

Energy Research Analyses

Program Mission

The mission of the Energy Research Analyses (ERA) program is to evaluate the quality and impact of Department of Energy research programs and projects.

Program Goal

Provide Department of Energy program managers and senior managers with objective assessments of research projects and programs in order to evaluate the quality and impact of these efforts, to identify undesirable duplications and gaps, and to provide analysis of key technical issues in support of long range energy research planning, science and technology planning, and technical and performance evaluation of departmental programs and objectives.

Program Objectives

- *To Provide The Basis For Judgments on The Quality of Research And Its Impact.* Using merit review with peer evaluation, provide departmental program managers and their superiors with detailed information about the technical strengths and weaknesses of projects that comprise the research and development (R&D) program as a basis for judgment of the quality of the research and its impact.
- *To Provide Independent Views of Future R&D Needs in Areas of Interest to The Department.* Evaluate the status of science and technology areas of potential importance to the Department's mission, and to lay out appropriate fundamental and applied research and development to hasten the advance towards potential energy applications.
- *To Develop Strategic And Performance Plans.* Use advice from outside experts, advisory committees, departmental managers, national laboratory managers, industrial scientists and managers, and officials of other government agencies to formulate strategic and performance plans for the Office of Science and for the Science and Technology business line of the Department.
- *To Contribute to DOE And Interagency Program Analysis And Planning For Government Science And Technology.* Participate in committees, task forces, working groups, and workshops of the Department of Energy and organizations such as the National Science and Technology Council, the National Science Foundation, the National Academy of Sciences, and private sector organizations such as the Industrial Research Institute, and the Electric Power Research Institute.

Performance Measures

- Quality and value of peer review evaluations, as indicated by satisfaction of investigators and program managers and actions taken to improve or replace projects that have significant shortcomings, and to capitalize on the strengths of stronger projects.
- Satisfaction by customer program managers with assessments of science and technology needs, as indicated by changes or additions to make DOE programs and projects more productive and relevant to DOE missions.
- Quality and acceptance of strategic and performance plans, as indicated by their use by the Director of the Office of Science and by program offices in multi-year program planning, program management, and in effectively justifying programs.
- Influence on government science and technology planning and analysis, as indicated by contributions to DOE, interagency, and outside recommendations on science policies and plans.

Significant Accomplishments and Program Shifts

Energy Research Analyses

- Independent peer reviews verified the quality and relevance of over 100 DOE projects and tasks in FY 1997. These levels of effort will be scaled down through FY 2000 to accommodate the reduced funding.
- A new Office of Science Strategic Plan will be completed in FY 1999 that will guide the Office of Science into the first quarter of the next century.
- A Department of Energy Science Facilities Roadmap will be completed in FY 1999 that will optimize the Nation's investments in the Department's scientific facilities into the first quarter of the next century.

Funding Profile

(dollars in thousands)

	FY 1998 Current Appropriation	FY 1999 Original Appropriation	FY 1999 Adjustments	FY 1999 Current Appropriation	FY 2000 Request
Energy Research Analyses					
Energy Research Analyses	1,434	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Use of Prior Year Balances	-144 ¹	-92 ^a	0	-92 ^a	0
Total, Energy Research Analyses	1,290 ²	908	0	908	1,000

Funding by Site

(dollars in thousands)

	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	\$ Change	% Change
Oak Ridge Operations Office					
Oak Ridge National Laboratory	665	400	400	0	0.0%
Oakland Operations Office					
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	100	0	0	0	0.0%
Richland Operations Office					
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	0	350	250	-100	-28.6%
All Other Sites ³	669	250	350	+100	+40.0%
Subtotal, Energy Research Analyses	1,434	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Use of Prior Year Balances	-144 ^a	-92 ^a	0	+92 ^a	+100.0%
Total, Energy Research Analyses	1,290	908	1,000	+92	+10.1%

Public Law Authorization:

Public Law 95-91, "Department of Energy Organization Act"

¹ Share of Science general reduction for use of prior year balances assigned to this program. The total general reduction is applied at the appropriation level.

² Excludes \$36,000 which has been transferred to the SBIR program and \$2,000 which has been transferred to the STTR program.

³ Funding provided to laboratories, universities, industry, other Federal agencies and other miscellaneous contractors.

Site Description

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Oak Ridge National Laboratory is a Multiprogram Laboratory located on a 24,000 acre site in Oak Ridge Tennessee. Oak Ridge National Laboratory supports the Energy Research Analyses program in technical reviews of Department research programs. This activity includes technical support for peer review assessments and other studies and workshops as requested.

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is a Multiprogram Laboratory located on a 640 acre site at the Department's Hanford site in Richland, Washington. Pacific Northwest National Laboratory carries out research in the areas of technical planning and economic analysis to contribute to the Energy Research Analyses program's formulation of long term plans and science policy. This activity includes assessments of international basic energy science programs and private sector investments in energy R&D.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is a Multiprogram Laboratory located in Berkeley, California. The Laboratory is on a 200 acre site adjacent to the Berkeley campus of the University of California. This activity contributes to the Energy Research Analyses program's formulation of long-term plans and science policy.

All Other Sites

This line includes funding of research awaiting distribution pending finalization of program office detailed planning.

Energy Research Analyses

Mission Supporting Goals and Objectives

The Energy Research Analyses (ERA) program assesses research projects and programs in order to judge the significance of these efforts and to identify undesirable duplications and gaps. Peer reviews of individual research projects using outside experts are performed. Technical assessments to determine the direction of future research and state-of-the-science reviews are also performed. The program also provides analyses in support of long range energy research planning, science and technology planning, and technical evaluation of DOE programs and objectives.

Funding Schedule

(dollars in thousands)

	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	\$ Change	% Change
Energy Research Analyses	1,434	973	973	0	0.0%
SBIR/STTR	0	27	27	0	0.0%
Total, Energy Research Analyses	1,434	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%

Detailed Program Justification

(dollars in thousands)

FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000
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Energy Research Analyses

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Evaluate the quality and relevance of research projects in Science, Fossil Energy, and Energy Efficiency by independent peer reviews and assess additional technical needs in Science, Fossil Energy, and Energy Efficiency (e.g., advanced composite materials). Evaluate critical planning and policy issues of DOE science and technology through reviews by expert groups outside the Department such as the National Academy of Sciences and the JASON group. 	1,434	973	973
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SBIR/STTR

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In FY 1998, \$36,000 and \$2,000 were transferred to the SBIR and STTR programs, respectively. The FY 1999 and FY 2000 amounts shown are the estimated requirement for the continuation of the SBIR and STTR programs. 	0	27	27
Total, Energy Research Analyses	1,434	1,000	1,000

Explanation of Funding Changes from FY 1999 to FY 2000

	FY 2000 vs. FY 1999 (\$000)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ There are no funding changes from FY 1999 to FY 2000 for Energy Research Analyses. 	0
Total Funding Change, Energy Research Analyses	0