

Innovation for Our Energy Future

# **NREL Overview**

DOE/National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) Biomass and Solar Energy Workshops

August 3, 2004

Stanley R. Bull Associate Director, Science and Technology National Renewable Energy Laboratory



# **Major DOE National Laboratories**

Operated for the U.S. Department of Energy by Midwest Research Institute • Battelle

Argonne

Los Alamos Oak Ridge

Sandia

Defense Program Office of Science Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Office of Nuclear Energy Fossil Energy



Brookhave

REL National Renewable Energy Laboratory

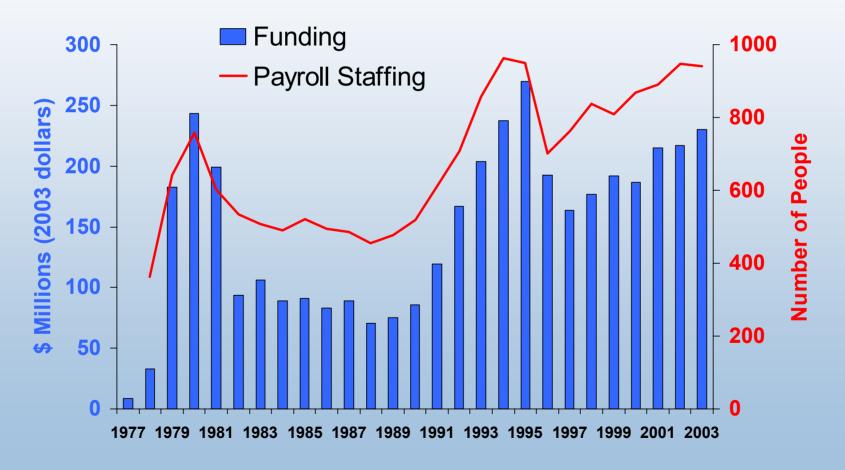
### **National Renewable Energy Laboratory**

- Only national laboratory *dedicated* to renewable energy and energy efficiency R&D
- Research spans fundamental science to technology solutions
- **Collaboration** with industry and university partners is a hallmark
- Research programs *linked* to market opportunities



