

Effects of Global Change on Energy Production and Consumption

CCSP Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.5

THE SCOPE OF SAP 4.5

SAP 4.5 will summarize the current knowledge base about possible effects of global change on energy production and use in the United States. It will survey and assess the available literature, including attention to findings from research about implications of climate variability on energy production and use; identify and consider relevant studies carried out in connection with CCSP, CCTP, and other programs of CCSP agencies (e.g., EIA); and consult stakeholders such as the electric utility and energy industries, environmental nongovernmental organizations, and the academic research community to determine what analyses have been conducted and reports have been issued. It is aimed at completion by June 2007.

CENTRAL QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

The central questions to be addressed by SAP 4.5 are expected to be

- How might climate change affect energy consumption in the United States?
- How might climate change affect energy production and supply in the United States?
- How might climate change affect various contexts that indirectly shape energy production and consumption in the United States, such as energy technologies, energy institutions, regional economic growth, energy prices, energy security, and environmental emissions?

Note:

The Prospectus for SAP 4.5 Has Not Yet Been Submitted for Review. The Content of This Poster Is Subject to Change Based on Comments and Suggestions from CCSP Review, Experts, and the Public.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The audience for SAP 4.5 includes scientists in related fields, decision makers in the public sector (federal, state, and local governments), the private sector (energy companies, electric utilities, energy equipment providers and vendors, and energy-dependent sectors of the economy), energy and environmental policy interest groups, and the general public. In many cases, it is expected that SAP 4.5 will be unable – based on existing knowledge – to answer all relevant questions that might arise from this diverse array of stakeholders, but it is hoped that the product will inform discussions about the issues and clarify priorities for research to reduce uncertainties in answering such questions. The product will be designed to communicate with the informed public as well as with identified decision makers.

APPROACH

SAP 4.5 will be prepared and authored by staff from the DOE national laboratories, making every effort to identify and utilize all relevant sources. Under the oversight of a coordinating team, chapter authors will utilize professional networks, bibliographic information sources, and stakeholder input to identify relevant knowledge bases, direct and indirect; compile all available data in consultation with other experts in the public sector, the private sector, NGOs, and the academic research community; assess the available knowledge base using established analytic-deliberative practices, also in consultation with other experts; develop a summary of what is known and what is not yet known, along with possible priorities for improving the knowledge base; and produce a summary statement of conclusions as supported by the research evidence, along with an evaluation of levels of confidence represented by each statement.

PROPOSED TIME LINE FOR SAP 4.5

- Stakeholder workshop to help scope the prospectus: September 2005
- Drafting of prospectus: September – October 2005
- CCSP review of prospectus and a public comment period of at least 30 days: November – December 2005
- Prospectus revision and approval: December 2005 – January 2006
- Preparation of a first draft by lead authors: a technical section plus a summary for interested nonspecialists: January – May 2006
- Expert peer review organized by the lead agency: June – July 2006
- Preparation of a second draft: August – October 2006
- Second draft posted for public comment for at least 45 days: November – December 2006
- Preparation of a third draft: January – March 2007
- Review by the CCSP Interagency Committee: April 2007
- NSTC approval: June 2007

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

Stakeholders have participated during the scoping process, will provide comments on the prospectus, and will comment on the product during a public comment period. Besides the stakeholders workshop on September 27, 2005, to provide input to scoping this draft prospectus and the review processes associated with all of the CCSP SAPs, SAP 4.5 will include

- (1) Active networking by authors with counterparts in other institutions, in part identified through the workshop, to assure that the process is fully informed about their knowledge bases and viewpoints. This is likely to include a variety of site visits to key parties and selected interactions at annual meetings or conferences of peer communities and
- (2) A web site for SAP 4.5, which will contain full information about the assessment and the process, including the prospectus, information about the authors and workshops, and – as appropriate – draft materials under review.

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