

Blog Post

Clean Energy Ministerial Kick Off

Posted on **July 29, 2010** by Siddharth "Sid" Sethy

The world's first meeting of the Clean Energy Ministerial recently concluded in Washington, DC. The Clean Energy Ministerial is a high-level group of energy ministers from several countries that was launched by the Major Economies Forum in 2009. Its main goal is to help countries reduce carbon dioxide emissions and tap into an emerging clean energy economy.

U.S. Energy Secretary, Steven Chu announced at the meeting that the United States is helping launch more than 10 international clean energy initiatives aimed to cut energy waste around the world by deploying super-efficient appliances, improving industrial and building efficiency for large-scale facilities, implementing smart grid technologies and helping to put millions of electric vehicles on the roads.

One such initiative, *the Super-efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment (SEAD) Initiative*, will encourage governments to work with the private sector to transform the global appliance market by incentivizing the deployment of super-efficient appliances while implementing and enforcing stronger appliance standards. The program's initial focus will be on televisions and lighting that together account for about 15 percent of household electricity use. Australia, Canada, the European Commission, France, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States have confirmed their participation in the SEAD Initiative.

The United Arab Emirates offered to host the second meeting of the Clean Energy Ministerial in 2011 while the United Kingdom offered to host the third meeting at a date yet to be determined.