# **NREL Funding and Staffing**

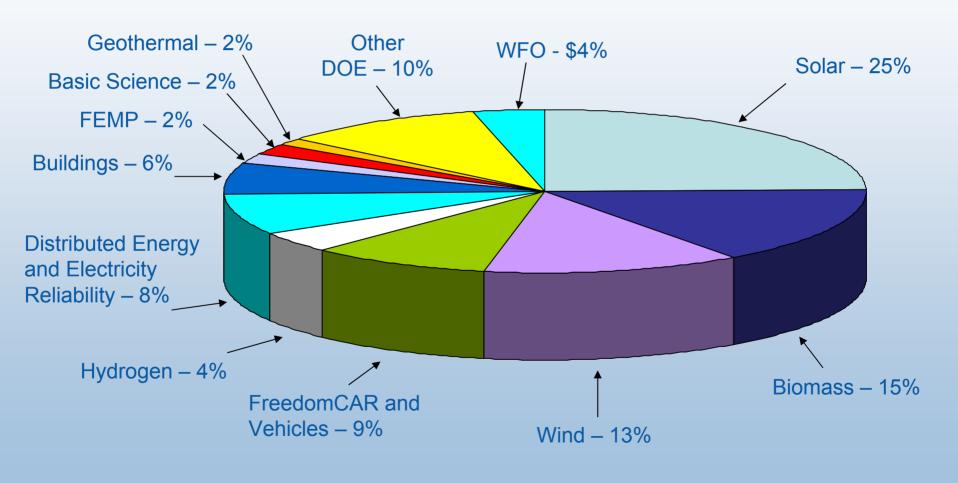
#### Funding in 2003 Dollars





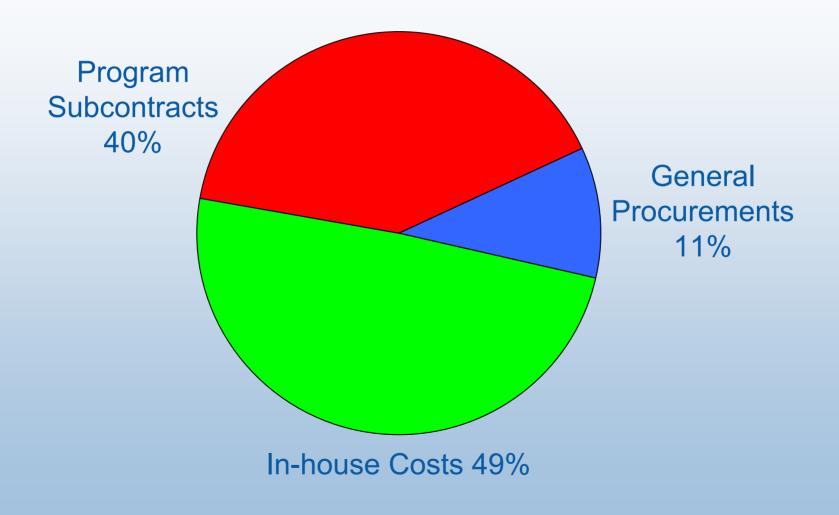
# **NREL FY 2003 Program Portfolio**

#### \$230 Million





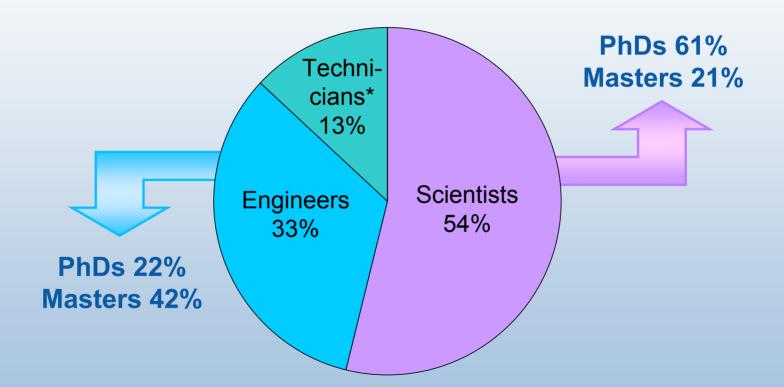
# **Where NREL's Funding Goes**





# **NREL Technical Staff**

#### **Disciplines and Education**



\*Includes research technicians Source: McCorkell, 04/31/04





Solar Energy **Research Facility** 

PIX 03852

Visitors Center

PIX 00738





**Outdoor Test Facility** 

PIX 00650



**Outdoor Test Area** 

PIX 00651



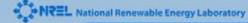
**Thermal Test Facility** 





Alternative Fuels User Facility

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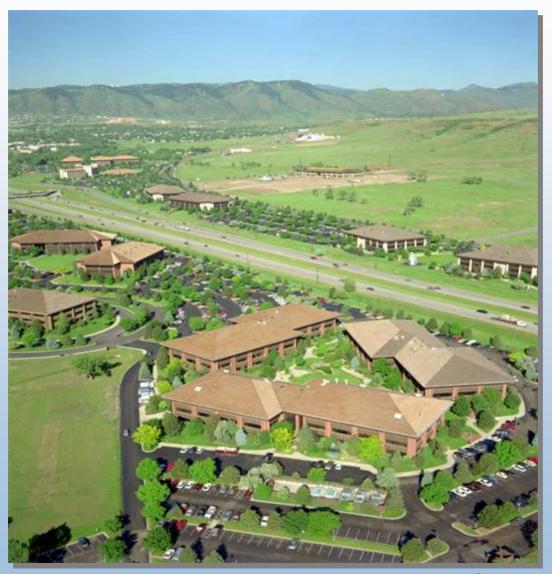
#### Shipping and Receiving

PIX 04906

Mesa Top Test Area



### **Denver West Leased Facilities**





# **National Wind Technology Center**

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# **Science and Technology Facility**



