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## **NEW REPORT INVESTIGATES FEDERAL ENERGY SUBSIDIES**

*Study finds nuclear power harvests lion's share of government investment in nuclear, solar and wind*

**Washington, DC**--A new report released by Renewable Energy Policy Project (REPP-CREST) examines U.S. government spending on energy technologies. According to *Federal Energy Subsidies: Not All Technologies Are Created Equal* the U.S. government has spent approximately \$150 billion on energy subsidies for wind, solar and nuclear power--96.3% of which has gone to nuclear power.

"What's really surprising is the relative start up costs for these technologies," said Roby Roberts, REPP's executive director. "Nukes received much higher levels of government support per kilowatt-hour when they first started than either wind or solar power." Roberts continued, "And subsidies heaped on nuclear power have not been cheap. Since 1947, cumulative subsidies to nuclear power had an equivalent cost of \$1,411 [1998 dollars] per US household, compared to \$11 for wind, for example."

Marshall Goldberg of MRG & ASSOCIATES, an environmental and economics consulting firm, wrote *Federal Energy Subsidies*. The report provides a qualitative analysis of hydropower development and offers charts and graphs to illustrate over 50 years of government spending. Findings also indicate that subsidies themselves are often an essential component in technology development.

"It requires a great deal of money to establish an energy technology," said Dr. Adam Serchuk, research director for REPP-CREST, "and very few have reached maturity without public investment. Of course, it takes more than subsidies to develop a technology. In the case of common consumer products, such as the fax machine, recycled paper or the cell phone, more subtle public policy measures such as setting standards or government purchasing have often made a big difference."

REPP-CREST explores the emerging relationships among markets, policy and public demand for renewable energy. Visit <<http://www.repp.org>> for copies of: *Federal Energy Subsidies: Not All Technologies Are Created Equal* by Marshall Goldberg.

Raw data used in the report and other supporting information is available from REPP-CREST's web site as well. Contact Mary Kathryn Campbell at 202-293-2898.