



State of Idaho  
September 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.

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### Idaho Updates

#### Idaho Minerals

The Department of the Interior is planning to release a mining map and navigating how to boost both oil drilling on public lands and large renewable energy projects on the ground and in the water. A working group is expected to release recommendations by November 15th on the future of U.S. mining policy that could affect fossil fuel development and electric vehicles. Click [here](#) for more information.

#### Electric Vehicles

Researchers at the Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory are implementing machine learning to help bring an electric vehicle battery to a full charge in 10 minutes vs. the average 30 minutes it currently takes. For more information on the science behind this experiment click [here](#).

### Brainteaser:

#### How well do you know Idaho energy?

*Answer two energy trivia questions to get your afternoon off to a good start.*

1) 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?

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

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) Seven
- B) Five
- C) Thirteen
- D) Two

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

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### Energy Outlook

## Renewable Energy

A new Department of Energy (DOE) goal was announced to make enhanced geothermal systems a widespread renewable energy option in the U.S. by cutting its cost by 90% to \$45 per megawatt hour by 2035. Click on the link for more information on the [Enhanced Geothermal Shot](#).

## Energy Efficiency

Whether you are using heat or air conditioning in a building, weatherizing a home to stop leaks can be a cost-effective method to conserve energy. Click on the [link](#) for a report and image on the most common places air leaks in and out of a home.

## Nuclear Energy

The Inflation Reduction Act provides a production tax credit for existing nuclear energy units, thus keeping the plants competitive and preventing their early retirement. 93 nuclear reactors provided about 20% of the U.S. electricity portfolio. The production tax credit should inspire the building of small nuclear reactors to replace existing plants in the future. For more information on the Inflation Reduction Act's impact on existing nuclear energy units please click the [link](#).

The U.S. Energy Information Administration has released a short-term outlook on the energy industry for the month of September. 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 and the expected residential electricity prices in the United States. [View the full report here.](#)

- U.S. crude oil production averages 11.8 million barrels per day in 2022 and 12.6 million barrels per day in 2023, which would set a record for the most U.S. crude oil production in a year. The current record is 12.3 million barrels per day, which occurred in 2019.
- The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) expects retail gasoline prices will average \$3.60 per gallon (gal) and retail diesel prices will average \$4.90 per gallon in the fourth quarter of 2022. In 2023, EIA expects retail gasoline prices to be \$3.61 per gallon and retail diesel prices to be \$4.28 per gallon.
- U.S. consumption of natural gas averaged 86.6 Bcf/d in 2022, Although, this is an increase compared to 2021, EIA expects consumption to fall by 1.9 Bcf/d in 2023 because of declines in consumption in the industrial and electric power sectors.
- EIA anticipates U.S. sales of electricity to ultimate customers to increase by 2.6% in 2022, due to rising economic activity but also because of hot summer weather across the country. EIA expects the sales of electricity to fall by 0.4% 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, up from 20% in 2021.
- EIA predicts the U.S. residential electricity price will average 14.8 cents per kWh in 2022, up 7.5% from 2021.
- U.S. coal production is likely to increase by 22 million short tons to 600 million short tons in 2022 and should total 590 million short tons in 2023.
- EIA predicts energy-related carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions in the United States to increase by 1.7% in 2022 and then to decrease 1.8% back to around 2021 levels in 2023.

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## Let Us Know About Your Energy Experience

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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>

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## Hydropower Day

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### Governor Little signs Proclamation making August 24th officially Idaho Hydropower Day

Hydropower is 2% of Idaho's GDP, but many believe it's the first part of the GDP. As the 8th largest producer of hydropower in the United States, Idaho has over 140 existing hydroelectric plants, having a combined generating capacity of approximately 2,700 MW which provides roughly half of the state's electricity. From supporting agriculture and recreation to enhancing resiliency and enabling Idaho's low electricity rates, hydropower is what connects us and we celebrate its value! Governor Little proclaimed August 24th Idaho Hydropower Day in recognition of this great energy resource that allows Idahoans the ability to enjoy reliable and affordable energy. For more information on hydropower click [here](#).

*In addition to the Hydropower proclamation, Governor Little intends to proclaim the week of September 26-30, 2022 "Clean Energy Week" later this month.*

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## Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Program

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Since 2017, the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality have managed the Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Program (EVSE). Through this program, 48 publicly accessible fast charging ports will become available across 12 communities in Idaho. For additional information on the program click [here](#). The following locations will host EV Chargers through the EVSE

program.