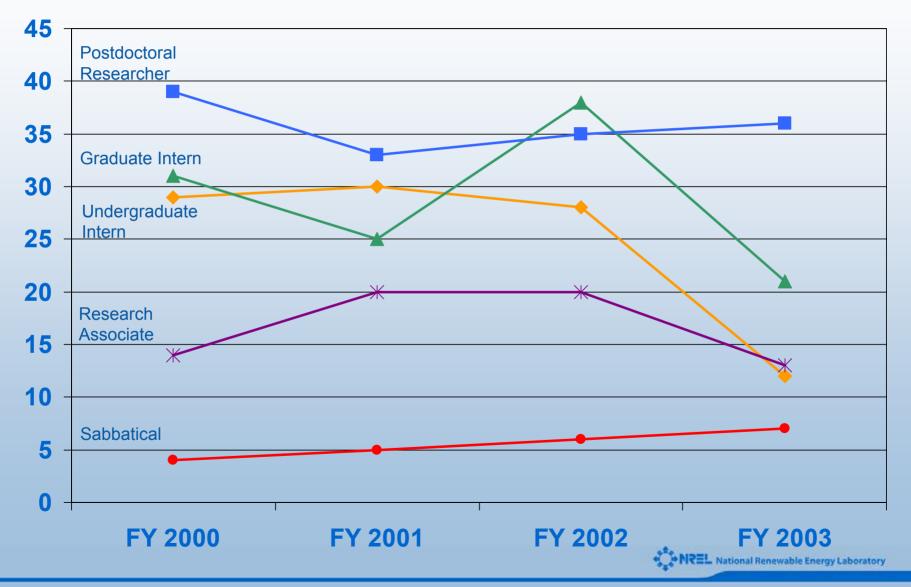


# **University Relations**

Students, Post Docs, and Professionals Adjunct Faculty Appointments University Advisory Committees University Subcontracts



### Total Students, Post Docs, and Faculty at NREL

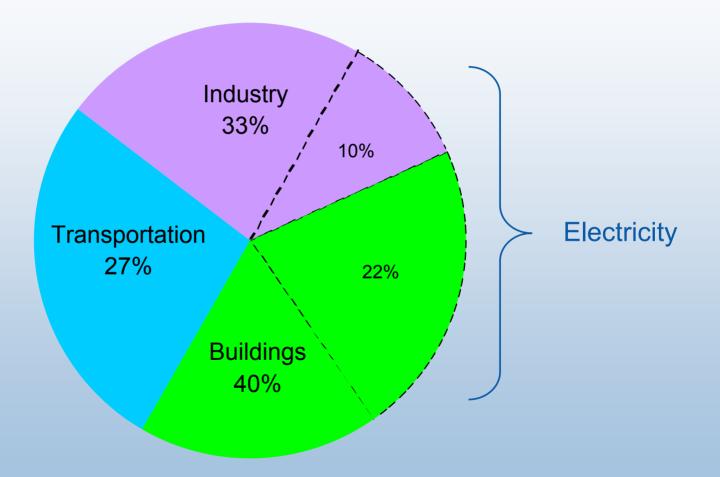


# Summary of NASULGC Participation in EERE's FY 2003 Portfolio

Method of Participation	NASULGC Institutions Participating	Awards to NASULGC Institutions
NREL to Institution	51	257



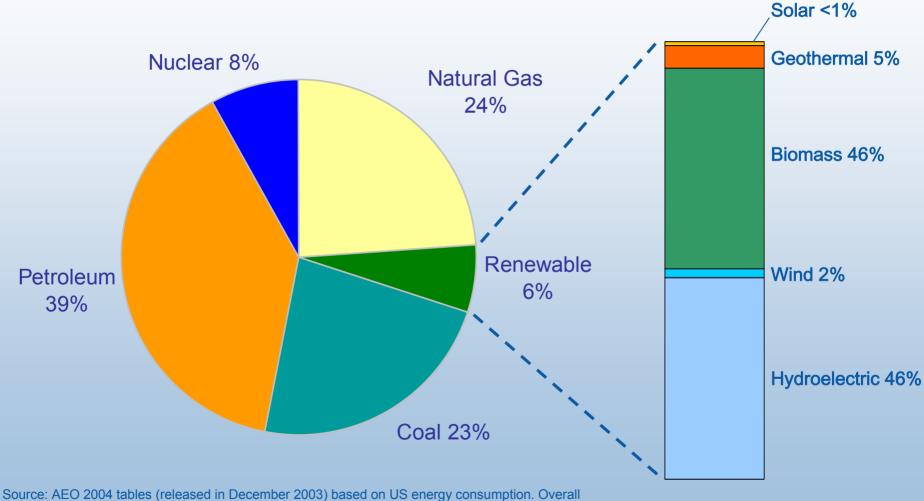
# U.S. Energy Consumption by Sector - 2002



Source: Energy Information Administration / Annual Energy Review 2002 Tables 2.1a-2.1d



# U.S. Energy Consumption by Fuel – 2002



breakdown Table A1 (Total Energy Supply and Disposition),

and Renewable breakdown Table A18 (Renewable Energy, Consumption by Section and Source).



