

# **An Evaluation Framework for a Portfolio of Research, Development & Demonstration Programs**

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## **Abstract**

This paper addresses an approach used to evaluate a portfolio of research, development and demonstration (RD&D) programs administered at the State level. The following project types were identified: (1) research for policy, including environmental research, (2) product development, (3) demonstrations, and (4) pre-deployment activities. In addition, the following performance criteria were identified for use in evaluating projects: (1) knowledge creation, (2) knowledge dissemination, (3) commercialization progress, (4) energy benefits, (5) economic benefits, and (6) environmental benefits. Data were assembled to measure progress of projects according to these criteria and compiled into an “accomplishments packet” consisting of quantitative and qualitative information. The packet was distributed to peer reviewers to assess the significance of the accomplishments. The results of the assessment are discussed. The applicability of the approach to the various types of projects and technologies is also presented.