

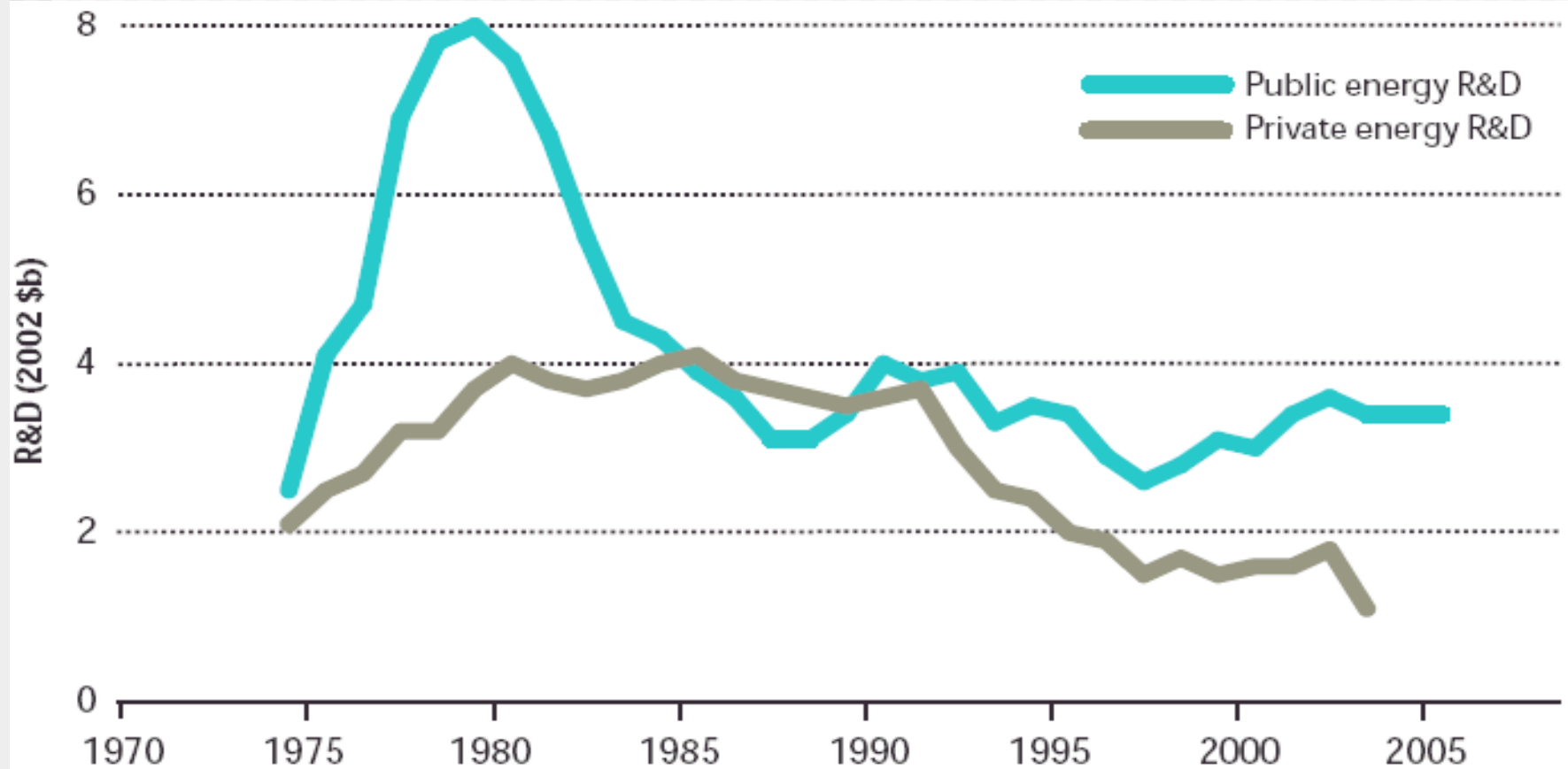
Moving Energy Innovation to Scale

William B. Bonvillian

Director - MIT Washington Office

CSIS - Energy & Nat'l Security Project,
Conf. on "Game Changers and
Visionaries" - May 12, 2010

US Public and Private Trends in Energy R&D:



(Source: Nemet and Kammen, 2007)

US Private Energy Sector R&D Investment Compared to that into Sectors with Significant Innovation

Innovating industries -

- The biotech industry invests 39% of annual revenue,
- pharmaceuticals invest 18%,
- semiconductors invest 16%.