# **Major NREL Thrusts**

#### Wind Solar

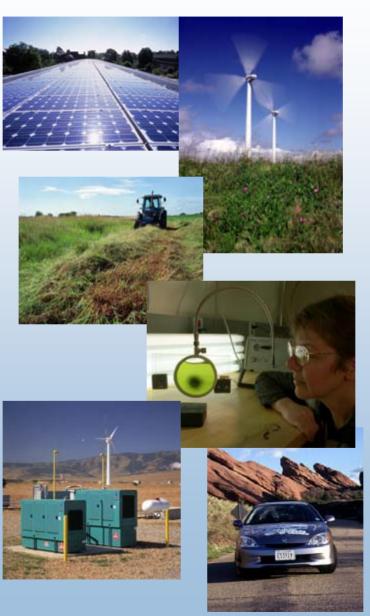
- Photovoltaics
- Solar Thermal

#### **Biomass**

- Biorefineries
- Biosciences
   Geothermal

#### Hydrogen

- Production
- Storage
- Delivery and End Use
- Systems Integration **Distributed Energy**
- Distribution and Interconnection
- Thermal Systems
- Superconductivity



#### Vehicle Technologies

- Hybrid Vehicles
- Alternative Fuels Utilization

#### **Building Technologies**

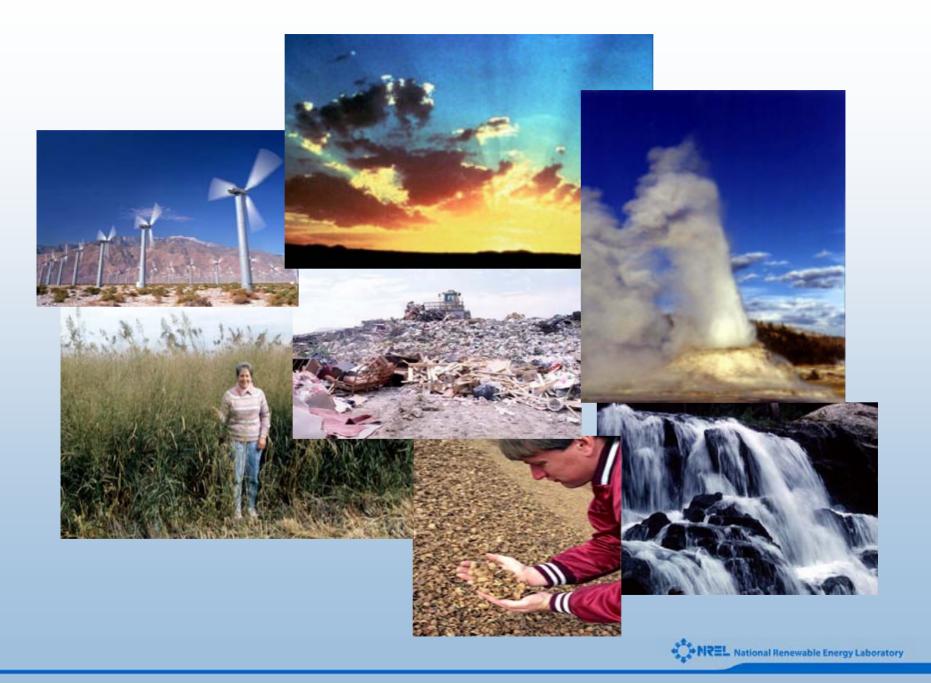
- Building Efficiency
- Zero Energy Buildings

#### Federal Energy Management

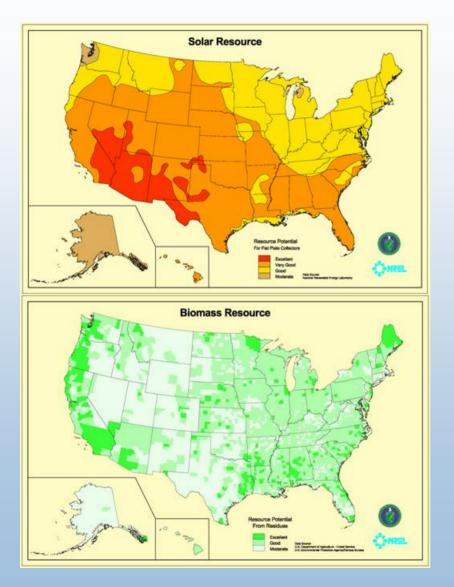
#### **Basic Energy Science**

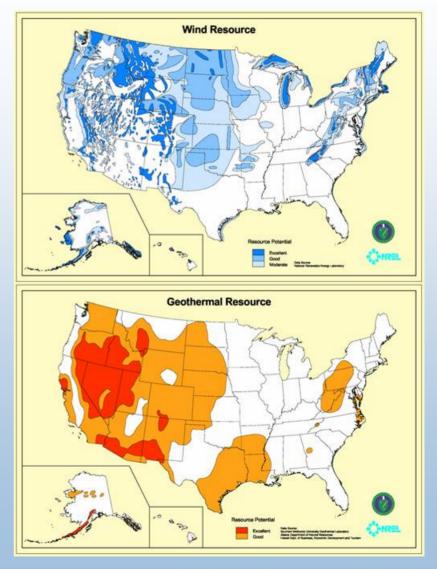
- New Materials
- Chemical and Biological Sciences
   Analytical Studies

