



State of Idaho
July, 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.

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Idaho Minerals

The Jervois Cobalt Mine is expected to achieve full production in February 2023. Once in production, Idaho Cobalt Operations will be the only primary cobalt mine in the United States and should supply a critical mineral for electric vehicles, energy generation and distribution and defense. Follow the [link](#) to receive a complete status update on the project.

Hybrid and Electric Vehicles

The State of Idaho will receive approximately \$28 million to install fast charging along the National Highway System and select state highways at 50-mile intervals. The State must submit a strategic plan to the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation by August 1st to be eligible to receive the funding. OEMR has worked closely with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) and the Department of Environmental Quality

Brain teaser:

How well do you know Idaho energy?

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

1) Gold was initially discovered in Idaho in 1860 near Pierce, but the state is best known for its two "world class" mining districts. Where are these mining districts?

- A) Southwest and Central Idaho
- B) Southwest and Southeastern Idaho
- C) North Idaho and Southwestern Idaho
- D) North Idaho and Southeastern Idaho

2) What is Idaho's second largest homegrown energy product, behind hydropower?

- A) Food crop
- B) Animal waste
- C) Wood
- D) Municipal waste

3) Idaho is one of seven states that generates utility-scale electricity from what type of energy?

- A) Hydro
- B) Geothermal
- C) Solar
- D) Wind

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

(DEQ) throughout June and July to gather statewide public feedback that will guide the plan to be submitted by August 1. The funding is expected to flow to states once plans are approved which will be no later than September 30th.

Renewable Energy

Summer is here and so is the heat! Energy use in the summer months is peak demand season in Idaho. To help restart the electric grid when power is lost, Idaho National Laboratory has developed new technology that can support small powerplants, like hydropower plants, that normally would not have the infrastructure to restart the grid. [What is an ultracapacitor?](#)

Energy Efficiency

With summer temperatures heating up, we are all placing a higher demand on our air conditioner units. Refer to these simple and inexpensive [actions](#) that can help keep our home's temperature and energy costs down during the summer months.

Nuclear Energy

Researchers at Idaho National Laboratory performed their first digital twin test of a simulated reactor. The demonstration can help lower operating costs of microreactor technologies. Select the [link](#) for more information on the microreactor.



Energy Outlook

The U.S. Energy Information Administration has released a short-term outlook on the energy industry for the month of July. The report looks at estimated gasoline retail prices, a forecast in natural gas prices and consumption, predictions on electricity generation from renewable energy sources and coal, the expected residential electricity prices in the United States and a forecast on energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in the United States. [View the full report here.](#)

- U.S. regular gasoline retail prices averaged \$4.11 per gallon in the first half of 2022. EIA forecasts that gasoline prices will average \$4.05 a gallon in 2022 and \$3.57 a gallon in 2023. U.S. diesel prices are predicted to average \$4.73 per gallon in 2022 and \$4.07 per gallon in 2023.
- For 2023, EIA forecasts that natural gas consumption will be about the same as 2022.
- EIA predicts electricity generation from coal will decline from 23% in 2021 to 21% in 2022 and to 20% in 2023.
- EIA expects the largest increases in U.S. electricity generation will come from renewable energy sources. Renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar, should provide 22% of U.S. generation in 2022 and 24% in 2023, a four percent increase compared to 2021.
- EIA predicts the U.S. residential electricity price will average 4.4 cents per kWh in 2022. Higher retail electricity prices are driven by rising natural gas prices.
- Energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in the United States is expected to increase 1.5% for the remainder of 2022 and remain the same during 2023.



OEMR hosted the Idaho Energy Infrastructure Summit at the Capital

OEMR hosted the Idaho Energy Infrastructure Summit on Tuesday July 12th. Virtual and in-person attendees engaged in robust discussions with some of Idaho's energy and industry leaders on topics including best practices for managing major federal packages in today's economy, opportunities to advance Idaho's energy future through funding included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, and the importance of affordable and reliable power for Idaho's economy and industry leaders. OEMR thanks all attendees and key speakers including:

Idaho National Laboratory
Idaho Division of Financial Management
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
National Association of State Energy Offices
Idaho Grain Producers
Idaho Consumer Owned Utilities Association
Simplot
Micron

The Idaho Energy Infrastructure Summit was just the start of discussions to be had regarding funding opportunities available to Idahoans in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. Have questions or comments? Send them to comments@oer.idaho.gov

Summer is Here, Temperatures are Up and Water Use is Increasing

Here are a few simple conservation tips to save money and water when maintaining your yard this summer.

