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Introducing the SEES Program: New Opportunities and Developments in Synchrotron Earth and Environmental Science

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The Synchrotron Earth and Environmental Science (SEES) program manages NSF support for synchrotron beamlines that serve geoscience researchers across four major U.S. synchrotron facilities: the Advanced Light Source (ALS), National Synchrotron Light Source II (NSLS-II), Advanced Photon Source (APS), and Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource (SSRL). By bringing these resources together, SEES makes a wide range of synchrotron techniques accessible to the community.

SEES supports a broad array of applications, including deep Earth and planetary interior studies, petrology, environmental science, and near-surface geophysics. As partner facilities continue to upgrade their capabilities, SEES is also investing in new instrumentation to help researchers take advantage of an expanded range of methods such as STXM, ptychography, and high-resolution X-ray imaging.

SEES is committed to making synchrotron science approachable by supporting both established and prospective users with guidance, resources, and practical assistance. We welcome conversations about the challenges new users face and are always interested in learning how SEES can best support the geoscience community as synchrotron science continues to evolve.