International



# **U.S. Renewable Energy Resources**







# **Research Focus in Wind**

- Low-windspeed turbines
- Advanced power electronics
- Better aerodynamic blades, new materials
- Technology transfer to ocean-based systems

# **National Wind Technology Center**



**NWTC Research Building 251** 

01251



Blade Test Facility





**Turbine test field** 

08573

**Test Bed Facility** 

# **Research Focus in Solar**

 Higher efficiency devices (cells, collectors, etc.) New nanomaterials applications Predictive solid-state theory Advanced manufacturing techniques Higher component reliability

### **National Center for Photovoltaics Facilities**

#### Solar Energy Research Facility





**Outdoor Test Facility** 



#### **Outdoor Test Area**



### **SunLab Facilities**



Heliostat at the National Solar Thermal Test Facility (Sandia)



High-Flux Solar Furnace (NREL)



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# **Research Focus in Biomass**

 The Biorefinery – new thermochemical and biochemical conversion technologies
 Solutions to under-utilized waste residues

 Agriculture
 Forestry

– Urban

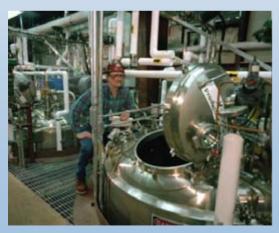
 Advanced agriculture (energy crops) enabled by plant genomics and bioscience

# **NREL Bioenergy Facilities**





Thermochemical Process Development Unit



**Bioethanol Process Development Unit** 



Field Test Laboratory Building



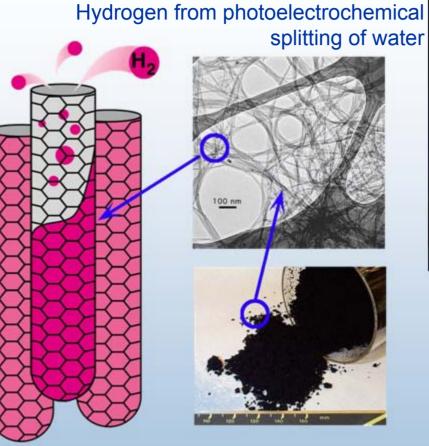
# Research Focus in Geothermal

- More accurate, less expensive drilling
- Gains in conversion efficiency
- Corrosion resistant components
- Reservoir engineering (aquifer recharge, etc.)

# Research Focus in Hydrogen and Fuel Cells

NREL Focus
Renewable H<sub>2</sub> Production
Carbon-based Hydrogen Storage
Infrastructure/Codes and Standards
Fuel Cell Integration (mobile and stationary)
Systems Integration and Analysis (production through end use)

# Hydrogen Research



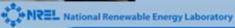
Carbon nanotubes for storage

Mutant algal strains used to split water and produce hydrogen in the photobioreactor pictured in the background





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# **Research Focus in Electric Infrastructure**

Interconnection standards and testing
Grid/distribution system integration
Hybrid systems optimization

# Research Focus in Transportation (FreedomCAR)

- Transition hybrids, then fuel cells
- Systems modeling (digital functional vehicle)
- Cleaner lubricants, improved fuels
- More efficient/comfortable cabin environment

### Transportation Technologies and Systems Center



**Engine Dynamometer** 



**Chassis Dynamometer** 



# **Research Focus in Buildings**

# Zero-energy homes High-performance commercial buildings

Emerging technologies
Solid state lighting, prismatic lenses
Building envelope research
Advanced windows

# **Buildings and Thermal Systems** Center



**Desiccant Loop** 



# Research Focus in Basic Sciences Nanoscience

OD #1

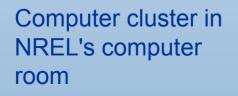
- Quantum dots linked by singlewall nanotube segments
- Perform charge separation on nanoscale after photon absorption
- Drive chemical reactions such as water splitting (H2 production)

QD #2

Single-Wall Nanotube Linker



### **Computational Sciences**



**Computational science** simulation



# The U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory

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