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A Message From Leadership

It has been an honor to serve as the Artificial Intelligence & Technology Office's inaugural director over the past year.

When I accepted this appointment last February, I did so to effect change and make a difference. Looking back, I am tremendously proud of the accomplishments we have made, and am confident that our work has set this new and critical office on a solid foundation for future growth and success.

Over the last year, we were able to secure and sustain bipartisan support for funding from Congress, gain the necessary directives and authorities from the Secretary of Energy to coordinate the vast array of AI activities underway at DOE's program offices and National Laboratories, and create and expand the AIX database to track DOE's AI capabilities and progress.

Beyond that, AITO was called on to lead DOE's efforts in two time-sensitive and critical projects: the [COVID Insights Partnership](#) and the [First Five Consortium](#). Both endeavors focus on the power of AI to save lives.

We have also made great progress on other strategic priorities like developing AI workforce training curricula, expanding international cooperation, partnerships with private sector and academic leaders, and advancing our understanding of -- and protections against -- the emerging threat of adversarial AI. We also released our first [Request for Information](#), seeking input from academia, industry and national laboratories on "AI Technologies that will Drive American AI Leadership," with the goal of informing an AI Grand Challenge in the near future.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Department's leadership. First, to former Secretary Rick Perry for his passion for the potential of AI, and for having the vision to create AITO in September of 2019. I'd also like to thank Secretary Dan Brouillette, Deputy Secretary Mark W. Menezes, and Under Secretary for Science Paul Dabbar, for their guidance and steadfast support. Our



foundational growth and progress would not have been possible without them. I will be forever grateful, as well, to our dedicated AITO staff. Their tireless efforts, professionalism, and counsel have been invaluable to me. Finally, I would like to thank you, the members of the broader AI community, for being such an integral partner in our efforts. We have much to be proud of. AI has the potential to improve and save countless lives. I am pleased to say that DOE is now organized -- and laser-focused on accelerating its development and application -- to ensure it is used as a force for good.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Ingstad
Director
Artificial Intelligence & Technology Office

