

15.1 **Eastern Utah Secure Energy Program and Partnership: A framework for supporting smart oil shale development**

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The Eastern Utah Secure Energy Program and Partnership (EUSEPP) has been established to create greater focus on developing the energy resources within Eastern Utah, including the significant quantities of oil shale located within the Uinta Basin. The Program is designed to help identify and achieve energy production goals and help create a long-term sustainable economy within rural Eastern Utah, while the Partnership is designed to help guide the Program, both in alignment with Governor Herbert's Energy Initiative, announced in June 2010. It is the intent to place Eastern Utah on the map as an internationally recognized economic region. Through smart development of its energy resources, Eastern Utah will attract capital and create energy related enterprises and jobs, realizing a greater standard of living for its citizens. In the longer term, the energy resources in the region will also provide the foundation for creating value added industrial enterprises that can help mitigate the creation of boom and bust economies. EUSEPP will assist in attracting investment and focusing energy innovation both for direct energy production and in moving up the energy value chain. EUSEPP will provide a solid framework for conducting applied energy research and development, derived from regional universities, national laboratories and industry, complemented by vocational technology schools. The Program is directed by a partnership comprising regional stakeholders such as industry, state/federal agencies, tribes, research institutes, and NGOs, which will help ensure there is a rational approach to energy development in the region and will provide collective advocacy for the Program. The EUSEPP organization is hosted in the Bingham Entrepreneurial and Energy Research Center (BEERC), operated by the Utah State University and its Energy Dynamics Laboratory.