

BES Response to the Report of the BESAC Committee of Visitors (COV) Review of the Energy Frontier Research Centers and the Joint Center for Artificial Photosynthesis Energy Innovation Hub

Date of COV: May 29-31, 2013

Date of Response: August 26, 2013

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COV Recommendation	Program Response
Energy Frontier Research Center Program (EFRC)	
Although EFRC award documents provided a clear rationale for why a given project was funded, the documentation for the proposals declined was limited to the reviewers' comments and the total average score. We recommend that BES document the reasons for declining proposals that were reviewed well enough to be fundable.	BES concurs with the recommendation and will strengthen the documentation of the decision process for cases in which limited availability of funds dictates that fundable proposals be declined.
Joint Center for Artificial Photosynthesis Energy Innovation Hub (JCAP)	
For the promise of the Hub to realize its full potential with significant impact, the COV recommends that BES take steps to ensure full integration and synergy of activities within the Hub to achieve the appropriate focus on the singular goal to be achieved for the funded project period (5 years).	BES concurs with the recommendation and has implemented additional oversight mechanisms, such as new self-assessment reports, to facilitate as well as monitor synergism and integration of JCAP activities in regard to its overall goal.