Prices."](#) (KMVT)

["Car Companies are Now Bundling EVs with Home Solar Panels. Are Customers Going to Buy?"](#) (Inside Climate News)

["Clean Energy Advocates Plan Education Day for Idaho Legislators in January."](#) (Idaho Capital Sun)

["Boise State Professor Receives Grant to Develop Power Grid Security that Thinks like a Human."](#) (Idaho Statesman)



Meet OEMR Staff

Richard Stover- Administrator

George Lynch- Legal Counsel/Minerals Program Manager

Marissa Warren- Energy Program Manager

Tammy Japhet- Financial Manager/Loan Program

Amanda Galvez- Fiscal Specialist

Emily Her- Senior Policy Analyst

Alexa Bouvier- Policy Analyst

Andrew Mentzer- Policy Analyst

Brenna Garro- Policy Analyst

Steve Vinsonhaler-Grants/Contracts Officer

OEMR Programs

OEMR offers the following programs:

Energy Efficiency Awards

**Application Period is Now Closed*

Idaho Awards for Leadership in Energy Efficiency – Energy and Mineral Resources

Government Leading By Example

**Accepting Applications*

Government Leading by Example – Energy and Mineral Resources (idaho.gov)

State Energy Loan Program

**Reduced interest rates and flexible payment plans are now available. Apply today! Application period will close December 31, 2022.*

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



Answers to the Brainteaser:

1) B- 2008, 10 MW

Source: [U.S. Energy Information Administration - EIA - Independent Statistics and Analysis](#)

2) A- Five

Source: [About Mining - Department of Lands \(idaho.gov\)](#)

3) D- Industrial and Transportation

Source: [U.S. Energy Information Administration - EIA - Independent Statistics and Analysis](#)

State of Idaho- OEMR | 304 N. 8th St. Suite 250, Boise, ID 83720

[Unsubscribe amanda.galvez@oer.idaho.gov](mailto:unsubscribe.amanda.galvez@oer.idaho.gov)

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