

# **An Overview of the Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy**

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Acting Deputy Director for Technology

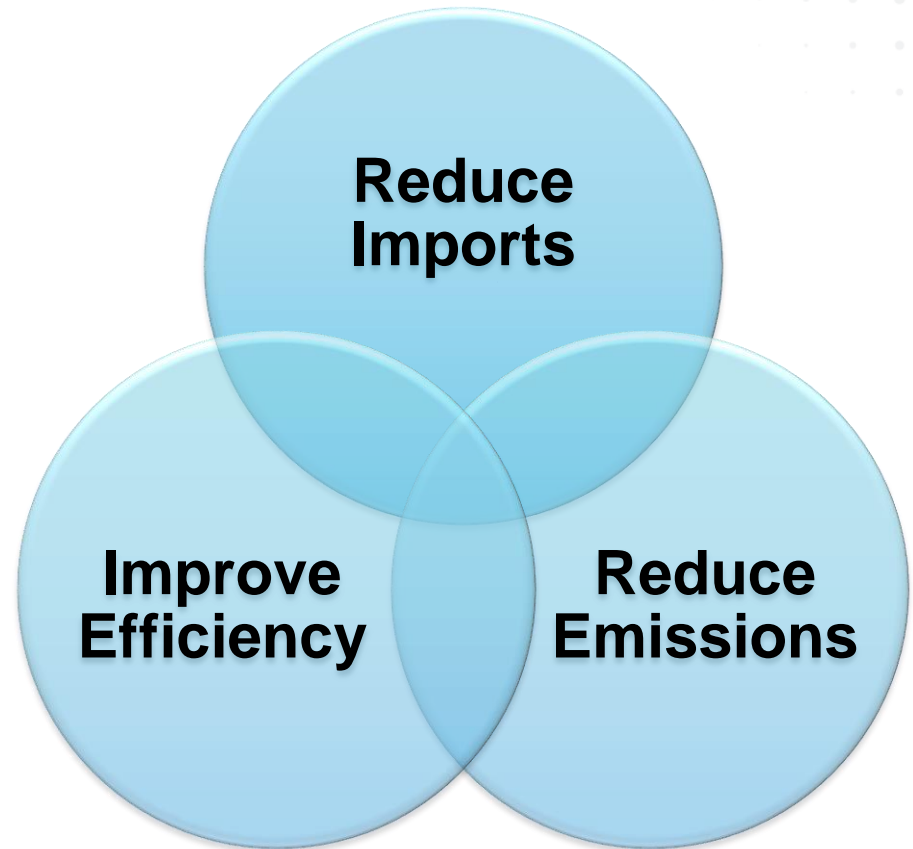
2013 TransTech Energy Business Development Conference  
November 6, 2013

# The ARPA-E Mission

Catalyze and support the development of transformational, high-impact energy technologies

## Ensure America's

- National Security
- Economic Security
- Energy Security
- Technological Lead



# Agency History

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- ▶ In 2007, the creation of ARPA-E was authorized by the American COMPETES Act based on a recommendations from the National Academies in *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*.
- ▶ In 2009, the first funding for the new agency was provided via American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Annual appropriations have followed in 2011-2013.
- ▶ As of March 2013, ARPA-E had funded 285 projects, across 33 states, with \$770 million in funding.
- ▶ Funding distribution
  - 38% small businesses
  - 35% universities
  - 19% large businesses
  - 6% national labs
  - 3% non-profits

# Innovation

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People creating value through the  
implementation of new ideas

