

# Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

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the latest developments about  
DOE'S Technical Information Program,  
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United States Department of Energy, Technical Information Center, P.O. Box 62, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

## User Meeting Set for May

A DOE/RECON User Meeting is planned for May 24-26, 1982, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Open to all users, it will be concurrent with the World's Fair in nearby Knoxville. The fair has as its theme "Energy Turns the World" and will run from May through October.

The User Meeting will have morning plenary sessions on May 24 and 25. These will include reports on the DOE/RECON system and its data bases, summaries of system advances, and a planning/feedback session with the User Group. Afternoon sessions will include smaller concurrent workshops. Four topical areas are planned: DOE/RECON system update, covering SEARCH SAVE, SDI, and online ordering; search strategy for DOE files; document delivery; and descriptions of non-DOE files. Attendees will be able to attend several topical sessions of their choice; signups for individual sessions will not be required. In addition to the topical workshops, there will be opportunities for individual consultations with TIC and ORNL staff members.

In keeping with past practice, the workshops are directed at intermediate to experienced users. Many TIC scientific and technical staff will be present, so this will be an excellent opportunity for DOE/RECON users to become more familiar with the intricacies of the DOE data bases by talking with the people who create them.

Wednesday, May 26, has been reserved for tours of TIC and the RECON computer system at ORNL.

Rooms have been set aside for the User Meeting at the Hotel Alexander in Oak Ridge. The rooms will be available from May 22, for those who may wish to come early and enjoy the World's Fair in Knoxville over the weekend. The Hotel Alexander requires prepayment of one night's lodging, and reservations must be made a month in advance. TIC will collect a modest fee covering banquet and refreshments.

The official announcement of the User Meeting, with signup form, will be sent out separately by TIC, along with a packet of information on the World's Fair.

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March, 1982

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Registration and logistics inquiries for the User Meeting may be directed to Clata Worley, TIC, at (615) 576-5636 or FTS 626-5636.

— Jo Robinson, LBL

## TIC Cuts Report Backlog

The Technical Information Center has broken through the log jam of DOE reports waiting to be processed and was back on its throughput schedule of 30 days or less as of February 15.

In November 1981, the Center began matching its microfiche with the magnetic tapes sent to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) to coordinate announcements of publications with their availability for sale. Before that time, reports sometimes appeared on DOE/RECON and in the abstract journals before they could be obtained by potential users.

In November and December, reports were held at the Center until they could be made available at NTIS. This resulted in a backlog of DOE reports at the Center and a delay in throughput time. By mid-January, however, the problems were resolved, and the reports began to move speedily and efficiently through the processing cycle.

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# How EDB Thesaurus Is Updated

As part of the quality control for the Energy Data Base record, each record is checked against a number of authorities, one of which is the online thesaurus. The thesaurus will not allow a record to pass if there is an invalid descriptor on it. Therefore the thesaurus must be updated regularly to allow records with new descriptors to go into the EDB file. Updates are run twice a month. In updating, new descriptors are added, changes are made to the structure of old descriptors, and occasionally a descriptor is deleted.

The Thesaurus Maintenance Program developed at the Technical Information Center is very sophisticated. About the only error it will allow is a misspelling of a new descriptor being entered, and these errors are usually quickly caught by an indexer. A new descriptor is entered as a complete word block, together with any Scope Note or Definition. The program itself generates the reciprocals, so only one entry is necessary.

When proposing a new descriptor, the indexer constructs the complete word block, including UF (Used For), BT (Broader Term), NT (Narrower Term), or RT (Related Term), and adds a Scope Note or Definition when needed. The proposed descriptor and its documentation are then passed to the supervisor for concurrence and emendations. The proposal is then given to the Subject Authority Specialist, who checks to see that the concept is not already adequately covered by an existing descriptor. Other standardized thesauri, such as the *NASA Thesaurus* or the *Thesaurus of Engineering and Scientific Terms*, are then consulted to determine their handling of the concept. This procedure increases standardization of terminology. The descriptor is then entered as a new main term in the next thesaurus update.

## energinfo.

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The Thesaurus Maintenance Program during an update adds to the word block the date of entry, which is printed in the thesaurus, e.g., December 1980. The entry date is extremely important in structuring searches. Papers indexed before the concept was introduced into the thesaurus must be identified by alternative methods, e.g., title searching and the use of the LOOK command. Less obvious, and likely to be forgotten by even the most experienced searcher, is the effect the entry date will have on upposted terms.

In upposting, the descriptors are run against the thesaurus, and all broader terms are added to the record. If an intermediate-level descriptor is added to the thesaurus later, early records will not have that descriptor. For example, SOUTHEAST REGION was added to the thesaurus in July 1978; thus, after this date, any record having as one of its indexer-assigned descriptors one of the states in the southeast region will also have SOUTHEAST REGION as one of its upposted descriptors. To retrieve records processed before that time, however, you must use the name of the individual states.

— Julia S. Redford, TIC

## Searching FEDEX With the Data Date Field

The Federal Energy Data Index (FEDEX) is a computerized bibliographic file that provides standard bibliographic information and abstracts for all publications produced by the Energy Information Administration. FEDEX expands upon the basic concept of a bibliographic data base with a unique feature: individual tables and graphs contained in EIA publications are separately abstracted and indexed.