Established industries:

- electronics industry invests 8% of sales
- auto industry invests 3.3%.
- Average R&D to ann. rev., all US industry: 2.6%
- Private Energy Sector: less than 1%

(Data from: Nemet and Kammen, 2007)

Is an R&D Increase Justified?

- Precedents for increased government spending on similar scale (in 2002 dollars)
 - Apollo Program (\$185 billion over 9 years),
 - Carter/Reagan defense buildup (\$445 billion over 8 years),
 - Doubling NIH (\$138 billion over 5 years)
 - Ballistic Missile Defense (\$145 billion over the first 6 years - actual dollars).

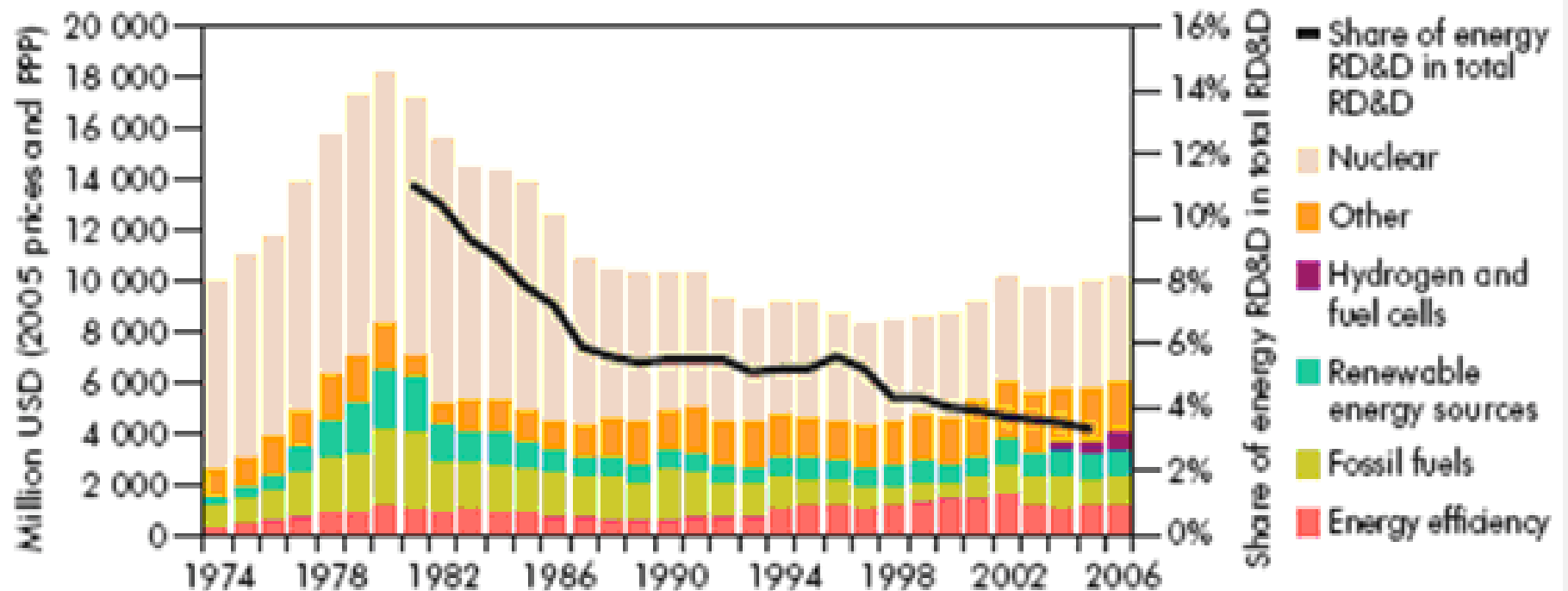
These are examples of the needed size and scope of a technology development program (including implementation), not the way such a program should be organized