- Herman D'hooge,  
Intel Innovation Network

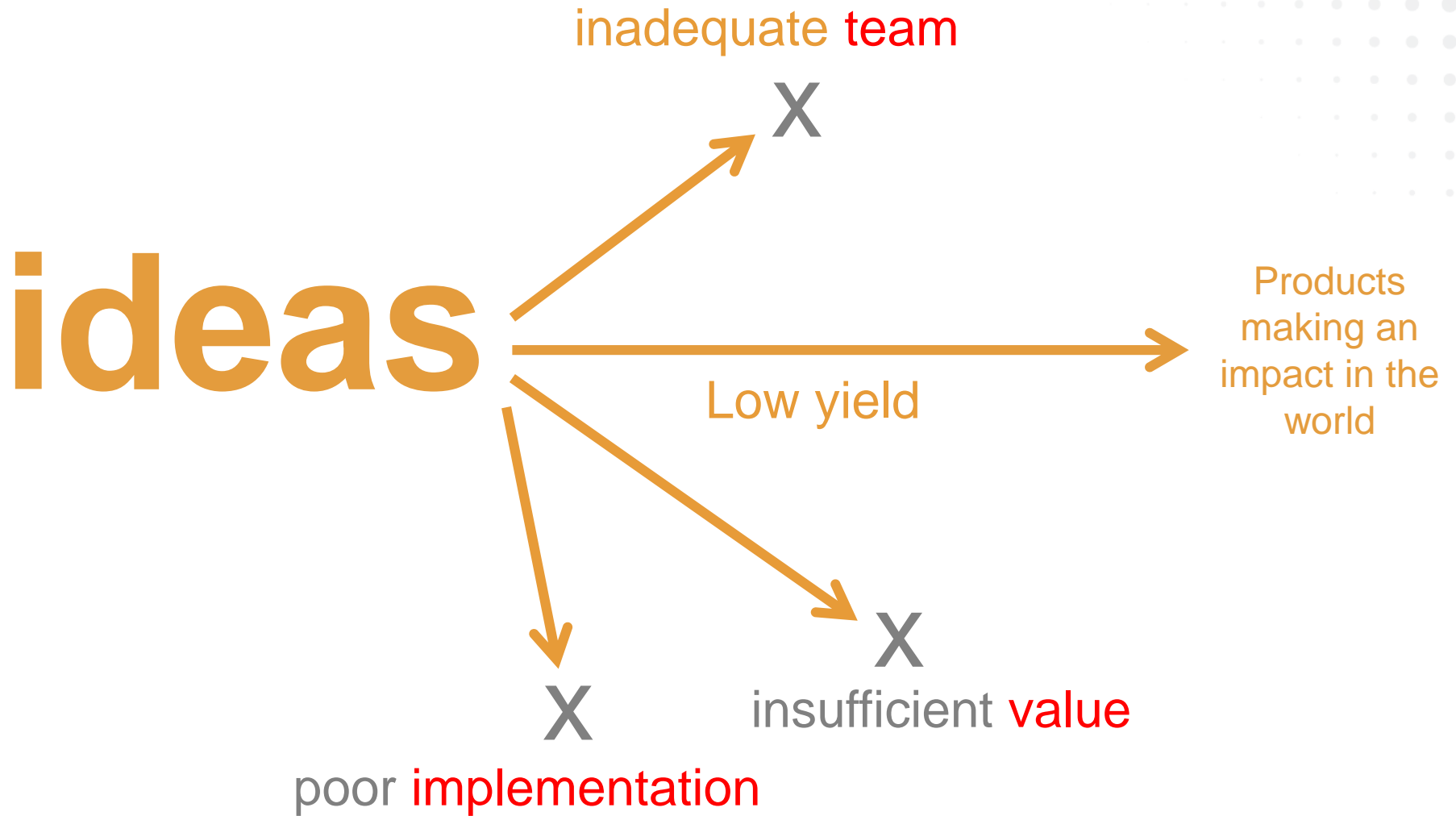
# Innovation

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People creating value through the  
implementation of new ideas

- Herman D'hooge,  
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# Improving the Yield



