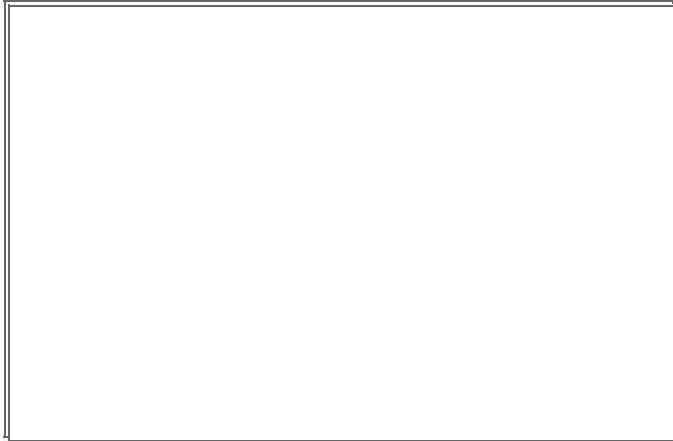




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## Finance: Funding the 21st Century

July 19, 2010 [1 Comment](#)



Read THE GREEN ECONOMY on-line magazine. The finance issue gives a 360 degree view of what and how to jump-start the economy, with a look at financing new technologies from industry, venture capital, legislation and more. For [reprints](#) please contact us.

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### Comments

#### One Response to "Finance: Funding the 21st Century"

**Al Koenig** says:

July 21, 2010 at 5:05 am



CEDA financing comment: there has been and continues to be a gap between competitive government funded clean energy R&D activities with their phases and the real world of applications. DOE, DOD/DARPA use their access to academia and consulting experts to help them down-select from proposals arriving in response to government solicitations. The devil's in the details: what is the proposed mechanism for CEDA funding decisions? Personally, I would prefer to see more industry leadership in these decisions, but the issue has always been favoritism and bias. Clearly, some amalgam of representation from the public and private sector must be present for CEDA to work properly. Please leave politics at the door while entering!

Back in the mid-90s, SNL and NREL helped create the Energy Growth Forum to allow private investors to hear, query and make their own decisions on private sector funding of business plans that evolved from work funded by grants from DOE. This was a way of helping to provide some continuity of funding for the judged "best" technologies and business plans. This Forum has continued and CEDA needs to somehow fold into this opportunity.

In the end, when it comes to energy use, it's all about promotion, incentives and showcase projects that prove their worth. One can only hope that we move toward the two-prong adoption of conservation and renewable generation as the basis for our designs and activities as we go forward. When it comes to buildings, I'd like to see solar PV roof shingle (that are replaced every 30 yrs just like a roof) and geothermal energy storage mandated where practical for all new construction.

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