Secretary Chu Announces More than $57 Million in Recovery Act Funding to Advance Smart Grid Development

Secretary Chu announced today that the Department has begun the development of a Smart Grid Information Clearinghouse. The Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) was selected as the winner of the $1.3 million initiative to develop and maintain the Clearinghouse website, which will be charged with answering questions from the public and distributing information about smart grid initiatives occurring nationwide.

This project is a cooperative effort among Virginia Tech, the IEEE Power & Energy Society and EnerNex Corporation to design, populate, manage and maintain a public Smart Grid Information Clearinghouse (SGIC) portal. Contents in the SGIC portal will include demonstration projects, use cases, standards, legislation, policy and regulation, lessons learned and best practices, and advanced topics dealing with research and development. It is envisioned that the SGIC portal will be the essential gateway that connects a smart grid community to the relevant sources of information that are currently scattered and distributed on the worldwide web.

The SGIC database will highlight smart grid related information from organizations – both in the US and abroad – that are active in technology, standards, policy and educational aspects of this rapidly evolving opportunity to use electricity in an environmentally responsible way.

The Smart Grid Information Clearinghouse (SGIC) is designed to serve as a repository for public smart grid information and to direct its users to other pertinent sources or databases for additional data, case studies, etc. It will facilitate direct sharing and dissemination of smart grid information among various stakeholders on knowledge gained, lessons learned and best practices. It will also serve as a decision support tool for both state and federal regulators in their deliberations for rule-making and evaluating the impact of their investments in the smart grid technologies and software. This will serve as a public forum for information outreach to all interested parties.

For further information, please email: smartgrid@vt.edu
Website: http://www.smartgridinformation.org