

Energy as a Strategic Resource

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With Guest Lecturer Mr. Steven Iselin

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Mr. Steven Iselin

Abstract:

The Department of the Navy values energy as a strategic resource and understands how energy security is fundamental to its mission. Energy security means having assured access to reliable energy supplies and the ability to protect and deliver sufficient energy to meet warfighting and installation needs. Achieving The Secretary of the Navy's energy goals will increase warfighting capability, both strategically and tactically. Strategically, the objective is to reduce reliance on fossil fuels (including from non-U.S. sources). Tactically, the objective is to provide energy sources available on location, and to increase energy efficiency. These tactical objectives reduce the vulnerability associated with fuel supply transport lines, and increase operational capability (time on station). The DoN's energy strategy is centered on energy security, energy efficiency and sustainability while remaining the pre-eminent maritime power.

- Energy security is critical to mission success. Energy security safeguards our energy infrastructure and shields the DoN from a volatile energy supply.
- Energy efficiency increases mission effectiveness. Efficiency improvements minimize operational risks, while saving time, money and lives.
- Sustainable efforts protect mission capabilities. Investment in environmentally responsible technologies afloat and ashore reduces greenhouse gas emissions and lessens dependence on fossil fuels.

The Nation's fiscal challenges and emerging understanding of the effects of greenhouse gases on climate change add additional dynamics to the policy challenges and decisions. Are the renewable or alternative energy solutions affordable compared to traditional solutions? Does the DoN have the capital resources required to make the required investments? If not, is it prudent to leverage third party financed solutions to make the investments? How will the ongoing debate regarding climate change influence the calculus for these decisions? How does one value the energy security aspect in return on investment calculations? Do Federal Acquisition Regulations allow timely evaluation and use of emerging technologies to meet today's challenges?

Abridged Biography:

After earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering (1980) from the University of Notre Dame Mr. Iselin was commissioned an Ensign in the U. S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps. During his 20-year military career he served in a variety of increasingly responsible positions, including, Deputy Military Construction Officer at Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command; Public Works Officer at Naval Air Station Fallon, Nev.; Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Program Manager on the Operations Navy (N44) staff; and finally, Infrastructure Team Leader on the Operations Navy (N81) Planning staff.

He joined the Civil Service as the first Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection Program Manager. Then in 2004 he was selected for appointment to the Senior Executive Service and named the NAVFAC Assistant Commander for Base Development. In 2007, Mr. Iselin was selected as the NAVFAC Chief Engineer, the Command's senior technical authority for all facilities engineering matters. Shortly thereafter, he was selected to serve as the NAVFAC Executive Director.

In October 2014 he was appointed Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations and Environment) and reports as the principal advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy Installations and Environment), ASN (EI&E). Mr. Iselin participates in the formation and management of Navy and Marine Corps energy, installation and environment policies related to construction management; sustainment, restoration and modernization of facilities; acquisition, utilization and disposal of real property and facilities; environmental protection, planning, restoration and natural resources conservation; and Safety and Occupational Health. He also serves as the senior installations and facilities program expert, and assists in discharging the responsibilities of the ASN (EI&E).



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