

# Energy Policy Update

Energy and Environmental News

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMERCE

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This newsletter is published by the Arizona Department of Commerce Energy Office and is provided free of charge to the public. It contains verbatim excerpts from international and domestic energy and environment-related publications reviewed by the Education and Community Outreach personnel. For inquiries, call **(602) 771-1143** or toll free **(800) 352-5499**. Compiled and edited by Gloria Castro, Special Projects Coordinator. To register to receive this newsletter electronically, email [Gloria Castro](mailto:Gloria.Castro).

For additional program information, access: <http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/Energy+Policy+Update+-+%28Monthly+Publication%29.htm>.

**Click [here](#) to view [Grant Opportunities](#) from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).**

**FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, ARIZONA-RELATED TITLES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE**

## ARIZONA

### **Abengoa Solar Moving Ahead With Power Plant**

[Phoenix Business Journal, Oct. 2] After a rough year trying to pry open the tight financial markets, Abengoa Solar is moving forward on its vaunted Solana Generating Station with potential funding and a new project director. Meanwhile, Lockheed Martin and Starwood Energy Group terminated a deal this week for a solar plant in western Maricopa County. Abengoa made a splash 18 months ago by announcing it would build a 280-megawatt solar power plant outside Gila Bend, and now it has brought Luis Henrique Martinez on board as project director. He will oversee construction of the \$1.5 billion facility, which could be operational by early 2013.

### **Arizona Schools Set to Receive Stimulus Funds**

[Arizona Republic, Oct. 2] Federal stimulus funds soon will be used to help Arizona schools become more energy-efficient. The Arizona School Facilities Board and the state's Energy Office will award \$20 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to fund renewable energy and energy-efficiency projects at schools around the state.

### **Big Utilities Pull Back on Coal Plant Plans**

[New York Times, Sept. 29] Some of the largest electric utilities in the American Southwest are shifting away from coal-fired power generation and toward an increased reliance on renewables and energy efficiency — in part due to the gathering momentum behind carbon cap-and-trade legislation at the federal level. Earlier this year, Arizona Public Service, Arizona's largest utility with 1.1 million customers, released a plan outlining its strategy for future energy production in the state. The company included no new coal-fired plants in the plan, despite an anticipated 50 percent rise in energy demand by 2025.

### **Dam Power Promoted Era of Valley Growth**

[Arizona Republic, Oct. 1] One hundred years ago today, cheap power gave Phoenix a jolt. Until Oct. 1, 1909, the city of 11,000 relied on gas lanterns and electricity from small wood- and gas-burning power plants. But on that day, the homes and businesses in Phoenix received their first cheap, free-flowing electricity from the Theodore Roosevelt Dam. The power boosted development at a time when Tucson and Clifton-Morenci both had larger populations than Phoenix, and Bisbee wasn't far behind. But buoyed with abundant electricity and water from the dam, Phoenix became the biggest city in the state by 1920, and grew to the fifth-largest city in the nation early in the 21st century.

### **ETec Finalizes \$99.8M Federal Contract**

[Phoenix Business Journal, Oct. 1] Electric Transportation Engineering Corp. finalized its deal with the U.S. Department of Energy to begin developing and installing a charging network for electric vehicles. The Phoenix company, a subsidiary of Scottsdale-based ECotality Inc., is rolling out close to 12,000 charging stations in five states in a partnership that includes Nissan

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### **Local Firms Make Newsweek's Annual Green List**

[Arizona Republic, Sept. 29] Several Arizona-based companies made *Newsweek's* inaugural Green Rankings of the 500 largest U.S. firms. The magazine collaborated with three research firms to rate companies based on their environmental impact, policies and reputation. The list includes the 500 largest U.S.-based companies based on revenue, market capitalization and employees. Solar-panel manufacturer First Solar Inc., based in Tempe, ranked the highest among Arizona businesses on the list at No. 48.

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### **Partners Cancel Plans to Build APS Solar Plant**

[Arizona Republic, Oct. 1] Lockheed Martin Corp. and its financial partner on Wednesday canceled the \$1.5 billion Starwood Solar I power plant they proposed to build west of Phoenix for Arizona Public Service Co., blaming higher than expected costs. The 290-megawatt power plant was a centerpiece of APS' plan to meet state requirements that it get 15 percent of its energy from renewable power sources by 2025.

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### **State Moves into Solar Spotlight**

[Arizona Republic, Sept, 26] For all its sunshine, Arizona is a dim star in the solar- energy world. But the future is looking brighter. The Arizona Corporation Commission recently approved an agreement between the Scottsdale Unified School District and SolarCity Corp. to convert solar energy into electricity. The agreement enables the state to raise its profile in the solar industry. And it allows the school district to receive the benefits of a solar-power consumer. SolarCity will collect tax credits and install and maintain solar panels at Coronado and Desert Mountain high schools by the end of the year.