# Changing the Model

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ideas

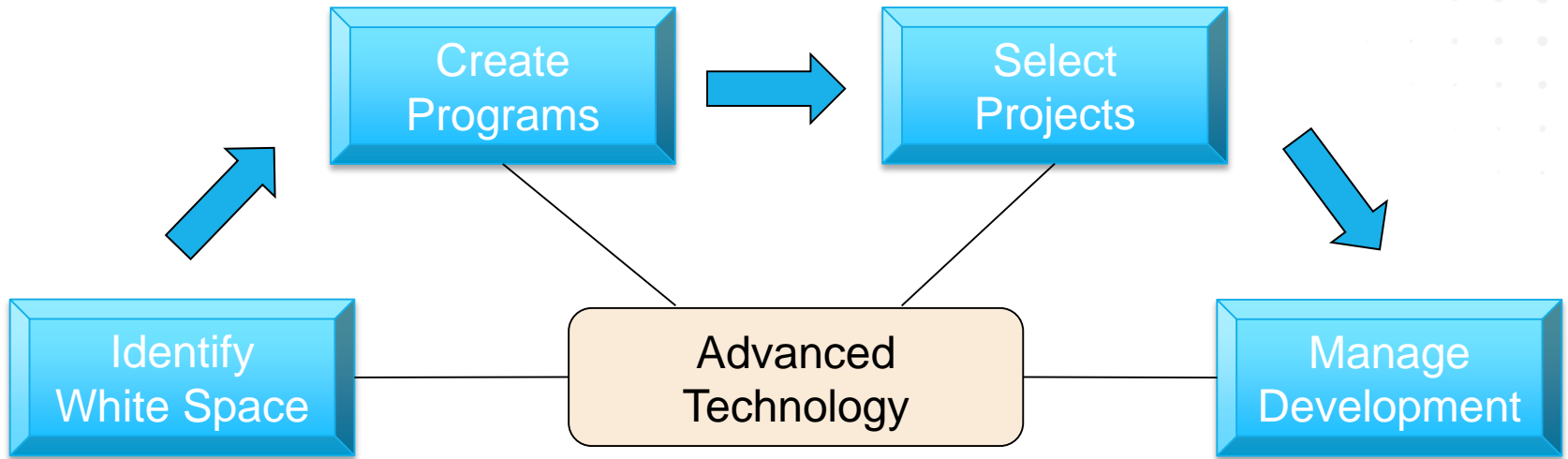
+ value  
+ team  
+ implementation



Products  
making an  
impact in the  
world

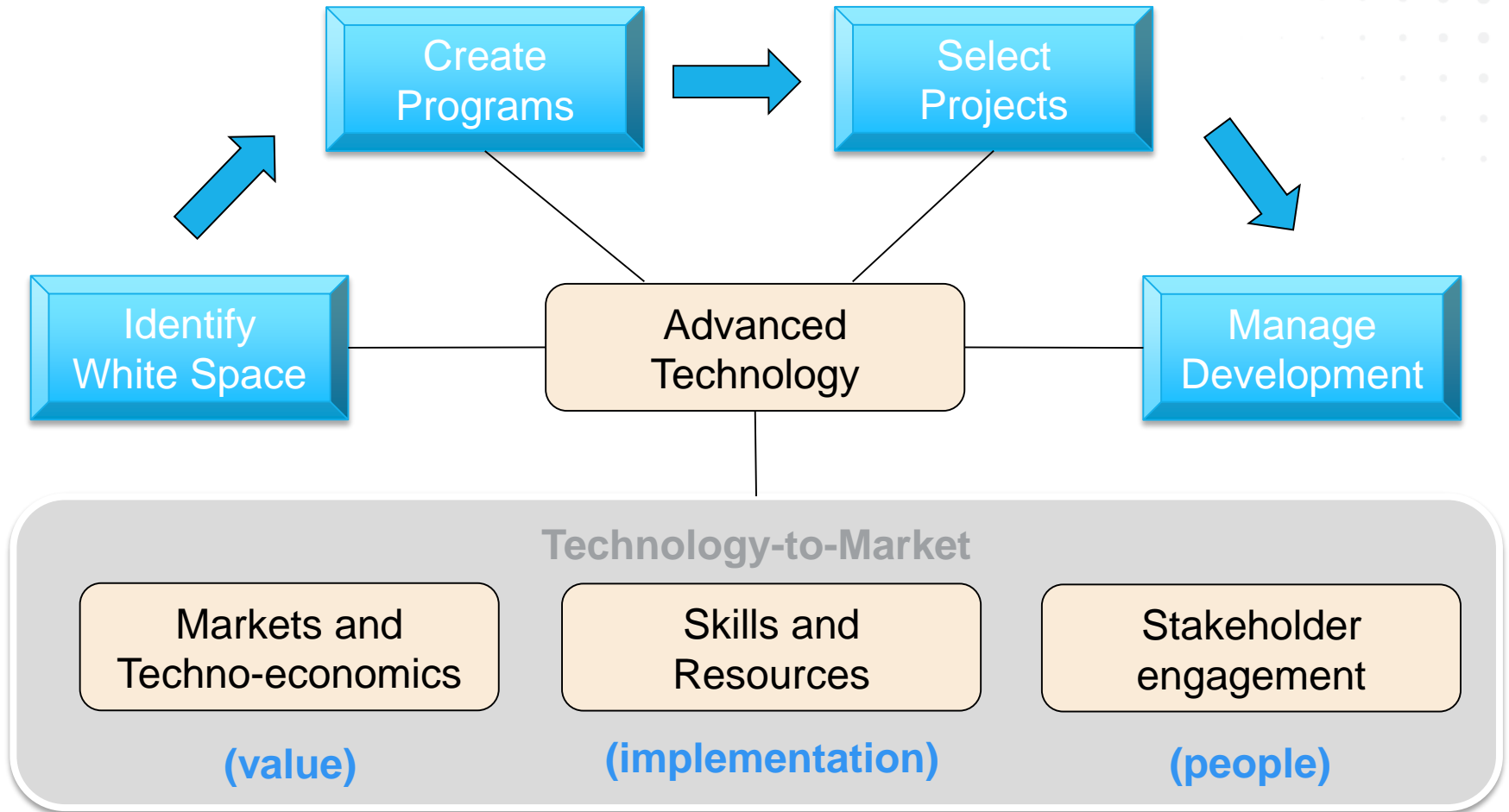
# The ARPA-E Approach

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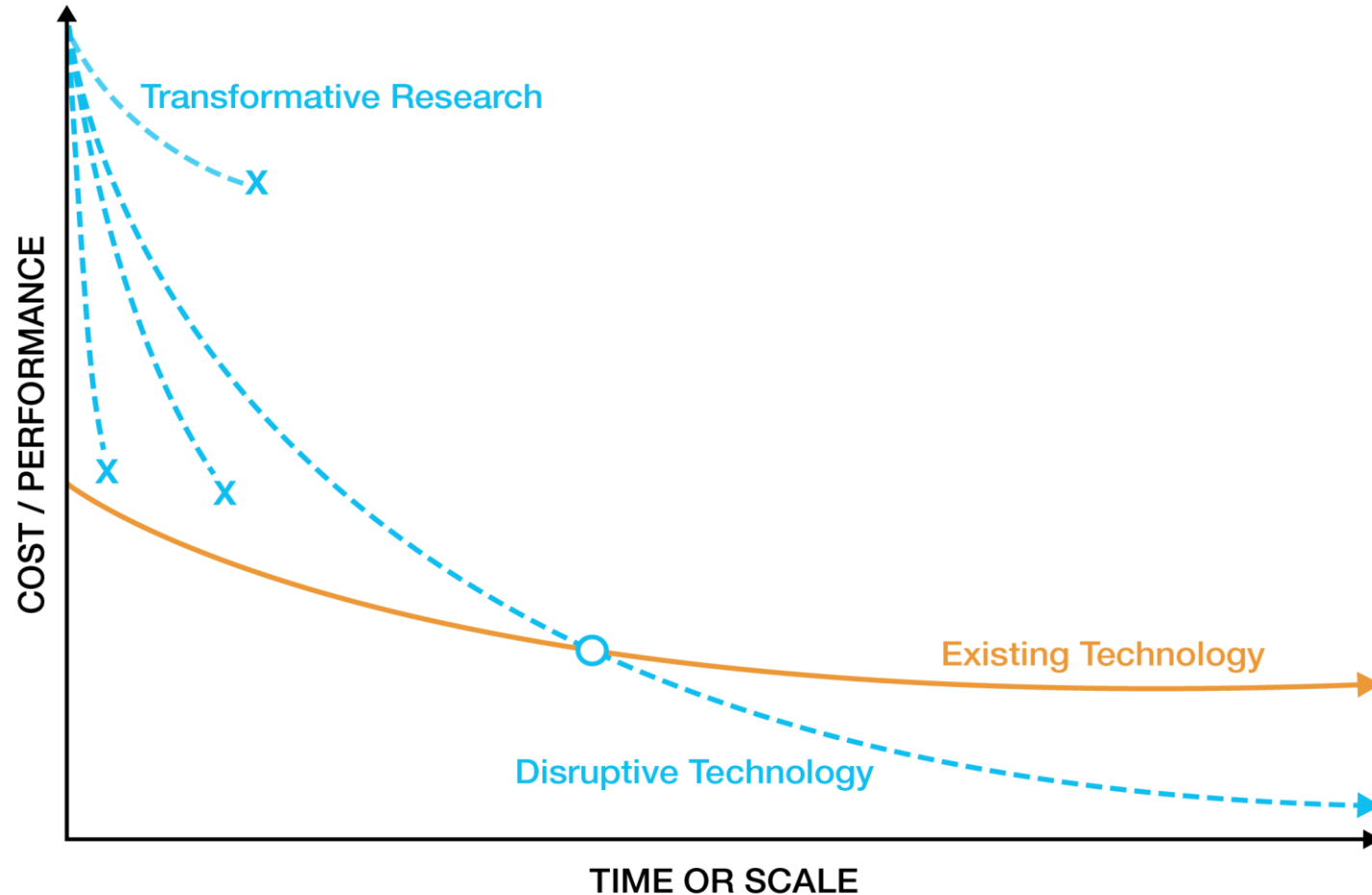




# The ARPA-E Approach



# Creating New Learning Curves



# What Makes an ARPA-E Project?



## IMPACT

- High impact on ARPA-E mission areas
- Credible path to market
- Large commercial application



## TRANSFORM

- Challenges what is possible
- Disrupts existing learning curves
- Leaps beyond today's technologies



