



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Science

Planning for Committee of Visitors Review of the BES Energy Frontier Research Center and Energy Innovation Hubs Programs

Briefing to BESAC

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History of EFRC-Hubs COVs

- First EFRC-Hubs COV was held in May 2013
- Second EFRC-Hubs COV was held in Nov. 2016
- Both COV reports and BES responses are here:

<https://science.osti.gov/bes/besac/BES-COV>



Committee of Visitors Charge

1. For both EFRCs and Hubs, assess the efficacy and quality of the processes used to:
 - (a) solicit, review, recommend, and document proposal actions, and
 - (b) monitor active projects and programs.

2. Within the boundaries defined by DOE missions and available funding, comment on how the award process has affected:
 - (a) the breadth and depth of portfolio elements, and
 - (b) the national and international standing of the portfolio elements.

EFRC and Hub Management Team Matrixed Across BES

EFRC Team



Andy Schwartz



Robin Hayes



Kerry Hochberger



Chris Bradley



Jim Rustad



Viviane Schwartz



Philip Wilk



Matthias Graf



Craig Henderson



Mike Markowitz



Mick Pechan



John Vetrano

Hubs Teams



Craig Henderson



John Vetrano

Batteries and Energy Storage (MSE)

Solar Fuels (CSGB)



Chris Fecko



Gail McLean



EFRCs and Hubs by the Numbers

- **Budget (FY2020)**
 - EFRCs: \$115M/year
 - Batteries and Energy Storage Hub: \$24M/year
 - Solar Fuels Hub: \$20M/year
- **Number of awards**
 - EFRC: 88 total since 2009 (41 Active)
 - Energy Storage Hub:
 - JCESR, 2012 – present
 - Solar Fuels Hub:
 - JCAP, 2010 – 2020
 - LiSA and CHASE, 2020 – ...



Scope of the COV:

Funding decisions and management from FY 2017–2020

- **Funding decisions:**
 - FY 2018 EFRC Funding Opportunity Announcement
 - FY 2020 EFRC Funding Opportunity Announcement
 - FY 2018 Renewal of JCESR Hub
 - FY 2020 Solar Fuels Funding Opportunity Announcement

- **Management activities:**
 - EFRC Management Reviews in 2017, 2019
 - EFRC Mid-Term Reviews in 2018, 2020
 - EFRC Annual reports, PI Meetings, Directors Meetings, ...
 - Hub Program Reports
 - Hub Program Annual Reviews

FY 2020 EFRC-Hubs Committee of Visitors

- Chair: **Ian Robertson**, University of Wisconsin
- Hub Panel co-chair: **Gary Rubloff**, University of Maryland
- EFRC Panel co-chairs: **Polly Arnold**, LBNL/UC Berkeley
Hans Christen, ORNL
- Virtual meeting using Zoom
- Dates: October 13-16, 2020
- PAMS-based COV
- Panels being recruited now (~10 EFRC, ~5 Hubs)



Elements of agenda

- Preliminary activities (1-2 weeks before COV)
 - presentations and background material available to COV, Zoom/PAMS training
- Day 1 (11am-4pm ET)
 - Plenary session: welcome, BESAC charge, BES and EFRC/Hubs Q&A
 - Panel breakout sessions: Initial portfolio discussions with BES, as needed; panelists begin to read materials; Program managers on call
 - Executive session (chair/co-chairs): assessment of key elements and gaps
- Day 2 (11am-4pm ET)
 - Panel breakout sessions: panelist continue review, Program managers on call
 - Executive session (all COV): discuss output from panels, identify key observations, and decide if other reviews are needed
 - Check-in Meeting: Chair briefs BES on progress, gets clarification on issues
- Day 3-4 (11am-4pm ET)
 - Flexible schedule as needed to complete review and write draft of report
 - Executive session (all COV): discuss key findings & recommendations
 - Closeout plenary session: presentation of major findings and recommendations

Questions/comments?

