



State of Idaho
January 2023

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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 connected with our office by following us on the following communication outlets.

Updates

Minerals

The Forest Service was accepting public comments through January 10th on the latest environmental review of plans to resume and expand mining operations at the Stibnite site. For more information, please click on the [link](#).

Electric Vehicles

Twin Falls is installing more EV charging stations in town as more Idahoans purchase electric vehicles. The state will work with private parties who are interested in installing EV charging stations throughout Idaho under the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program. For more information click on the [link](#).

Brainteaser:

How well do you know Idaho energy and minerals?

- 1) Which renewable resource accounted for 51% of electricity generated in the state in 2021?
 - A) Geothermal
 - B) Solar
 - C) Biomass
 - D) None of the above
- 2) In what year did Idaho National Laboratory first generate electricity and how many megawatts of capacity does each small modular nuclear reactor generate?
 - A) 1951, 40 MW
 - B) 1967, 80 MW
 - C) 1951, 60 MW
 - D) 1961, 70 MW
- 3) Idaho's total petroleum consumption is among the lowest 10 states. Where does Idaho fall on the spectrum of per capita petroleum use?
 - A) Below the national average
 - B) Above the national average
 - C) Near the national average

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

Renewable Energy

The Bureau of Land Management announced a new initiative to guide responsible solar energy development on public lands in the West, including in Idaho, through an updated Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). For more information click on the [link](#).

Energy Efficiency

Winter weather may impact your energy use and your utility bills. Taking small actions to conserve energy can help keep your costs down. For more information click on the [link](#).

Nuclear Energy

Nuscale Power Company has won support from potential customers to build the first U.S. small modular reactor this decade. For more information on the "Carbon Free Power Project" click on the [link](#).

Federal Funding Opportunities

The Office of Energy and Mineral Resources staff track and monitor energy related federal funding opportunities and post notifications to our website. For further information through OEMR 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](#).

Additional Funding Opportunities

- [DOE Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Office's Funding Opportunity Exchange](#)
- [USDA Funding Opportunity websites](#)
- [Local Infrastructure Hub](#)
- [Long Duration Energy Storage Demonstration Initiative and Joint Program](#)
- [Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation](#)
- [Renew America's School Grant](#)
- [Regional Direct Air Capture Hubs](#)
- [Geothermal Heating and Cooling Technologies at Federal Facilities](#)
- [Registration is Open for the National Community Solar Partnership \(NCSP\)](#)
- [Element Demonstration Facility](#)
- [Transmission Siting and Economic Development Grants Program](#)

Surveys and Newsletters

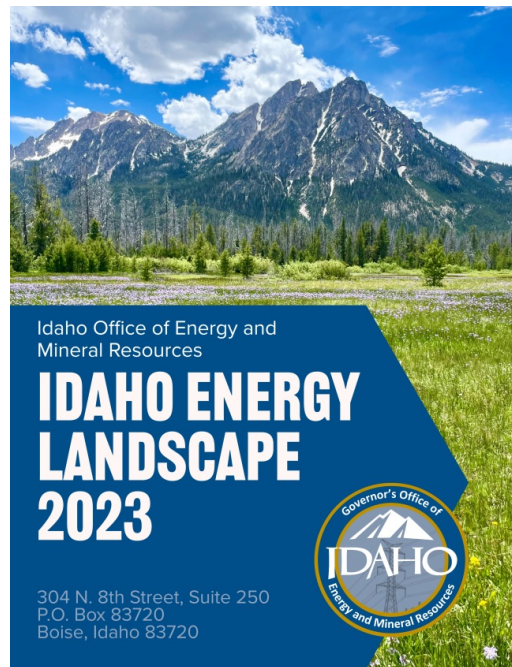
The Office of Energy and Mineral Resources is seeking feedback from residents and businesses about their energy experience. This information will help our office better understand opportunities, priorities and perceptions regarding how we keep the lights on. Please take a few minutes to share your feedback about energy in Idaho through the following survey links:

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

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

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


2023 Idaho Energy Landscape Report



OEMR has released the 2023 Idaho Energy Landscape report. OEMR drafts an annual report that provides an overview of Idaho's energy profile, including energy resources, infrastructure and major stakeholders. The report discusses energy efficiency, conservation efforts, minerals, an overview of the programs OEMR offers, and an outlook on anticipated development in the future. The report concludes with a brief overview of energy research and education entities in Idaho who work to solve energy challenges in the state.

Hardcopies of the report are available at OEMR's office and electronic copies can be found [here](#).

Future of Nuclear Energy Community Discussion




FUTURE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY
Just the facts

Carbon-free nuclear power is an important part of the world's clean energy future, and Idaho National Laboratory is at the center of advanced nuclear research. Come learn about the projects INL is working on, how we work with industry and communities, and what nuclear can do besides make electricity. Bring your smartphone to participate in interactive polling about topics of interest. Attendees also can submit questions beforehand to nuclearquestions@inl.gov.

