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Subject: DOE shifts SunShot's solar goals

By Eric Wolff

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The Department of Energy is shifting the focus of its SunShot Initiative to including broader administration priorities, such as grid reliability.

The program, which had dedicated itself to lowering solar costs including both panel costs and permitting, will now also devote research dollars to resilience, reliability, and storage, DOE said today.

"With the impressive decline in solar prices, it is time to address additional emerging challenges," Daniel Simmons, acting assistant secretary for energy efficiency and renewable energy, said in a statement. "As we look to the future, DOE will focus new solar R&D on the Secretary's priorities, which include strengthening the reliability and resilience of the electric grid while integrating solar energy."

DOE was also touting the early achievement of one of its 2020 goals, reducing solar costs for utility-scale solar to 6 cents a kilowatt-hour.

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