International Energy Agency: Perspectives 2008: Scenarios and Strategies to 2050

- The International Energy Agency (IEA) 2008 report estimates:
 - IEA: Investments Required for CO₂ Reductions are LARGE
 - Reducing emissions to 50% below 2005 levels -
 - the goal G-8 leaders committed to in July 2008,
 - will require a total worldwide investment of \$45 trillion (today's dollars), or 1.1% of GDP, 1,1T/year
 - in R&D *and* implementation
 - CO₂ Stabilization also very expensive - \$17T by 2050.
 - We aren't close

IEA: OECD Countries – Similar R&D Decline

Government budgets on energy RD&D of the IEA countries



Note: RD&D budgets for the Czech Republic not included due to lack of available data.

Source: IEA 2007a, OECD 2007a.

IEA 2008, con't

- Tech revolution in energy is possible and “urgent”
- Deep emission cuts are “technically achievable”
- Barriers:
 - Financing needs
 - Slow capital stock turnover
 - Timeliness of bringing on new technology

The point:

- Getting to energy R&D and technology implementation at scale is a big problem

BUT...

- Just throwing money at Energy R&D is not enough
- Innovation in an established, complex sector like energy is a much more complicated proposition

The US is a Technology Covered Wagon Culture



- We're good at standing up completely new things - creating new functionality.
- We're used to standing up technology in open fields - like computing.
- We pack our metaphorical Tech Covered Wagons and Go West, leaving Legacy problems behind
- We rarely take our tech covered wagons west to east

U.S. Innovations Like to Land in Unoccupied Territory. Energy is Occupied Territory



- Energy technology will be parachuting new technology into occupied territory -
- - and will be shot at
- Yet huge gains not just from the new but fixing the old

Energy is a Complex, Established Sector

- Existing technologies are heavily subsidized and politically powerful
- New entrants are up against an established *Techno-Economic-Political Paradigm*
- Alternative technologies must be price competitive immediately upon market introduction against legacy competitors that don't pay for environmental or geopolitical costs

A Carbon Charge (Carbon Tax or Cap-and-Trade) Market- based Incentive is Necessary

- A price on CO₂ captures externalities
- Sends an unmistakable price signal to energy users
- Enables new entrants to enter and start to drive down the cost curve
- Only works if it is sustained and high enough
- So a pricing mechanism is NECESSARY BUT NOT SUFFICIENT
- Must have parallel R&D/implementation initiative