## BRIDGE

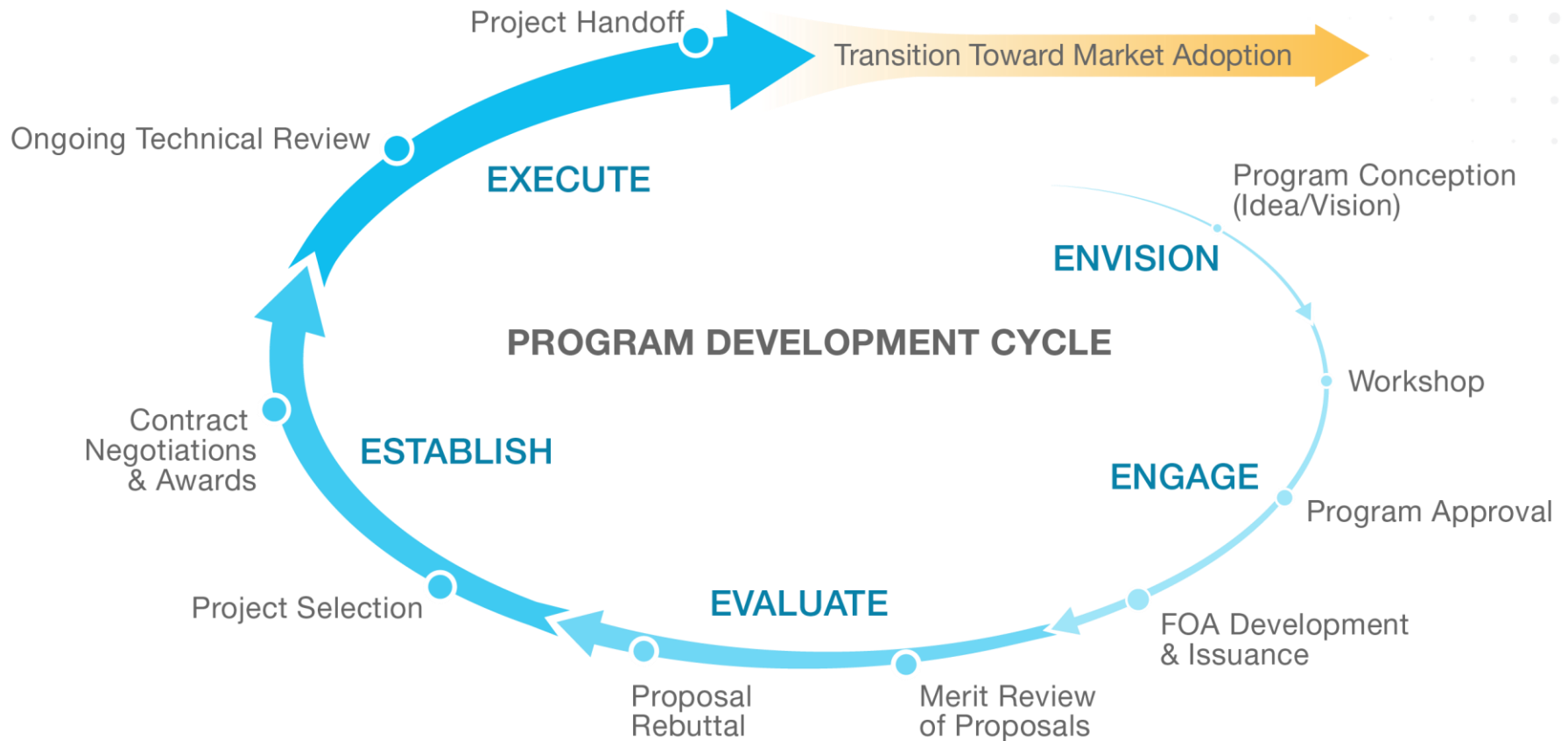
- Translates science into breakthrough technology
- Not researched or funded elsewhere
- Catalyzes new interest and investment



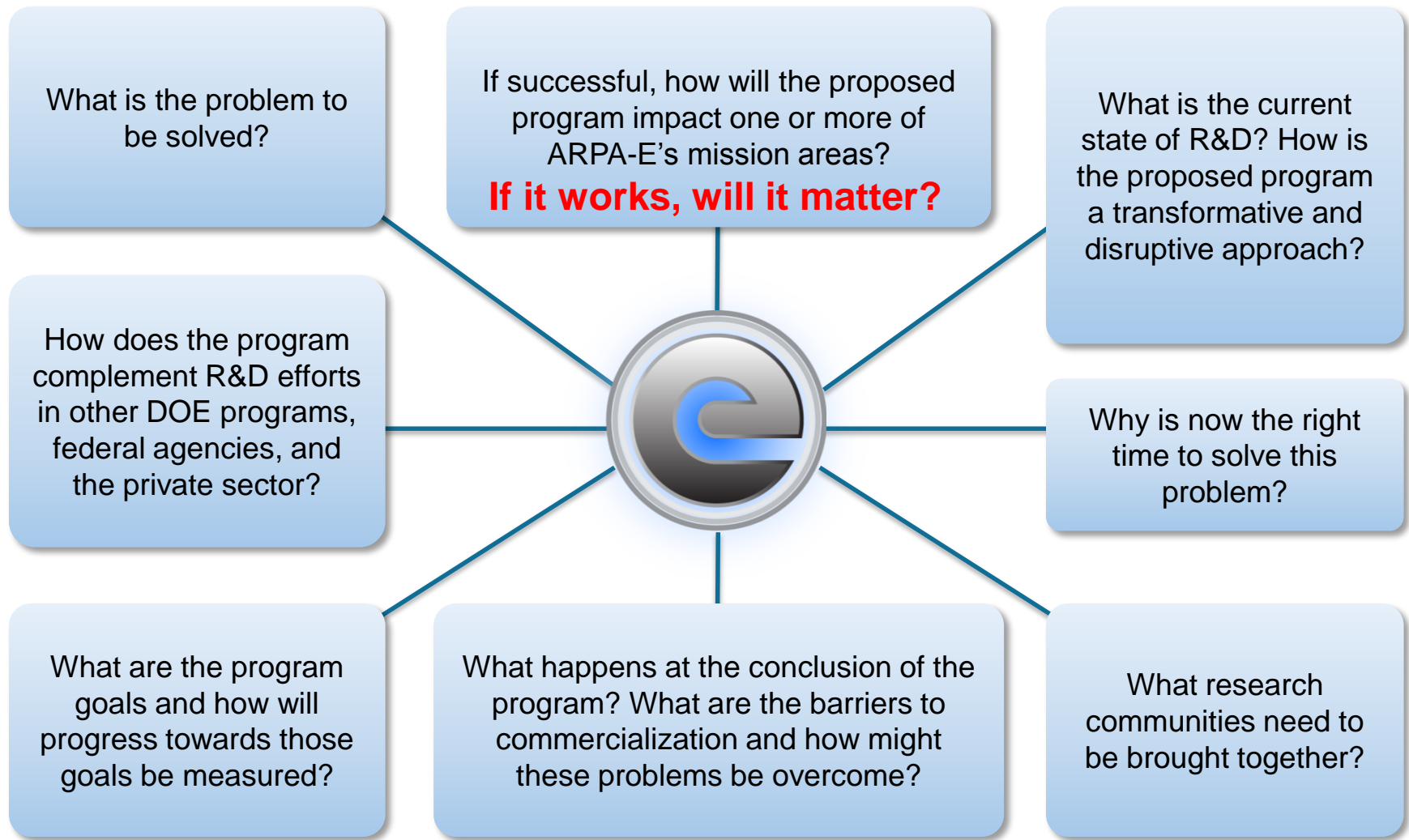
## TEAM

- Comprised of best-in-class people
- Cross-disciplinary skill sets
- Translation oriented

