



ENERGY AND CLIMATE EXCHANGE

US Technology policy and the development of semiconductors, computer hardware, and computer software industries in the US: A policy model for climate-change R&D?

with

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US federal R&D and other policies were of great importance to the development of economically vibrant semiconductor and computer hardware and software industries in the US. One of the most striking characteristics of federal policy was the fact that it extended well beyond the “conventional” technology policy tool of R&D spending, to include military procurement, intellectual property rights, and antitrust policies.

Federal policies also consistently supported a striking degree of competition among R&D funders, competition among R&D performers, and competition among the various actors seeking to commercialize new applications.

With the exercise of considerable discrimination and caution, there are important lessons to be applied toward solutions to global climate change from US federal policy toward IT innovation.

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