



# PRESS RELEASE

25 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. · Suite 450 · Washington, D.C., 20001 · 202/682-1700 · www.hydro.org

**Media Contact:** Matthew Nocella  
202/682-1700 ex. 21 · matt@hydro.org

## For Immediate Release

### **Energy secretary outlines goal to double hydropower in the United States** *Over 65,000 MW of hydropower potential exists across the country*

Washington, D.C. (April 29, 2014) – U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz outlined the Department of Energy’s goal of doubling United States hydropower by 2030 in a speech to industry gathered at the National Hydropower Association’s (NHA) annual conference in Washington, DC.

Hydropower, already the nation’s largest source of renewable electricity, is an important part of President Barack Obama’s all-of-the-above energy strategy, according to Moniz. Now with the release of a resource assessment detailing new hydropower development potential and the launch of a partnership with industry to develop a long-term vision, DOE is aiming to increase American’s access to low-cost, sustainable hydropower.

“Hydropower can double its contributions by the year 2030. We have to pick up the covers off of this hidden renewable that’s right in front of our eyes and continues to have significant potential,” Moniz said.

#### **Report finds tremendous untapped hydropower potential in the United States**

Over 65,000 MW of new hydropower capacity exists across more than 3 million U.S. rivers and streams, enough electricity to more than double hydropower’s generation, according to DOE’s new [stream-reach development assessment](#) released today.

“Far from being tapped out, hydropower has the potential to play an even larger role in our diverse electricity portfolio as we strive for a cleaner energy future and a stronger economy,” said NHA Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci. “I applaud DOE for undertaking this extensive study.”

The report builds on a 2012 DOE study that identified 12,000 MW of capacity at the nation’s existing non-powered dams.

“The United States has tremendous untapped clean energy resources and responsible development will help pave the way to a cleaner, more sustainable and diverse energy portfolio,” said Moniz in a statement. As DOE works with industry and other stakeholders, “the resource assessment released today provides unparalleled insight into new hydropower opportunities throughout the country.”

#### **Charting a new vision for U.S. hydropower**

DOE also announced a new partnership with the industry to develop a long-term vision for the future of hydropower in the United States. The development of this landmark vision over the next year will establish the analytical basis for an ambitious roadmap to usher in a new era of growth in sustainable domestic hydropower over the next half century.

“The industry is excited to be partnering with DOE to establish a clear vision for hydropower’s future in the United States,” said Ciocci. “The knowledge and expertise of the diverse cross-section of the industry and its stakeholders involved in this unprecedented initiative promises to produce a roadmap that will enable hydropower to provide Americans additional low-cost, reliable renewable electricity.”

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