The Institutional Problems with Energy Innovation System

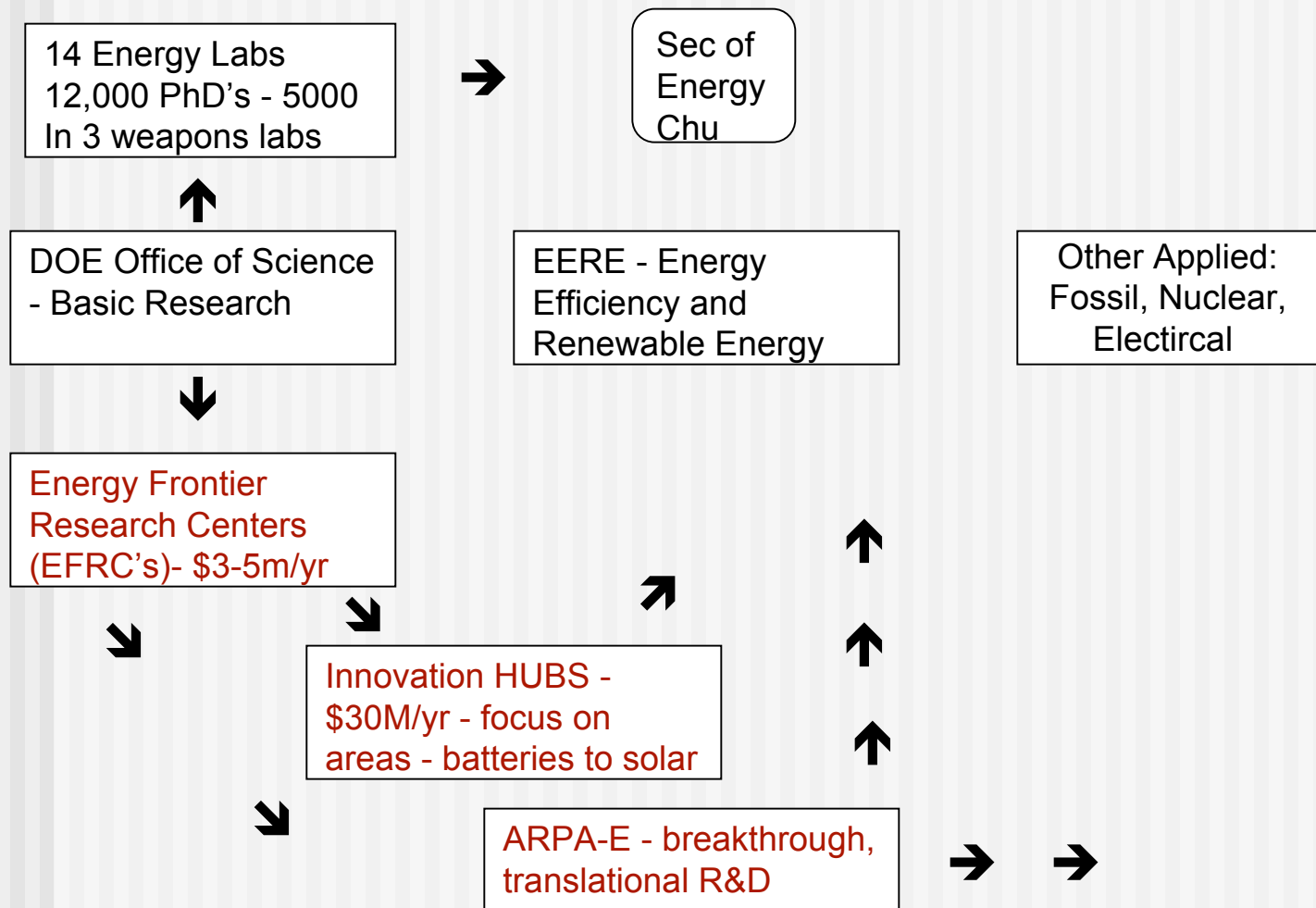
-The Front End Problem:



- DOE Sec Chu standing up **ARPA-E**
 - DARPA translation research
 - Breakthrough oriented accelerator
 - Will it get next \$300m in FY11 from Congress? Then Scale?
 - What is its constituency - is the political model right?
- The Other Pieces Chu seeks:
 - **Energy Frontier Research Centers (EFRC's)** - now 46 - \$3-5m
 - Effort to engage university base in basic energy research;
 - **Energy Innovation HUBS** - mini-Bell labs - scale/incremental work in key areas: solar, batteries, advanced nuclear, building efficiency; \$20+m/year
 - **Re-energyze** - energy education; no revolution without trained troops - but in trouble on the Hill: sci ed is an NSF role

Front End of DOE's Evolving Innovation System:

Research ---> to Applied ---> to Demonstration ---> to Commercialization



The Problem with the Innovation **Back End**:

- DOE is all Front End - not focused on the Back End of the Innovation System
 - In a complex established sector there won't be efficient innovation on the back end - need a public sector role in the back end
- -Other key institutions: DOE needs -
 - Need **Financing Bank**
 - House & Senate Energy proposed this year in energy bills
 - Chu: standing up loan guarantee based on 05 and 07 energy acts - but need a variety of tools - loan guarantees not relevant to all start-ups and small firms
 - Need gov't corp. for large scale **demonstrations**
 - Need **Testbeds**
 - DOD largest facilities owner in US - \$20B/year in military construction
 - Need **Tech Strategy** leading to **Energy Roadmap**
 - We have a tech list not a strategy and long way from Roadmap

