

1. Hydropower News

Legislation to continue to develop hydropower in an environmentally responsible manner was discussed recently. *“There’s no question that hydropower is, and must continue to be, part of our energy solution, as it’s the largest source of renewable electricity in the US,”* said Sen. Murkowski. The Hydropower Improvement Act S.629, aims to boost substantially US hydropower capacity in an effort to expand clean power generation and create domestic jobs. It would establish a competitive grants program and direct DOE to produce and implement a plan for the research, development and demonstration of increased hydropower capacity.

2. AAAS S&T Policy Forum

The annual American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Forum on Science and Technology Policy will be held May 6th in Washington DC.

https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=STP_010E&OID=50

3. EPA funds Clean Air research Centers

Four new Clean Air Research Centers have been funded by the EPA. The centers will be at Emory University, Harvard University, Michigan State University, and the University of Washington. Each Center will receive approximately \$8M over a 5-year period.

4. DOE Request for Information on rare earth metals and other materials used in the energy sector.

This information will be used to update DOE’s Critical Material Strategy.

“Having the best, most up-to-date information will help [DOE] identify opportunities to address critical material challenges in the energy economy,” Assistant Secretary for policy and international affairs David Sandalow. These materials will be important in the development of clean energy technologies including wind

turbines, hybrid vehicles, solar panels and energy efficient light bulbs.

5. Oil Spill Research Strategy-dispersants included

The Gulf Oil Spill Research Strategy will be discussed by the EPA’s Science Advisory Board April 11-12 in Washington DC.

The *Deep Water Horizon* spill identified the need for additional research on alternative spill response technologies; environmental impacts of chemical dispersants under deep sea application conditions; the fate and toxicity of dispersants and dispersed oil; chronic health effects for spill response workers and the public; and shoreline and wetland impacts, restoration and recovery. EPA developed the research strategy to address these needs, as they relate to EPA’s responsibilities for oil spills, and it has asked SAB to review the draft strategy.

6. TTU-TTUHSC System Cancer Symposium

Cancer researchers from the Lubbock, El Paso, Abilene and Amarillo campuses will share their research and plan for the future at an annual cancer research symposium to be held and hosted by the TTUHSC in Amarillo from **April 29-May 1, 2011**. Nobel laureate Dr. Al Gilman will present the keynote address.

80 abstracts have been submitted from TTU system schools.

7. TTU Second Annual CAREER Symposium April 29th 2011.

The second annual NSF CAREER symposium will be held in the faculty senate room from 8:30-12 noon.

NSF officials, past NSF program officers at TTU and recipients of CAREER awards will participate in this program. The program is open to all faculty.

8. The Nanomanufacturing Sciences (NMS)

area of SRC is soliciting white papers (due **Thursday, April 14th at 3pm ET**) in the area of

Environment, Safety & Health for work to begin January 1, 2012, as part of an ESH Research Center based at the University of Arizona.

Responses are limited to two pages (including references), using at least a 10-point font, and must be submitted via the SRC website between March 14 - April 14, 2011, with a deadline of 3 pm EDT / 12 pm PDT on Thursday, April 14th. No email submissions will be accepted. White papers not meeting these requirements will not be considered.

This call for research, issued to universities worldwide, may be addressed by individual investigators or by research teams. Successful white paper authors will be invited to submit a full proposal. Contracts resulting from this solicitation are anticipated to be three years in duration. Interested researchers should note the proposal and review schedule, needs document, and instructions for web-based white paper submissions on the SRC GRC Web site at: <http://www.src.org/compete/s201105>

9. Collaborative opportunity between conservation scientists, chemists and materials scientists to address grand challenges in the field of science of cultural heritage.

Deadline May 11, 2011

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11528/nsf11528.htm>

10. Do you know your numbers??

10^{13} -the number of cells in your body

10^{14} -the number of microbes on your body