- 1) Blaine County, County Annex Building, Hailey
- 2) City of Arco, Idaho Science Center, Arco
- 3) City of Bonners Ferry, Visitors Center, Bonners Ferry
- 4) City of Driggs, Driggs Community Center, Driggs
- 5) City of Island Park, City Building, Island Park
- 6) Cloninger's, Grangeville
- 7) Cloninger's, Kamiah
- 8) Eagle Landing Fuel Station 76 on Kathleen, Coeur d' Alene
- 9) Fall River Cooperative Headquarters, Ashton
- 10) May's Hardware, McCall
- 11) Nez Perce Tribe, Clearwater River Casino, Lewiston
- 12) Northern Lights Headquarters, Sagle



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## ChargeWest Event

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On September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources (OEMR) launched the ChargeWest initiative and celebrated the completion of the State of Idaho's Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)



Program. The event was held in eastern Idaho, where three new fast charging stations will be installed in Driggs, Island Park, and Ashton. The event showcased Idaho's ability to adopt EV infrastructure and demonstrated a collaborative effort among intermountain states to support interstate travel. For more information on the event click on the [link](#).

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## Daily Tips to Conserve Energy and Save Money

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### How to Reduce your Energy Use in the Kitchen

- 1) Use an electric tea kettle vs. boiling water on a stovetop appliance.
- 2) Make sure your refrigerator door seals are air tight and reduce the amount of times you open the refrigerator.
- 3) Place the lever on the kitchen sink to the cold position and use cold water for little use. This act saves the amount of energy it takes to heat water.
- 4) Do not set your refrigerator and freezer at too low of a setting. The recommended setting for a refrigerator is between 35-38 degrees Fahrenheit and 0 degrees Fahrenheit for a freezer.

Click the [link](#) for additional tips to conserve energy in the kitchen this year.

### Additional Measures to Save on the Cost of Commuting

Did you know that 20%-30% of a vehicle's fuel consumption is tire-related? Here are three common ways tires can contribute to the overall efficiency of a vehicle.

- 1) Worn out tires require the vehicle's engine to work harder, thus consuming more gasoline per mile.
- 2) Proper inflation of a tire is key to improving fuel economy. A tire that is 20% underinflated can increase a vehicle's fuel consumption by 10%.
- 3) Check the alignment of the tires. If the alignment is off, the vehicle works harder and uses more gasoline in order to steer the vehicle properly.

For more information on how tires can affect a vehicle's fuel performance, click on the link below.

[Can Tires Really Affect Fuel Gas Mileage?](#)

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## Federal Funding Opportunities

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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.](#)
- [Advancing Equity Through Workforce Partnerships](#)
- [Exploring Place-Based Energy Generation](#)
- [Geothermal Heating and Cooling Technologies at Federal Facilities](#)
- [\\$12.2 Million Available for Innovations in LED Technology](#)
- [Registration is Open for the National Community Solar Partnership \(NCSP\)](#)

- [Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs](#)

Additional funding opportunities

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

## Recent Articles

["Idaho Power Asks Customers to Conserve Energy"](#) (KTVB)

["US Solar Shipments Jumped 32% to a Record 28.8 Million Peak kW Last Year."](#) (Utility Dive)

["Push to Shorten U.S. Mine Permit Review Process Gains Steam."](#) (Reuters)

["Inflation Reduction Act's Tax Credits Could Reshape Idaho's Energy Landscape."](#) (Idaho Press)

["Avista Makes Price Adjustment Request in Washington and Idaho"](#) (AP News)

["Idaho Engineers Become Drone Pilots to Prepare for Testing, Waste Vault Entry."](#) (Office of Environmental Management)

["Idaho Site Makes Headway Reducing Risk in Spent Nuclear Fuel Projects."](#) (Office of Environmental Management)



## 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](http://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](http://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](http://idaho.gov))



## **Answers to the Brainteaser:**

1) D

\*Source: [U.S. Energy Information Administration - EIA - Independent Statistics and Analysis](http://www.eia.doe.gov)

2) B

\*Source: [About Mining - Department of Lands \(idaho.gov\)](http://www.idaho.gov)

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