The DOD Systems Model

- DOD did the IT revolution by playing at every stage of the innovation system
 - From research to development to demonstration to testbeds to financing to procurement to create the initial market
- An energy transformation is at least as hard as IT
- We're going to need to play at all the stages of the system

Another Problem: Technology Neutrality in Energy Legislation

- **Bills written backward**

- Each technology has its own title, own funding stream, many separate disconnected innovation strands -- each has own deal
- More powerful your lobby, more powerful your title - farmers = biofuels - No lobbyist left behind
- Need to avoid technology lock-in - 40 year problem
- Reverse: set up tech neutral incentives
 - See Steps 1 and 2 above - need overall system
- Need better level of technology neutrality - hard in a political world of established sector
- Let best technologies compete for support based on energy merits

Tech Revolutions cost money - Where will the \$ come from?

- Energy R&D Approp's stagnant in 2008-09, but Stimulus provided major new R&D funding input for FY10
 - \$5.5 R&D and infrastructure; \$34b late stage implementation
 - But: US deficit/fiscal posture an ongoing problem
- Cap and Trade only significant new revenue source
 - Funding will fall off a funding cliff next year and lose momentum unless a follow-on funding source is found
- The Administration understood this and proposed:
 - FY2010 President's Budget proposes \$150B "Clean Energy Tech Fund" from cap and trade revenues - but Administration has sought no funding for it
- June 2009: House Energy Committee cap and trade bill passed - only \$1.5B in R&D funding, \$8B go to coal, utility, oil refinery, auto sectors, states: tech deployment only
 - **Senate bill** being negotiated: not clear if add'l R&D funding

Energy as an Economic Wave -



- Energy - Next technology revolution?
 - Could it be new tech *innovation wave*, drive efficiency throughout the economy?

But: Problem of “New Functionality”

- IT: new functionality added to the US economy - major new functions, accompanying productivity gains
- Energy - more complicated
 - Still have cars, electricity still from wall outlets
 - But: over time: new functionality - LED light walls, distributed power - takes time to evolve
 - Throughout: efficiency gains that translate over time into productivity gains in all sectors
 - Productivity gains crucial to innovation waves

Pres. Obama:

- “We can cede the race for the 21st Century, or we can embrace the reality that our competitors already have: The nation that leads the world in creating a new clean energy economy will be the nation that leads the 21st century global economy.”
6/29/09

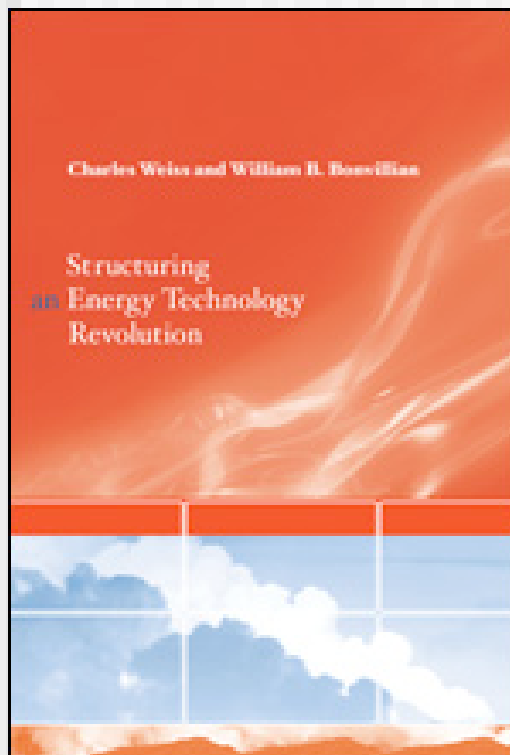
What are others up to?