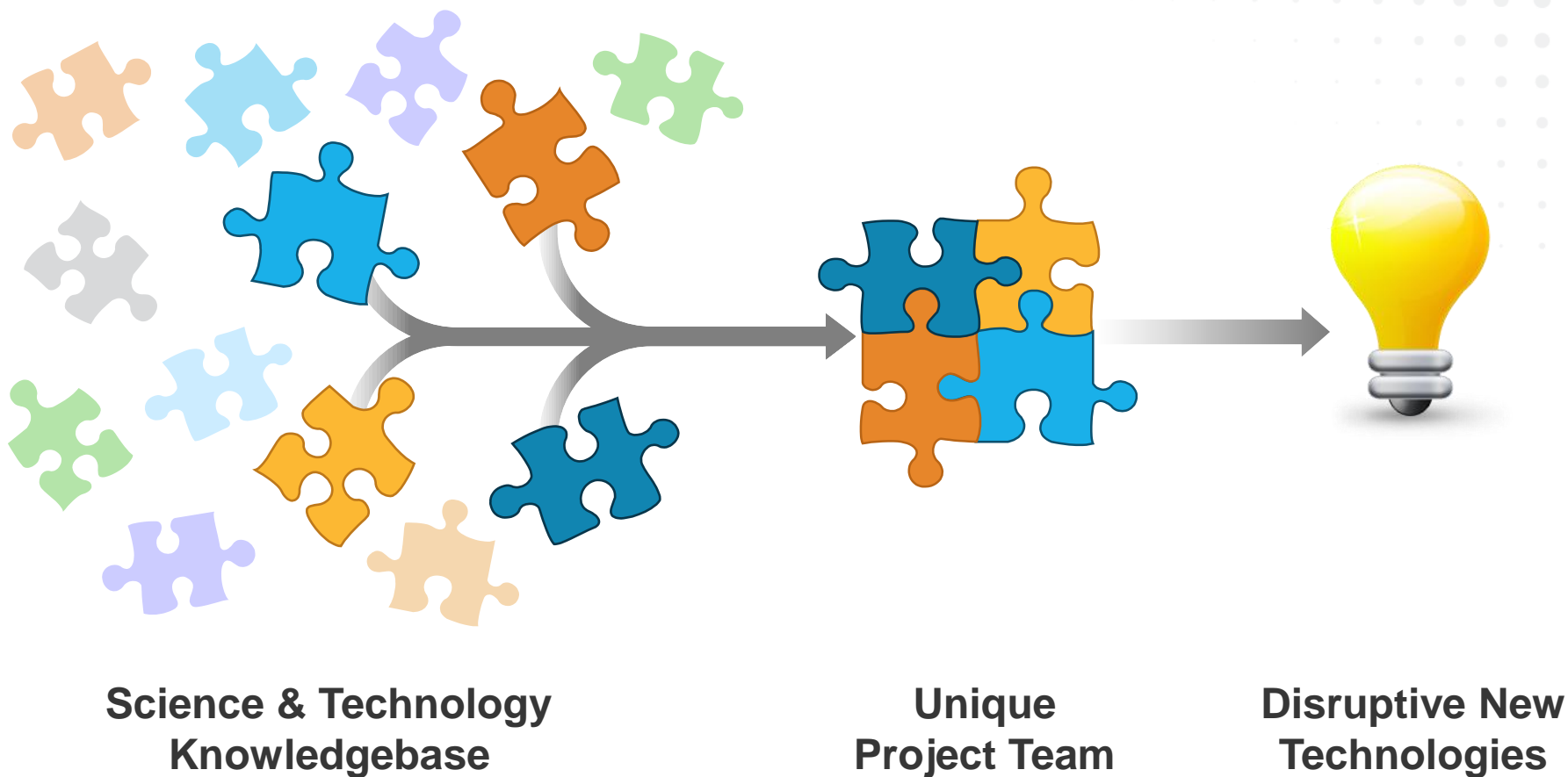
# Program Development



# ARPA-E Program Framing Questions

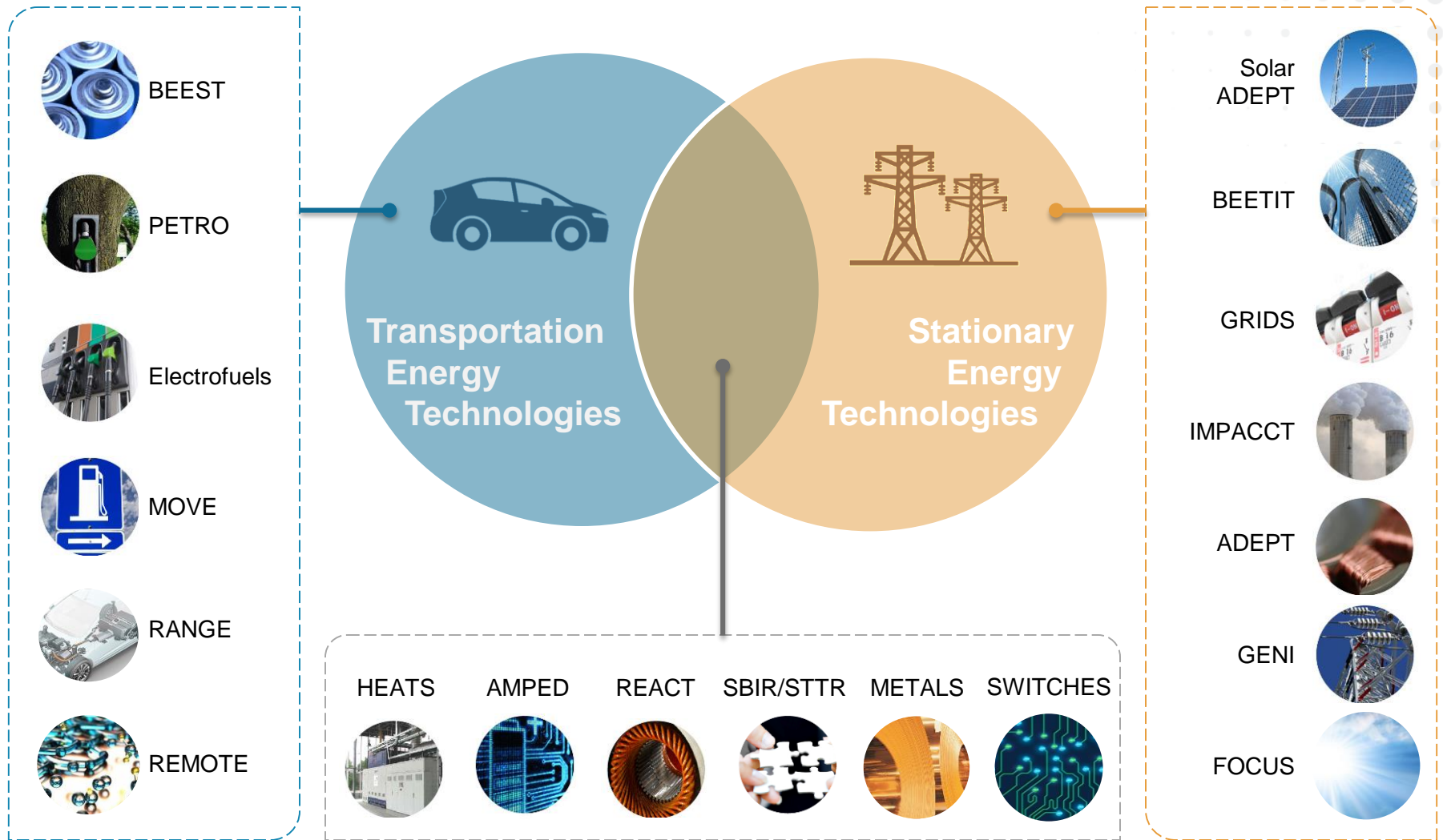


# How does ARPA-E Enable Transformations?



ARPA-E teams come from a multiple segments of the S&T base to attack problems in entirely new ways

# Focused Programs



# FY13 Focused Solicitations



## RANGE

Robust Affordable Next  
Generation EV-storage

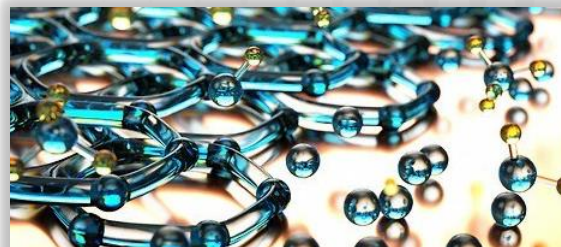
*Awards Announced 8/21/13*



## METALS

Modern Electro/  
Thermochemical Advances  
in Light-metal Systems

*Awards Announced 9/19/13*



## REMOTE

Reducing Emissions Using  
Methanotrophic Organisms  
for Transportation Energy

*Awards Announced 9/19/13*



## SWITCHES

Strategies for Wide-  
bandgap, Inexpensive  
Transistors for Controlling  
High Efficiency Systems

*Awards Announced 10/21/13*



## FOCUS

Full-spectrum Optimized  
Conversion and Utilization  
of Sunlight

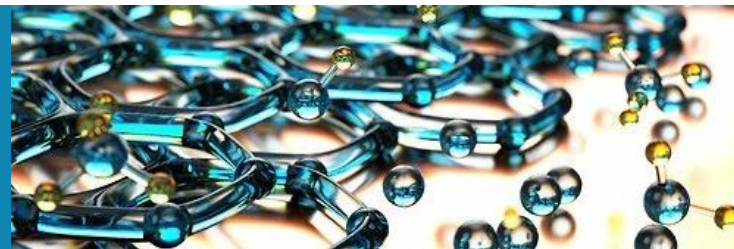
*FOA Release Date: 7/16/2013*

Learn more at  
[www.arpa-e.energy.gov](http://www.arpa-e.energy.gov)



# REMOTE

## BIOLOGICAL CONVERSION OF GAS TO LIQUIDS



### Mission

Develop transformational biological technologies to convert gas to liquids for transportation fuels.

### Goals

- Develop innovative catalysts and lab scale reactors to efficiently and cost-effectively convert natural gas
- Lower the cost of gas to liquids conversion
- Enable the use of low-cost, domestically sourced natural gas for transportation, which could reduce vehicle emissions compared to conventional gasoline engines

### Highlights

- *Awards announced on September 19, 2013.*

Program Director	Dr. Ramon Gonzalez
Year	2013
Projects	15
Available Funding	\$34 Million

# Why bio-conversion of natural gas to fuels?

## Science & Technology

- The direct conversion of methane to a more functional liquid fuel has been an important area of investigation for catalysis for decades.
  - Yet practical catalysts and low-cost implementation remain elusive.
- Biology as route to high-efficiency CH<sub>4</sub> activation & conversion at STP
  - Biological enzymes such as MMO are capable of partial methane oxidation at STP with high specificity but are inefficient.
  - New biological tools, pathway engineering, and recent mechanistic understanding of aerobic & anaerobic methane metabolism open up opportunities for bio-conversion approaches to methane to liquids.
  - **Challenge: design new enzymes to activate CH<sub>4</sub> and new pathways to convert activated molecule to liquid fuel at high carbon and energy efficiencies.**