It is possible to refine a search by selecting citations according to the data date field (DD). This field lists the year or years which the data cover. The field is searchable using the full four digits. If a table has natural gas imports for 1949 through 1979, the record for the table can be retrieved by selecting any year in this range, e.g., 1950, 1961, or 1979. Periodicals are indicated with one base record. There is not, for example, a separate record for each issue of the *Monthly Energy Review*. Rather, the records are indexed by the first year which the data cover. It can be assumed that the data cover each month to the present.

The date-of-publication field is not a searchable field in FEDEX. Also, searching by data date is a much more precise strategy because the date of publication does not necessarily reflect the date of the data, i.e., it cannot be assumed that a publication issued in 1980 contains 1980 data because of the time lag in issuing the document. Also, a publication might contain historical or forecasting data.

EIA provides training sessions on FEDEX searching. The sessions explain the structure of the data base, searching strategies, and file contents as well as providing actual and online experience.

For more information on FEDEX and FEDEX training, contact:

John G. Colligan  
National Energy Information Center, EI-20  
Forrestal Building  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Washington, D.C. 20585  
(202) 252-1173

— John Colligan, NEIC

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## NEW PUBLICATIONS

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### 5th Edition of EDB Thesaurus

The fifth revised edition of the *Energy Information Data Base: Subject Thesaurus*, DOE/TIC-7000-R5, which contains over 1,000 new descriptors, was published this month.

Copies of the volume are available from the National Technical Information Service at \$40 per copy.

### New EDB Permuted Thesaurus

The *Energy Data Base: Subject Thesaurus Permuted Listing*, DOE/TIC-7000-R5 (App.), was published in February. It is available from the National Technical Information Service at \$14 per hard copy.

This new permuted thesaurus allows users quick and easy access to each significant word in single and multi-word descriptors. It also provides the user with the correct thesaurus entry and permits review of generically related descriptors separated by alphabetization in the Thesaurus. The permuted thesaurus is a useful companion to the *EDB Subject Thesaurus*, Revision 5.

### Fusion Glossary

The *Glossary of Fusion Energy*, revision 1, presents a concise and comprehensive collection of terms relating to the nuclear fusion reaction. Included are definitions of terms in theoretical plasma physics, controlled thermonuclear fusion, and some related physics concepts, along with short descriptions of some major thermonuclear experiments currently under way in the world. The revised edition also contains 68 drawings and photographs illustrating concepts and facilities.

The glossary is available as DOE/TIC-10192 (Rev. 1) from the National Technical Information Service at \$7.50 per copy.

## EDB Available On DIALOG

In January the Technical Information Center's Energy Data Base (EDB) became available on the DIALOG system of DIALOG Information Services, Inc., a subsidiary of the Lockheed Corporation. The EDB is known as DOE ENERGY on the DIALOG system and is File 103.

"DOE ENERGY" is available on DIALOG at \$35 per connect hour and \$0.15 per full record printed offline. File 103 is not available on the DIALOG Classroom Instruction Program because of geographic limitations in the contract which prohibits their offering this data base to users outside the United States.

### TIC Produces Microfiche of EIA Reports

A number of reports published by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) are now available on microfiche. An agreement between the Technical Information Center and EIA has resulted in an Early Announcement System through which TIC produces microfiche masters of EIA reports and provides copies to NTIS for sale through that agency. In addition, TIC, through its microfiche contractor, Engineered Systems, sells copies to selected category requestors on a routine basis and to specific requestors on demand. Microfiche copies of EIA reports may be obtained by contacting NTIS or by writing to:

Engineered Systems, Inc.  
P.O. Box 866  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

### DOE/RECON Statistics

DOE/RECON uptime for January was 98.6%. There were 5,124 user sessions, and 93,810 citations were output via the PRINT commands.

— Leon Yount,  
DOE/RECON Staff, ORNL



## Calendar of Events

1982

|            |                                                                                                                                                            |            |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mar. 29    | Basic DOE/RECON Training:<br>Introductory Module on Using Terminals<br>(optional afternoon session for novice users)<br>Forrestal Building, Washington, DC | July 12    | Basic DOE/RECON Training: Introductory Module<br>on Using Terminals (optional afternoon session<br>for novice users)<br>Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos,<br>NM |
| Mar. 30-31 | Basic DOE/RECON Training (for newer users).<br>Forrestal Building, Washington, DC                                                                          | July 13-14 | Basic DOE/RECON Training (for newer users).<br>Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos,<br>NM                                                                          |
| Apr. 1     | System-Independent EDB (for experienced<br>searchers on commercial systems). <sup>*</sup><br>Forrestal Building, Washington, DC                            | July 15    | System-Independent EDB (for experienced<br>searchers on commercial systems). <sup>*</sup><br>Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos,<br>NM                            |
| Apr. 1-2   | System-Independent EDB and Advanced<br>DOE/RECON Training (for experienced<br>DOE/RECON searchers).<br>Forrestal Building, Washington, DC                  | July 15-16 | System-Independent EDB and Advanced<br>DOE/RECON Training<br>(for experienced DOE/RECON searchers).<br>Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos,<br>NM                  |
| May 24-26  | DOE/RECON User Meeting<br>Oak Ridge, TN                                                                                                                    |            |                                                                                                                                                                           |

<sup>\*</sup> Training Session open to users of commercial search systems. Other sessions are open only to DOE/RECON users.

Please send training reservations to DOE/RECON Training Coordinator, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Bldg. 50, Room 130, Berkeley, CA 94720, telephone: (415) 486-6307 or FTS 451-6307.

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# FIRST CLASS

## For Reference

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