- Pew Center *Who is Winning the Clean Energy Race? Growth, Competition and Opportunity in the World's Largest Economies* (2010).
www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/.../G-20%20Report.pdf
- Information Technology Innovation Foundation/
Breakthrough Inst., *Rising Tigers, Sleeping Giant: Asian Nations Set to Dominate the Clean Energy Race by Out-Investing the United States* (2009). <http://archive.itif.org/index.php?id=315>

Admin. Needs the 4 Strategies:

- Need an energy innovation system strategy
 - That brings in the private sector
 - Treats innovation as a system
 - Ties in energy science/engineering education
 - Adequately funds the Front End
 - Puts in a Back End - includes financing, testbeds
- Need a roadmap for energy
 - If energy is to be an innovation wave a roadmapping process between public-private-academic sectors needed
- Need an energy tech manufacturing strategy
 - required to reverse the covered wagon
 - Need productivity leapfrog - AI, robotics, processes, materials
- And Key: Need a long term energy innovation funding strategy
 - -headed off a cliff after Stimulus FY10 funding ends

APPENDIX:



INNOVATION SYSTEM STEPS -

From: Weiss &
Bonvillian, *Structuring
an Energy Technology
Revolution* (MIT Press
2009)

Step One: Identify Market Launch Categories

1. **Experimental technologies requiring long-term research**
 - Examples: Fusion, Hydrogen Fuel Cells
2. **Potentially Disruptive innovations that can be launched in niche markets** where they are competitive, and achieve gradual scale-up building from this base.
 - Examples: Solar PV's and wind for off-grid power, LED's
3. **Secondary innovations - uncontested launch:** components in larger systems that face immediate market competition based on price, but are acceptable to the system manufacturer.
 - Examples: Batteries for Plug-in Hybrids, Enhanced Geothermal

Energy Technology Launch Categories – Con't

4. Secondary innovations - contested launch:

component innovations having inherent cost disadvantages and facing political and non-market economic efforts to block their introduction.

- Examples: Carbon Capture and Sequestration, Biofuels, Nuclear Power

Crossover Categories:

5. Conservation and end-use efficiency -- incremental improvements for all technologies

Examples: Improved IC engines, Building Technologies, Appliance Standards

6. Advances in manufacturing technology and scale-up of manufacturing for all types of energy technology so as to drive down production costs.

- Examples: Wind energy, Carbon Capture and Sequestration

Step Two: Policy Packages Matched to Launch Categories

- (1) ***Front End Support:***
 - Needed for all technologies
 - Examples - research and development (R&D), technology prototyping and demonstrations (P&D), public-private R&D partnerships, monetary prizes to individual inventors and innovative companies, and support for technical education and training
- (2) ***Back End Incentives (carrots)*** to encourage technology deployment:
 - Needed for secondary (component) technologies
 - Examples - tax credits for new energy technology products, loan guarantees, price guarantees, government procurement programs, new product buy-down programs

Step Two, con't - Policy Packages for Promoting Energy Innovation

- **(3) *Back End Regulatory and Related Mandates (sticks):***
 - For secondary technologies - contested launch
 - Prospect of political battles since launch will be contested
 - Examples: standards for particular energy technologies in building, construction, and comparable sectors, renewable portfolio standards, fuel economy standards, emissions taxes, general and technology-specific intellectual property policies.
- Need work on best tools for tech categories

Step Three: Identify the Gaps in Existing Energy Innovation System

- **“Front-End” - RD&D -**
 - **Translating Research into Innovation**
 - **Carefully monitored demonstrations of engineering-intensive technologies (Carbon Sequestration, Biofuel Processing)**
 - **Improved manufacturing processes**
- **“Back-End” - deployment**
 - **Manufacturing scale-up**
 - **Launching into the economy**
 - **Installation of conservation technology**
 - **Financing infrastructure standup**
- **“Roadmapping”**

Step Four: Filling the Gaps with the Establishment and Funding of:

- 1) ARPA-E: A translational R&D entity
- 2) A wholly-owned gov't corporation for “back end” elements:
 - Sharing the financing of carefully monitored demonstrations of large engineering projects
 - Encouraging and incentivizing industry consortia to cut costs of manufacturing technologies and processes
 - Speed the scale-up of manufacturing production capacity
 - Financing installation of conservation, efficiency and related new technologies in residential and commercial markets
- 3) A Think-Tank to develop a detailed “roadmap” for the requirements for the development and launch of particular energy-related innovations, and to recommend policies to facilitate them