



National Association of State Energy Officials

December 2, 2024

Dr. Evelyn Wang
Director, ARPA-E
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

RE: NASEO Response to ARPA-E's Request for Information – Geologic Hydrogen Resource Exploration

Dear Director Wang:

The National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments in response to the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) Request for Information (RFI) on Geologic Hydrogen Resource Exploration. NASEO represents the governor-designated State Energy Offices from each of the 56 states, territories, and the District of Columbia. NASEO supports State Energy Offices in evaluating opportunities and barriers to developing, demonstrating, and deploying innovative energy technologies and resources, such as geologic hydrogen, and developing state policies and programs that advance energy security, reliability, sustainability, resilience, and affordability. NASEO also convenes a Clean Hydrogen State Working Group, which serves as a platform for State Energy Offices to share best practices, discuss topics of interest, and engage with key partners. NASEO encourages ARPA-E to consider the following:

State Energy Directors and their offices conduct comprehensive energy planning at the direction of their governors or legislatures to establish a strategy or framework to meet current and future energy needs in a cost-effective manner, enhance energy system reliability, expand economic opportunity, and address environmental quality. These plans can provide an opportunity for states to examine geologic hydrogen and the role it can play in the broader electricity system. NASEO recommends that ARPA-E engage with the State Energy Offices to help inform states' comprehensive energy planning and potential activities that support geologic hydrogen research and development (R&D).

Additionally, for several years, many State Energy Offices have worked to create and support collaborative regional hydrogen activities, develop state policies that support hydrogen production and use, and open markets for this important fuel. Most State Energy Offices play a key role in advancing energy-related economic development in their states, and geologic hydrogen offers tremendous potential for a significant

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number of states. As ARPA-E, the U.S. Geological Survey, universities, National Laboratories, and private sector energy innovators work to characterize and better understand this naturally occurring resource, State Energy Offices can partner with these entities to examine how to advance technology market readiness, implement supportive policies or programs on the state and local levels, and more. With this role in mind, we urge ARPA-E to coordinate and share information with State Energy Offices to inform supportive state policies, explore opportunities for state support of research and innovation, and improve state-federal collaboration on geologic hydrogen resource exploration, development, and investment.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments, and we look forward to engaging further with ARPA-E regarding geologic hydrogen.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DTerry', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

David Terry
NASEO President