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### **U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' Solar Roadmap Act Clears Key House Panel**

[Congressman Gabrielle Giffords website, Sept. 30] Washington, D.C. - U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords today applauded passage of her Solar Technology Roadmap Act by a key House subcommittee. "This legislation will help take solar research and development in the United States to a new level," the Arizona lawmaker said. "It is rooted in the common sense belief that we need a detailed plan in place to tackle the energy technology challenges confronting our nation." The bill was approved with bipartisan support today in a voice vote by the Energy and Environment Subcommittee of the House Committee on Science and Technology. It now goes to the full committee for consideration.

## **ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND EFFICIENCY**

### **Engineering Giants Follow the Money to Green Power**

[Reuters, Sept. 29] San Francisco, CA - A green power building spree is on the way, and much of it will be brought to you by the same people who built the nuclear and coal-fired power plants that keep the lights on now. What might strike casual observers or radical greens as odd can be explained by good business sense; with few other power plants in the works, big U.S. engineering and construction companies have heartily embraced renewable energy projects. Next year, in particular, is setting up to be a banner year for clean energy, with the political winds blowing in the right direction and utilities scrambling to meet renewables targets. But moving from solar panel installations on the roofs of the eco-minded to utility-scale projects that will power the homes of thousands requires far more planning expertise and capital, which will play into the hands of the big engineers.

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### **NYC Green Building Program Launches**

[Environmental News Network, Sept. 29] New York City's mass of commercial and high-rise residential buildings provide the city's managers with an opportunity to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the city. By focusing on energy efficient upgrades, residents and property managers can save money and the city can reduce its building-generated carbon footprint. A new green building program has been launched to train 1,000 building superintendents in the city on energy efficient practices in the next year.

## **LEGISLATION AND REGULATION**

### **EPA Rule Will Require Permits and Use of Best Technologies to Reduce Greenhouse Gases from Large Facilities**

[Environmental News Network, Oct. 1] U.S. EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson announced today that the Agency has taken a significant step to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions under the Clean Air Act. Jackson announced a new proposal requiring large industrial facilities that emit at least 25,000 tons of GHGs a year to obtain construction and operating permits covering these emissions. These permits must demonstrate the use of best available control technologies and energy efficiency measures to minimize GHG emissions when facilities are constructed or significantly modified. These large facilities would include power plants, refineries, and factories. Smaller businesses such as farms and restaurants, and many other types of small facilities, would not be included in these requirements.

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### **EPA to Adjust Wild MPG Claims**

[USA Today, Sept. 29] If you thought the only thing more outrageous than the 230 mile-per-gallon claim for the electric Chevrolet Volt was the 367-mpg claim for the electric Nissan Leaf, there's a change afoot that may make sense to you, reports Drive On's Sharon Silke Carty: The concept of judging fuel efficiency on electric cars by the "miles per gallon" they consume is dying a slow death. The EPA and other government agencies are working on a formula that will accurately tell people how fuel efficient electric vehicles are -- but since those cars don't use gas, miles per gallon doesn't make any sense. An Israeli firm last week urged the EPA to come up with a three-pronged number that would tell people how much electricity a car uses when it's fully charged, how much electricity it takes to charge the car and how much gas the car uses when it's out of juice.

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### **Interior Department to Approve Seven Renewable-Energy Projects**

[Wall Street Journal, Sept. 30] Washington, D.C. - The Department of the Interior expects to approve seven major, renewable-energy transmission projects on western federal lands by the end of next year, part of the administration's effort to step up use of wind and solar power. Finding sites for new grid infrastructure has been a major obstacle to the Obama administration's plans to expand renewable-energy production. Many people and local governments oppose placing transmission projects, which help channel electricity generated by renewable-energy sources to consumers, in their backyards, citing environmental, safety and other concerns.

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### **Solar Panel Tariff May Further Strain U.S.-China Trade**

[New York Times, Sept. 30. 1] Hong Kong - Companies that import solar panels to the United States are facing up to \$70 million in unexpected tariffs. The bill comes at a time when the industry is already struggling and could hurt both foreign solar panel makers and foreign and American distributors. It could also further strain trade relations between the United States and China.

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### **U.S. Prepares More Regulatory Moves in Case Climate Bills Stall**

[New York Times, Oct. 1] The Obama administration holds several potential trump cards if Congress ultimately deadlocks over climate legislation, current and former officials said yesterday. They cited existing powers of the federal government to push forward parts of the climate and clean energy agendas on its own. A large and obvious stick in the closet is U.S. EPA's ability to regulate greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act. EPA is completing an "endangerment finding" that serves as a basis for new regulation. The electric power grid can also be expanded to handle a surge of new renewable energy, even if Congress does not act, by the Interior Department and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, leaders of those two agencies said yesterday.

## **ENERGY-GENERAL**

### **DOE Announces Start of Western Area Power Administration Recovery Act Project**

[ElectricNet.com website, Sept. 30] Washington, D.C. - With the goal of bringing new jobs and green power to the West, Energy Secretary Steven Chu recently announced a large-scale transmission project to be financed using funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Western Area Power Administration will use borrowing authority under the Recovery Act to help build the \$213 million Montana-Alberta Tie Limited (MATL) transmission project between Great Falls, Montana, and Lethbridge, Alberta. Almost two-thirds of the 214-mile

transmission line will be located on U.S. soil, creating American jobs and allowing for the continued expansion of renewable energy production.