Community Discussion
Join us for a discussion about the future of nuclear energy featuring experts from Idaho National Laboratory

Wednesday, January 25
5:30 p.m.
Alumni and Friends Center
Grand Ballroom
Boise State University
1173 University Drive, Boise



Scan the QR code for more information.
inl.gov/nuclearfuture

Parking: There are first-come, first-served parking spaces reserved for this event. No vouchers required. The parking lot is south or directly behind the Alumni and Friends Center. Click the map for an interactive view.

INL Idaho National Laboratory
Battelle Energy Alliance manages INL for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy

Boise State University is hosting a community discussion featuring experts from Idaho National Laboratory about the future of nuclear energy. Carbon-free nuclear power is an important factor to the world's clean energy future. The event should introduce the audience to the projects INL is working on and how nuclear contributes to the energy future besides just providing electricity.

- **When: Wednesday, January 25th at 5:30 pm**
- **Where: Alumni and Friends Center-Grand Ballroom-Boise State University- 1173 University Drive, Boise**

Energy Outlook

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) has released a short-term outlook on the energy industry for the month of January. 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](#).

- EIA expects U.S. real GDP to grow by 0.5% in 2023.
- According to EIA, Brent Crude oil price should average \$83 per barrel in 2023, down 18% from 2022.
- EIA forecasts U.S. gasoline refining margins to decrease by 29% in 2023. This should have retail gasoline prices range around \$3.30 per gallon in 2023. U.S. diesel refining margins should decrease by 20% in 2023 and retail diesel prices to average \$4.20 per gallon in 2023.
- EIA predicts natural gas prices to be less than \$5.00 per million British thermal units in 2023. Approximately a 25% decrease from last year.
- EIA predicts the share of electricity generation from coal will decrease 18% in 2023. This decline is partially due to an increase of combined utility-scale solar and wind generation.



Inflation Reduction Act

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Energy Efficiency Rebates in the IRA

1) **What is the Inflation Reduction Act?** A law that provides provisions that offer home energy rebates to include home efficiency rebates and home electrification rebate programs administered by State Energy Offices.

2) **Which provisions in the IRA establish the energy efficiency rebate programs and when does the Department of Energy expect to release funds?** Section 50121 is the Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole House Rebates (referred to as the Home Efficiency Rebates) and section 50122 is the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program (referred to as Home Electrification Rebates). The Department of Energy expects to release guidance to states regarding the programs in the summer of 2023.

3) **Are Home Energy Rebates Currently Available?** No. Households looking for home energy retrofit assistance may be eligible for other federal programs.

4) **When can Households Expect to Access these Rebates?** DOE expects households to access rebates in late 2023 and early 2024.

For more information on eligibility and funding available to households please click on the [link](#).

The U.S. Treasury Releases Additional Information on Clean Vehicle Provisions of IRA

The U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS released information on certain clean vehicle provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act, including:

1) **Frequently Asked Questions** regarding how to access various tax incentives for the purchase of new and used electric vehicles.

2) **A Notice** on the incremental cost of vehicles eligible for the commercial clean vehicle tax credit.

3) **A Notice of Intent** to propose regulations on the tax credit for new clean vehicles.

4) **A White Paper** on the direction the Treasury and the IRS may take on their proposed guidance for critical minerals and battery component requirements and whether vehicles qualify under the requirements.

For more information on the clean vehicle provisions of the IRA please click on the [link](#).

Upcoming Events:

January 18th: RFP for State of Idaho Electric Vehicle Siting, Feasibility, and Access Study deadline

January 19th: Idaho Environmental Forum: Legislative Gala - EV Panel

January 25th: Future of Nuclear Energy Community Discussion

January 31st: BLM Public Scoping Meeting- Boise

February 13th: Virtual BLM Solar Scoping Meeting

February 16th: DOE Public Meeting on Proposed Distribution Transformers

March 18th: Public Comments for the Lava Ridge Environmental Impact Statement are due. Click on the [link](#) for additional details.

Recent Articles

["Governor Little rolls out 'Idaho First' plan to support schools, provide property tax relief in 2023 State of the State and Budget Address."](#) (Office of the Governor)

["Secretary Haaland Announces New Steps to Accelerate Solar Energy Development on Public Lands in the West."](#) (U.S. Department of the Interior)

["Idaho Power Moves Key Regional Transmission Line Forward."](#) (Idaho Power)

["A New EPA Proposal is Reigniting a Debate About What Counts as Renewable."](#) (Grist)

["Idaho Public Utilities Commission Approves Criticized Idaho Power Solar Study."](#) (Idaho Press)

["Idaho Clean Energy Advocates to Gather at State Capitol."](#) (Public News Service)

["Valley Regional Transit Approves New CEO."](#) (Valley Regional Transit)

["Idaho Falls Power Kicks Off Energized Community Efforts to Pursue Federal Infrastructure Funding."](#) (Local News Eight)



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

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 available. **Application period has closed.*

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



Answers to the Brainteaser:

1) D- None of the above- Hydropower

2) C- 1951, 60 MW

3) C- Near the national average

Source: [Idaho Profile \(eia.gov\)](#)

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

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

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