## Opportunity

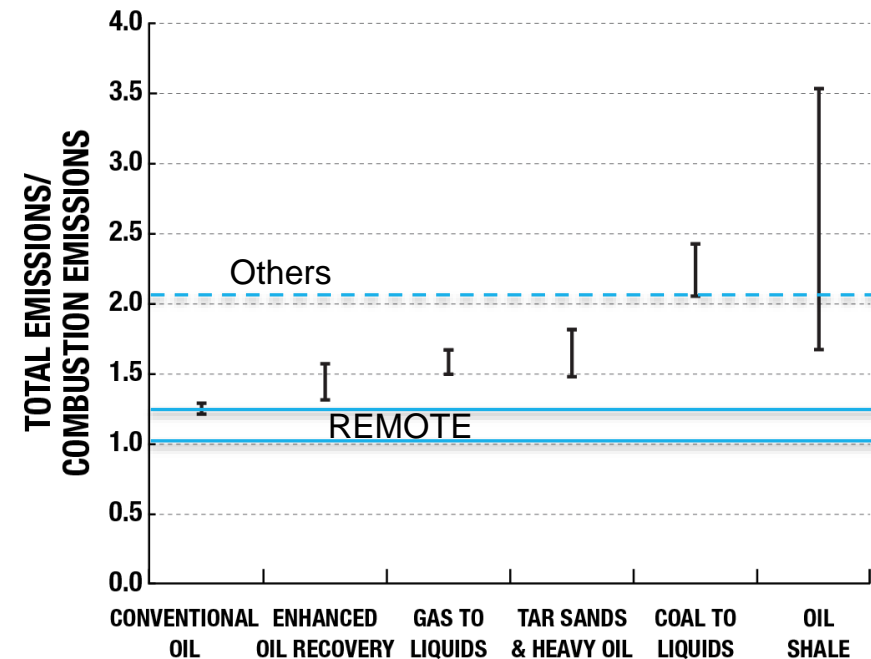
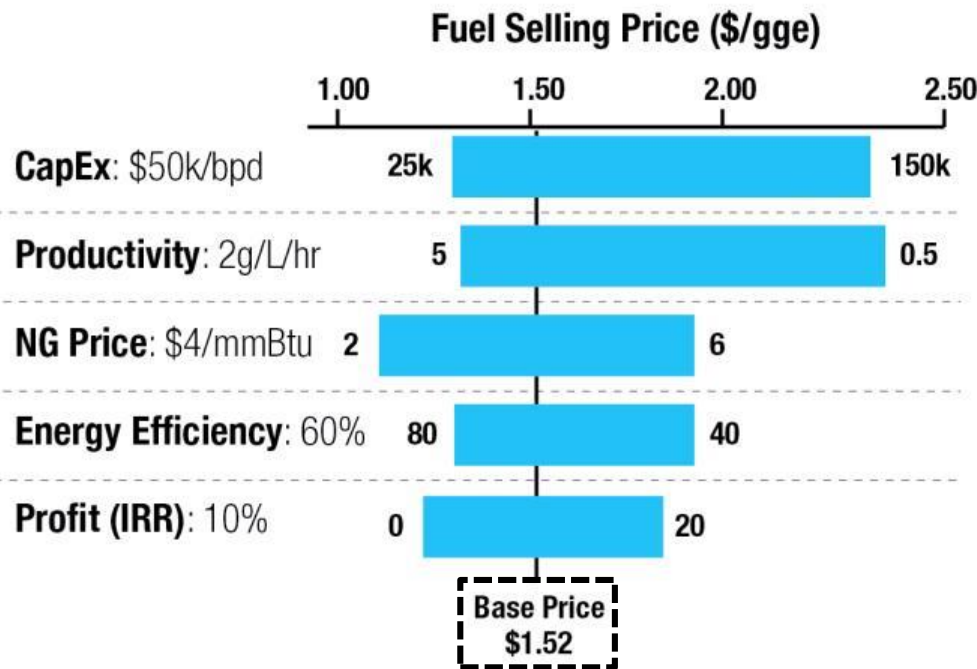
- Cost-effective, one-step conversion of methane to liquid transportation fuels with low CapEx across scales.
- Flexible deployment to access gas in a variety of environments.

## Impact

- Production of transportation fuels at low cost to meet US demand over next 50 years.
- Improve energy security by reducing petroleum imports.
- Lower carbon footprint relative to other non-traditional fuel sources.

# REMOTE: Reducing Emissions using Methantrophic Organisms for Transportation Energy

Methane bioconversion to fuel at low cost and with small C footprint



# REMOTE: Reducing Emissions using Methantrophic Organisms for Transportation Energy

## Reconceptualizing methane bioconversion

### (A) BUTANOL FROM METHANE

#### (A1) Low Efficiency, Business-as-usual

#### (A2) High Efficiency, New Concept

### (B) BUTANOL FROM SUGARS

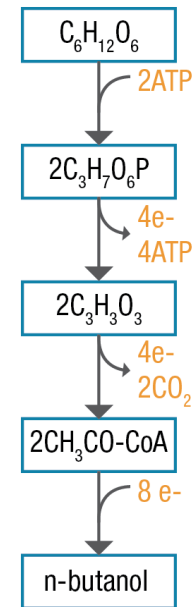
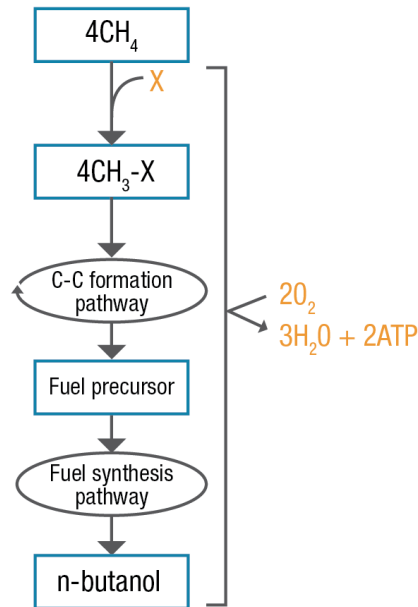
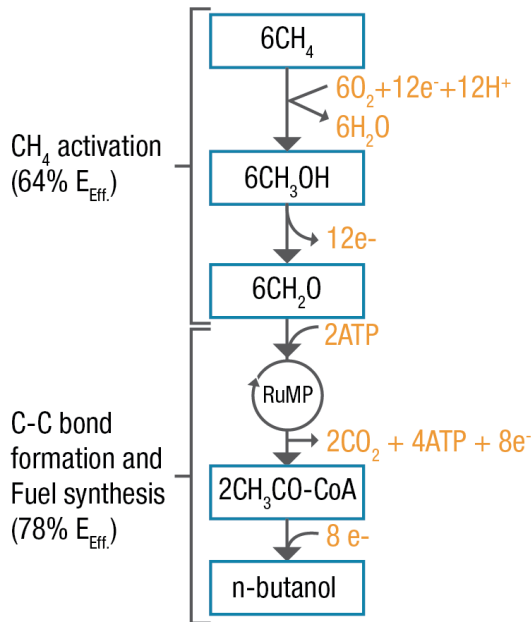
#### State of the Art