- 1) Water your yard during the coolest part of the day, such as mornings to minimize evaporation.
- 2) Set the lawnmower blades one setting higher to provide shade for the roots and greater evaporation.
- 3) Check for broken sprinkler heads. A broken sprinkler head can waste up to 25,000 gallons in six months.
- 4) Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to keep the soil moist.

Click the [link](#) for additional tips to conserve water

History of the Electric Vehicle

Electric vehicles are becoming more popular today but have been around for over a century. The first successful electric vehicle was introduced in 1890 and had a top speed of 14 miles per hour.

In 1976, Congress passed the Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development and Demonstration Act, authorizing the Energy Department to support research and development in electric and hybrid vehicles.

Throughout the decades, advancements have been made to electric vehicles, mainly increasing their overall range and speed they can travel at.

Click the [link](#) for more information regarding electric vehicles development throughout the years.

when maintaining your yard during the summer months.



2022 State of Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award Recipients

The State of Idaho and Office of Energy and Mineral Resources congratulates the following recipients' efforts in supporting energy conservation and implementing new energy efficiency retrofits and practices at their facilities in Idaho. Together, these Idaho businesses and universities saved 9,723,606 kWhs of energy in their facilities in 2021, resulting in \$600,000 savings!

2022 State of Idaho Governor's Award for Excellence in Energy Efficiency
JR Simplot- Smoky Canyon Mine

2022 State of Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award for Buildings
Involta, LLC

2022 State of Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award for Buildings
Boise State University

2022 State of Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award for Buildings
Brigham Young University- Idaho

2022 State of Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award for Industry
Anheuser-Busch, Idaho Falls Malting Plant

2022 State of Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award for Industry
Packaging Specialties Inc.

2022 State of Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award for Industry
Agropur Inc.-Jerome Cheese

2022 State of Idaho Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award for Industry
Clearwater Paper

Thank you for leading Idaho in energy conservation! The application period for 2023 will open January 2, 2023.

Federal Funding Opportunities

OEMR staff track and monitor energy related federal funding opportunities and post notifications to [our website](#). Please contact OEMR with questions regarding the following federal funding opportunities.

- [Funding Notice: Community Geothermal Heating and Cooling Design and Deployment](#)
- [\\$2.3 Billion Formula Grant Program Opened for States, Tribal Nations, and Territories.](#)
- [Exploring Place-Based Energy Generation](#)
- [Geothermal Heating and Cooling Technologies at Federal Facilities](#)
- [Accelerating Technologies for Energy-Efficient Water Treatment](#)
- [DOE Searching for Nuclear Energy Partners to Connect with Communities](#)
- [\\$12.2 Million Available for Innovations in LED Technology](#)
- [Registration is Open for the National Community Solar Partnership \(NCSP\)](#)

Additional funding opportunities

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

Recent Articles

["DOE Launches \\$500m Effort to Turn Mines into Clean Energy Hubs."](#)
(Renewable Energy World)

["Idaho Site Tests Use of Drone to Map Inside of High-Level Waste Storage Vault."](#) (Department of Energy)

["Idaho Power's Plan to Keep the Power On Amid the Heat."](#) (KBOI Boise)

["College of Southern Idaho Students Receive Magic Valley Energy Scholarships."](#) (Magic Valley.com)

["Idaho Power Files Customer Generation Study."](#) (Local News 8)

["Idaho's Diverse Power Sources Protect Against Extreme Weather, Company Says."](#) (KTVB-TV Boise)

["Idaho Farmers and Ranchers: Conservation Practices can Help you Save Energy and Money."](#)
(United States Department of Agriculture)



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- 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

*[*Application Period is Now Closed](#)*

[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!](#)*

[State Energy Loan Program – Energy and Mineral Resources \(idaho.gov\)](#)



Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Program (EVSE)

*[*Application period is Now Closed. Received applications are currently under review and final decisions will be posted on DEQ's Volkswagen and Diesel web page.](#)*

[Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment \(EVSE\) Program – Energy and Mineral Resources \(idaho.gov\)](#)

Answers to the Brainteaser:

- 1) D- Idaho's "world class" mining districts are the Coeur d'Alene District in northern Idaho, which produces lead and zinc, and the Western Phosphate Reserve in southeastern Idaho, which produces phosphate ore.
- 2) C- Wood bioenergy is Idaho's second largest homegrown energy product, producing eight percent of the energy consumed in the state.
- 3) B- Idaho is one of only seven states that generates utility-scale electricity from geothermal energy.

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