

U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center (CERC) 6th Steering Committee Meeting

**July 11th, 2014
Beijing, China
Meeting Summary**

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On July 11th in Beijing, China, the U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center¹ (CERC) Steering Committee held its 6th meeting to review CERC's plans and progress to date and to discuss the direction for a possible second phase (2016-2020) of the CERC program. The US Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Moniz, U.S. Ambassador Baucus, China Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) Minister Wan, and other senior government officials from DOE, the U.S. Trade Development Agency (USTDA), MOST, China National Energy Administration (NEA), and China Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD) participated along with technical leaders and business partners of the CERC Buildings Energy Efficiency, Advanced Coal Technology, Clean Vehicles consortia, and Intellectual Property team. Approximately 100 participants attended the 3-hour meeting.

Secretary Moniz and Minister Wan noted in their opening remarks that CERC is an example of how the United States and China can leverage the intellectual, scientific and research resources of both countries to help solve the cross-cutting challenges of climate and energy. DOE and MOST are premier global science agencies with renowned research capabilities. Science is an international language enabling scientists to work together to find innovative solutions to address the pressing challenges that face both countries. Both the United States and China attach great importance on the bi-lateral collaboration on energy and climate change.

Ambassador Baucus also emphasized the importance of bilateral collaboration between the United States and China, noting the sixth Strategic and Economic Dialogue and the fifth U.S.-China Innovation Dialogue meetings, both of which were held in Beijing earlier this week.

Chief Planner Tang Kai from MOHURD highlighted the role his agency takes in improving building energy efficiency as an important element of China's strategy in addressing climate change. He noted that the U.S. and China together account for approximately 40% of global building energy consumption. He called attention to the 5 pilot projects under CERC Building Energy Efficiency and Eco-cities programs. He pointed out the CERC experts' goal of achieving 10% reduction in building emissions.

On behalf of both US and China CERC directors, US Director Dr. Robert Marlay provided an overview of the new "CERC Model" for joint research based on collaboration. He shared CERC's project and partner selection criteria, and CERC's framework for protecting intellectual property, all of which are distinguishing features of the CERC platform. Dr. Marlay asked the CERC leaders to report on current progress under each of the three CERC tracks and suggest areas of future work. He asked the Steering Committee to consider the utility of the overall CERC platform as a means for enhancing future bilateral cooperation on clean energy, environmental quality and climate change.

¹ For more about the U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center, see: <http://www.us-china-cerc.org/>

Each of the three CERC consortia (Buildings Energy Efficiency, Advanced Coal Technology, and Clean Vehicles) presented their project progress to date and research highlights. All of the consortia presentations may be viewed on the CERC website at: <http://www.us-china-cerc.org>.

Stacy Baird from U.S.-China Clean Energy Forum and Professor Yu Xiang from the Huazhong University of Science & Technology presented IP successes under CERC through the use of technology management plan. They stressed the importance of creating IP agreement prior to starting the joint research work in order to protect IP rights and promote stronger research collaboration. They mapped the IP team's next stage work plan including 1) developing an "IP and Technology Management" guidebook; 2) establishing a CERC-related IP databank; and 3) strengthening IP training and technical assistance to help researchers understand the IP laws in the U.S. and China and develop IP sub-agreements under the jointly approved IP Technology Management Plans.

Industry partners held a round table discussion with the Steering Committee members on the business value that CERC delivers. They offered their suggestions for improvements of CERC program.

Secretary Moniz acknowledged the importance of the IP framework as part of CERC. He challenged the IP team to promulgate the IP technology management plan more broadly to programs outside of CERC.

Drawing on the theme of industry engagement and commercialization, Director Leocadia Zak of the United States Trade Development Agency (USTDA) provided an example of a successful implementation of a data center build-up project initially scoped out by DOE and subsequently funded by USTDA for implementation. The example highlighted an inter-agency cooperation effort towards a common objective and achieving the goal of commercialization. Secretary Moniz suggested that CERC-sponsored research that gives rise to new technology could be coordinated with USTDA to speed deployment.

In closing, Secretary Moniz stressed the importance for each CERC consortia to set focused objectives and have a clear view of expected outcomes at the end of a 10-year frame, even if only 5 years of funding was initially pledged. He indicated that he found value in CERC and would support the extension of CERC program (CERC 2.0) for another 5 years (2016-2020). He noted that with limited government resources available for CERC 2.0, consortia must leverage industry funding and investments from other sources to make CERC 2.0 a success. He urged Minister Wan to take the opportunity of his September visit to the U.S. to bring forth ideas for discussion on CERC 2.0. He challenged each consortium to develop a roadmap to achieve set objectives. He asked each consortium to come up with a proposed plan for the future of each CERC, with roadmap for action and milestones, by early September.

Minister Wan echoed Secretary Moniz's comments on the importance of consortia having focused objectives, accompanied by roadmap and time table for CERC 2.0. He agreed to meet with Secretary Moniz on September 11-12 to discuss CERC 2.0. He agreed with Secretary Moniz that CERC should look at "energy and water" as a potential new track, among others, for CERC 2.0. He affirmed IP protection is crucial for promoting joint research and innovation. He reiterated the importance of having close industry engagement in CERC to take research results to commercialization, to build new business models, and to develop standards for implementing new technologies. He encouraged Chinese companies to participate in pilot projects in the U.S. He suggested that CERC set up a physical "CERC exhibition" of clean energy technology that both Presidents could visit in Beijing during their next gathering. He asked Ambassador Baucus for his support of the "CERC exhibition" concept and for his help in promoting it.