

Continental Supergrid Environmental Issues



Summary Statement

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Supergrid is fundamentally “green!”



The major implementation issues will be site specific and will be defined by the regulatory framework at the site(s) of construction.



The most pressing research needs are in the arena of economics and public behavior! We need a social science research agenda.



If I were spending \$500k for research:

We need an integrated approach, integration between engineering and economics, engineering and environmental design, engineering and etc.!



NSF recently had a water and watersheds program that required investigators from science, technology, and human dimensions – Venn Diagram.

I would charge a NRC Committee with developing a research agenda for not only the Supergrid, but also competing energy technologies, considering predominantly human dimensions rather than science and technology research. (\$300k)



I would use the remaining \$200k to bring together groups like this one but have a site and project specific focus!

Intent:

- jumpstart technology
- reach public (increase awareness)
- prepare the way!



I still argue that time and timing are critical to supergrid survival.

“We” need to develop the roadmap with realistic targets and a definite direction!



Wish List?



Engineering understanding of the public!



Elimination of gaming in the process –
establish a realistic time line and
implement with commitment of more
than annual budgets!

QUESTIONS?



Critical information needed for refinement of research needs:



What is the realistic time horizon, we need this delta function for all future planning.