

Energy Dept. plans to invest in clean coal power facilities

June 25 -- The U.S. Energy Department issued a formal announcement on June 24 that it is looking to invest in multiple commercial-scale integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) or other clean coal power plants with carbon capture and storage technology.

The Department's restructured FutureGen program would provide the funding to cost-shared projects. The department anticipates \$290 million will be available through fiscal year 2009 and an additional \$1 billion could be available in subsequent years, subject to appropriations by Congress.

"The Department is committed to increasing the nation's energy security and addressing CO2 emissions by ensuring coal, an abundant domestic resource, can be used to meet our growing energy demand in an environmentally responsible way," Under Secretary of Energy Bud Albright said.

The funding opportunity announcement provides instructions for submitting applications, which are due Oct. 8. The department wants to select the projects by the end of the calendar year.

The Energy Department has posted details online at www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/powersystems/futuregen/Restructured_FutureGen_Final_FOA__6-24-0.pdf.

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