## New Biocatalysts

- C & E efficiency
- Kinetics

## New Bioreactors & Processes

- Mass & heat transfer
- Kinetics



$E_{\text{eff.}}/C_{\text{eff.}}=51\%/67\%$	$E_{\text{eff.}}/C_{\text{eff.}}=76\%/100\%$	$E_{\text{eff.}}/C_{\text{eff.}}=97\%/67\%$
$\Delta G^\circ = -2,130 \text{ kJ/mol}$	$\Delta G^\circ = -672 \text{ kJ/mol}$	$\Delta G^\circ = -280 \text{ kJ/mol}$
$\Delta H^\circ = -2,464 \text{ kJ/mol}$	$\Delta H^\circ = -885 \text{ kJ/mol}$	$\Delta H^\circ = 74.9 \text{ kJ/mol}$
$T\Delta S^\circ = -334 \text{ kJ/mol}$	$T\Delta S^\circ = -214 \text{ kJ/mol}$	$T\Delta S^\circ = 178.3 \text{ kJ/mol}$

# RANGE

## NEXT-GENERATION ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES



### Mission

Improve EV range and reduce vehicle costs by re-envisioning the total EV battery system, rather than working to increase the energy density of individual battery cells.

### Goals

- Develop robust battery chemistries and architectures that would improve vehicle driving range and overall battery robustness
- Focus on multifunctional energy storage designs that use these robust storage systems to simultaneously serve other functions on a vehicle, thus further reducing an energy storage system's effective weight and overall electric vehicle weight

### Highlights

- *Awards announced on August 21, 2013.*

Program Director	Dr. Ping Liu
Year	2013
Projects	22
Available Funding	\$36 Million

# METALS

## ADVANCED PROCESSING AND RECYCLING OF LIGHTWEIGHT METALS



### Mission

Develop innovative technologies for cost-effective processing and recycling of Aluminum, Magnesium and Titanium for lightweight vehicle materials.

### Goals

- Advance technologies to develop metals have high strength-to-weight ratios, making them ideal for creating lighter vehicles that save fuel and reduce carbon emissions
- Utilize domestically available ores
- Reduce energy inputs and emissions from processing to make light metals cost competitive with current materials, such as steel
- Develop technologies for rapid and efficient light metal sorting to enable domestic recycling

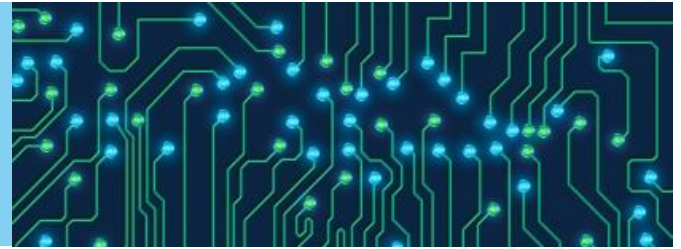
### Highlights

- *Awards announced on September 19, 2013.*

<b>Program Director</b>	Dr. James Klausner
<b>Year</b>	2013
<b>Projects</b>	18
<b>Available Funding</b>	\$32 Million

# SWITCHES

Advanced Power Electronics



## Mission

Develop advanced wide bandgap (WBG) semiconductor materials, device architectures, and fabrication processes for a range of power electronics applications

## Goals

- Enable the development of high voltage (1200V+), high current (100A) single die power semiconductor devices that would have the potential to reach functional cost parity with silicon power transistors
- Enable breakthrough relative circuit performance (low losses, high switching frequencies, and high temperature operation)
- Reduce the barriers to widespread deployment of low-loss WBG power semiconductor devices in stationary and transportation energy applications

## Highlights

- *Awards announced on October 21, 2013.*

<b>Program Director</b>	Dr. Tim Heidel
<b>Year</b>	2013
<b>Projects</b>	14
<b>Investment</b>	\$27 million



# FOCUS

## Advanced Technologies for Solar Energy

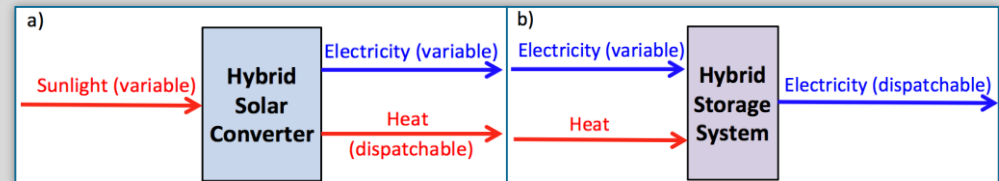


### Mission

Develop technologies to advance solar energy beyond current photovoltaic (PV) and concentrated solar power (CSP) technologies to ensure solar power remains a consistent, cost-effective renewable energy option.

### Goals

- Develop two distinct technology options to deliver low-cost, high-efficiency solar energy on demand: (1) new hybrid solar energy converters and (2) new hybrid energy storage systems
- The first approach will develop advanced solar converters to turn sunlight into electricity for immediate use, while also producing heat that can be stored at low cost for later use (using the entire solar spectrum more efficiently than PV or CSP technologies)
- The second approach will develop innovative storage systems that accept heat and electricity from variable solar sources to deliver electricity when needed



Program Director	Dr. Howard Branz
Year	2013
Projects	TBD
Investment	Up to \$30 Million



# Measuring ARPA-E's Success



## MOVING TECHNOLOGY TOWARD MARKET

- Partnerships with Other Government Agencies
- New Company Formation
- Established Company Partnerships
- New Communities



## BREAKTHROUGH ACHIEVEMENTS

- Technology breakthroughs
- Patents
- Publications



## OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- Expedited program development and project selection
- Aggressive performance metrics



CHANGING WHAT'S POSSIBLE

[www.arpa-e.energy.gov](http://www.arpa-e.energy.gov)

APPLY FOR FUNDING

## ARPA-E Funds 22 Revolutionary Storage Projects

*New \$36 million "RANGE" program seeks to develop innovative electric vehicle battery chemistries, architectures, and designs.*



Learn More »



"We're investing in the best people, the best small companies, and the best ideas to bring entirely new energy technologies to market."

ABOUT

ENGAGE

PROJECTS

MEDIA

FAQ

SEARCH

WHO



WHAT



HOW



# arpa·e energy innovation summit



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