

**Basic Energy Sciences (BES) Response to the Report of the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee
Committee of Visitors (COV) Review of the BES Chemical Sciences, Geosciences, and Biosciences Division
September 12, 2011**

	COV General Recommendation	BES Response
Recom- mendation #1	Program Managers are encouraged to attend more national and international conferences and to make more visits to groups of researchers in their programs—to spread the message of BES programs, to encourage wider participation, and to keep abreast of forefront research in their fields.	BES concurs with this recommendation and will implement it within allocated travel budgets while balancing priorities for travel. BES has improved its outreach to the scientific community and will optimize every opportunity to spread the BES message at scientific meetings in the future.
Recom- mendation #2	The COV recommends continued use of the procedures applied in the program to consider short preliminary statements of research ideas (white papers) and to provide rapid evaluations either encouraging researchers to submit full research proposals or consider modifying their plans.	BES concurs with this recommendation, will continue to use white papers in all of its core research programs, and will ensure that program managers provide rapid feedback to potential applicants.
Recom- mendation #3	The COV recommends that BES provide web sites that are more accessible and encouraging than those currently available to those who might be interested in participating in the program and obtaining funding.	BES concurs with this recommendation. BES now has a new web presence as part of the revamping of the SC website. BES will ensure that the continued evolution of its website includes accessible information about BES programs and funding opportunities.