



INNOVATION REFORMS

#1: Expand energy research

America only dedicates 2% of its R&D budget to energy. According to chief executives from GE and others, this is only a fraction of what's needed. Failing to invest in next-generation energy technologies risks America's long-term competitiveness in the global economy because China, South Korea and others are prioritizing energy R&D ahead of the United States.

- Boost basic scientific research
- Expand public-private partnerships
- Follow the X-Prize model

#2: Reform the national laboratories

Individual national labs should be given the freedom to independently engage in private-sector partnership agreements. Currently, this authority is reserved by the Department of Energy officials. Reducing unnecessary overhead would decrease approval times and barriers to commercialization.

- Empower the heads of the national laboratories
- Facilitate private sector access to national laboratory resources
- Implement the Blue Ribbon Commission Recommendations

#3: Set ambitious and transparent goals

The national laboratories can maximize their impact by working together toward a set of common goals. We must follow the blueprint that proved successful for putting a man on the moon. Instead of funding tools, we should be focused on outcomes.

- Align the national laboratories on a set of ambitious goals
- Eliminate marginal research that can be conducted by the private sector