

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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News Media Contact:
(202) 586-4940

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Energy Department Initiates New Online Application Portal for Loan Guarantee Applications

Online Portal Offers Simple, Time-Saving Tool That Will Help Accelerate Application Process

Washington D.C. --- Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced the launch of a new online application portal that will enhance access to the Department of Energy's open solicitations for loan guarantees while also simplifying and expediting the application process. The online portal will reduce the time it takes to apply for and review applications by creating a new user-friendly interface that provides instantaneous feedback to applicant responses. While all applicants for loan guarantees will be encouraged to apply using the new portal, applicants to any previously issued open solicitations can still apply for loan guarantees via Express Mail. Applicants who have already submitted Part I applications and are invited to submit Part II applications should also do so by sending their application via Express Mail.

"The new online portal is a significant improvement from the previous process," said Jonathan Silver, DOE's Loan Programs executive director. "Not only does this new tool make the loan guarantee solicitation process easier to navigate, the portal also demonstrates our commitment to continuously accelerate important clean energy investments that create jobs, support private markets and transform the way we use and produce energy."

The new online portal is based on extensive feedback from industry professionals and stakeholders. Applicants will now be able to upload documents online quickly and efficiently rather than submitting hundreds of pages of printed documents as part of their application. The online portal will also provide streamlined, standardized Department responses and will enable Department staff to process applications more quickly than in the past.

Key features of the new online portal include:

- The system is designed to guide applicants through the application process by making suggestions as to applicable solicitations based on the information provided by the applicant.
- Applicants will receive instantaneous guidance as to how they might increase the likelihood that their applications will continue to the next phase.

- The portal offers comprehensive security features such as encryption algorithms and password protection to ensure that only the applicant and identified Department reviewers can access the files.

Interested parties can find the latest solicitations and apply for a loan guarantee via the new online application portal at: <https://www.doeloan.com>. In addition, parties that plan to make a submission during the application round for the Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and Advanced Transmission and Distribution Technologies solicitation that ends on August 24, 2010, are highly encouraged to apply through this online portal.

The Department is authorized to issue loan guarantees under Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended, for clean and renewable energy projects. The Loan Programs Office administers the loan guarantee program for the Department. For more information on this program, please visit <http://www.lgprogram.energy.gov>.

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