EVALUATING AMERICA’S ENERGY POLICIES
ONE YEAR INTO THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

January 19-20, 2010
Stauffer Auditorium
Hoover Institution
Stanford University

Participants

Members of the Shultz-Stephenson Task Force on Energy Policy and distinguished invited experts in energy-related fields.

Please note that we expect to publish a record of discussions, but not make any special effort to either withhold or publicize remarks made at the conference unless requested.

Purpose

To discuss seven critical energy issues that could be favorably influenced by effective public policies at the state, local, and federal level.

Where do these key energy issues stand in light of the past year’s executive branch and congressional efforts and international developments? What is going right, what needs correcting, where are the gaps, what must be done to optimize policies?

DAY 1: NEW APPROACHES TO LEGACY ISSUES

8:30 A.M.       Continental Breakfast

9:00 A.M.       Welcome

John Raisian, director and senior fellow, Hoover Institution

9:10 A.M.       Introduction: A Conversation on Major Trends in Energy Developments

George Shultz, distinguished fellow and Energy Task Force chair, Hoover Institution, and former secretary of state, and Burton Richter, former director, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, and Hoover Institution Energy Task Force member
10:00 A.M.  Break

10:15 A.M.  Session I: Distributed Energy

What policy framework(s) would be necessary to increase the adoption of distributed energy technologies?

Moderator: James Boyd, vice chair, California Energy Commission
Speaker: R. James Woolsey, former distinguished visiting fellow and Energy Task Force member, Hoover Institution, and former director of Central Intelligence
Discussant: Dan Reicher, director, Climate and Energy Initiatives, Google.org

12:00 NOON  Lunch in Hatfield Court

1:00 P.M.  Session II: What Can We Do to Boost Energy Efficiency?

How can we use legislation, regulation, and incentives to promote behavioral change so that energy efficiency no longer underfulfills its potential?

Moderator: John Weyant, professor, Department of Management Science and Engineering, Stanford University
Speaker: Jim Sweeney, senior fellow and Energy Task Force member, Hoover Institution, and director, Precourt Institute for Energy Efficiency, Stanford University
Discussant: Jonathan Koomey, consulting professor, civil and environmental engineering, Stanford University

2:30 P.M.  Break

2:45 P.M.  Session III: Addressing the Nuclear Fuel Cycle

Internationalizing enrichment services and solving the problem of spent fuel storage

Moderator: Robert Rosner, distinguished service professor, physics and astronomy, and astrophysics, University of Chicago, visiting professor, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, and former director, Argonne National Laboratory
Speaker: Ellen Tauscher, undersecretary of state for arms control and international security, State Department
Discussant: Tom Isaacs, consulting professor, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, and director, Planning and Special Studies, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

5:00 P.M.  Conference Adjourns

6:30 P.M.  Reception at the Frances C. Arrillaga Alumni Center

7:00 P.M.  Evening Discussion and Dinner in McCaw Hall

A Conversation with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
(Open to invited guests only)

DAY TWO: EMERGING ISSUES IN ENERGY POLICY MAKING

8:30 A.M.  Continental Breakfast

9:00 A.M.  Session IV: Synthetic Biology: Prospects and Issues

Perspectives on the contribution of synthetic biology to energy needs, including governance issues

Moderator: Paul Berg, professor emeritus, Stanford University and, Hoover Institution Energy Task Force member
Speaker: Craig Venter, founder, chairman, CEO, cochief scientific officer, Synthetic Genomics, and founder, chairman, president, J. Craig Venter Institute
Panelists: Jay Keasling, professor, University of California, Berkeley, and Drew Endy, president, BioBricks Foundation, and assistant professor, bioengineering, Stanford University

10:45 A.M.  Break
11:00 A.M.  **Session V: Putting a Price on Carbon**

Should the United States opt for a revenue-neutral carbon tax or cap and trade in our future climate policy? Is a gas tax the best way to reduce carbon in our transportation system?

*Moderator:* **Roger Noll**, professor emeritus, Department of Economics, Stanford University  
*Speaker:* **Larry Goulder**, professor and chairman, Department of Economics, Stanford University, and Hoover Institution Energy Task Force member  
*Discussant:* **Terry M. Dinan**, senior adviser, Congressional Budget Office

12:15 P.M.  **Lunch in Hatfield Court**

1:15 P.M.  **Session VI: Sustained Research and Development Policy**

Should we fund dedicated national energy labs or research centers? How can we improve the interface between government research and development and private venture capital?

*Moderator:* **Sidney Drell**, senior fellow and Energy Task Force member, Hoover Institution, and former deputy director of SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory  
*Speaker:* **Arun Majumdar**, director, Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, Department of Energy  
*Discussant:* **Mike Goguen**, Sequoia Capital

2:45 P.M.  **Break**

3:00 P.M.  **Session VII: Emerging International Energy Relationships and What We Can Do to Make Them Better**

How can the Copenhagen process be managed successfully from the perspective of U.S. economic, security, and environmental interests? Should we be stressing positive and specific goals for step-by-step progress? How can U.S.-China and U.S.-India energy relations assume a more productive trajectory?

*Panel discussion with David Victor* (moderator), professor, University of California, San Diego, and Hoover Institution Energy Task Force member, **Charles Ebinger**, director, Energy Security Initiative,
Brookings Institution, and Michael Wara, assistant professor, Stanford Law School

4:30 P.M. Conference Summary and Suggested Follow-Up

What have we learned from our conversations during the past two days? How can this task force help address some of the major policy gaps in U.S. energy policy?

George Shultz and Burton Richter

5:00 P.M. Conference End