## **WESTERN POWER**

### **Massive Texas Wind Farm Operating**

[Yahoo News, Oct. 1] Roscoe, TX - A massive West Texas wind farm billed as the largest in the world is up and running. German company E.ON Climate and Renewables on Thursday announced the completion of the 100,000-acre wind farm near Roscoe that spans four counties. The company says the 627-turbine wind farm is now producing energy. It has the capacity to generate 781.5 megawatts, enough electricity to power more than 230,000 homes. Texas is the nation's top wind power-producing state.

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### **San Francisco Tilts Toward Wind Power**

[San Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 29] The two famous windmills in Golden Gate Park could soon have a lot of company as a broad array of city officials, business leaders and environmentalists push for streamlined, modern versions to spring up at famous spots all over the city. Wind turbines could soon be built at Twin Peaks, Treasure Island, the Civic Center, Ocean Beach, the San Francisco Zoo, city parks and the airport as demonstration sites for how urban wind farms could help power San Francisco - and to educate residents in the hopes they'll put them on their rooftops. The recommendations are part of a report to be released today after a yearlong study of the potential of urban wind power, The Chronicle has learned.

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### **Scramble Is On for Alternative Energy Around West**

[Associated Press, Sept. 29] Want some solar energy with your geothermal? In Utah, state officials are fielding various combinations of energy proposals, a list that includes solar and geothermal installations and an energy storage project that would turn salt caverns into a kind of giant battery. The caverns would hold compressed air when they're not storing natural gas. Together, the 15 projects in the works, planned or being talked up amount to "a land rush of alternate energy" projects, said John Andrews, the No. 2 official at Utah's trust-lands administration, which manages about 5,500 square miles of land left over from a federal grant at statehood. It's a land rush across much of the West, which offers an abundance of wide-open public lands, steaming geothermal resources, blazing sunshine and unconstrained wind corridors.

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### **U.S. Bancorp, SolarCity Double Fun for Solar**

[Reuters, Sept. 29] Los Angeles - U.S. Bancorp and privately held SolarCity are doubling the size of their fund for solar power projects in 2009 to \$100 million, the companies said on Tuesday. U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corp, a unit of U.S. Bancorp and SolarCity teamed up in June to put solar electric panels on homes and businesses in California, Oregon and Arizona with no upfront costs. The companies did not disclose the value of the deal when it was first announced, but said its expansion will double the size.

## **INDUSTRIES AND TECHNOLOGIES**

### **Alternative Energy Projects Stumble on a Need for Water**

[New York Times, Sept. 29] Amargosa Valley, NV - In a rural corner of Nevada reeling from the recession, a bit of salvation seemed to arrive last year. A German developer, Solar Millennium, announced plans to build two large solar farms here that would harness the sun to generate electricity, creating hundreds of jobs. But then things got messy. The company revealed that its preferred method of cooling the power plants would consume 1.3 billion gallons of water a year, about 20 percent of this desert valley's available water. Now Solar Millennium finds itself in the midst of a new-age version of a Western water war. The public is divided, pitting some people who hope to make money selling water rights to the company against others concerned about the project's impact on the community and the environment.

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### **Companies Race to Develop Utility-Scale Power Storage**

[New York Times, Sept. 28] Wind farms typically generate most of their energy at night, when most electricity demand is lowest. So a lot of that "green" energy is wasted. So the big question is: How do you bottle that power for air conditioners and other appliances that are busiest during the day? There are many companies moving to fill the energy gap. Using federal loan guarantees and \$4 billion in "smart grid" stimulus cash, they are working on utility-scale storage units that they hope will help balance intermittent renewable sources like wind and solar and let electric grid operators match power supplies with demand.

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### Google Working on "Smart" Plug-In Hybrid Charging

[Reuters, Sept. 30] San Francisco - Google Inc is in the early stages of looking at ways to write software that would fully integrate plug-in hybrid vehicles to the power grid, minimize strain on the grid and help utilities manage vehicle charging load.

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### Hydrogen's Prospects for Autos Refreshed

[Detroit News Washington Bureau, Sept. 25] Washington, D.C. - The long-delayed hydrogen fuel cell vehicle, overshadowed by the clamor over electric cars, may be getting a new lease on life. General Motors Co. announced Thursday that its next generation hydrogen fuel cell system will be half the size and 220 pounds lighter than before, and use half the precious metals. The announcement comes as Congress moves to restore most of the \$100 million in fuel cell research money the Obama administration wanted to cut. That represented about half of the total. Obama's administration, which had sought to shift more emphasis to plug-in electric vehicles, has dropped its opposition to reinstating the research money.

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### Nissan Turns Over a New Leaf

[Portfolio.com website, Sept. 20] Nissan's operations in Middle Tennessee—where the automaker is investing \$1 billion to build a lithium-ion battery plant and modify its existing facility to build a mass-market electric car—are poised for a dramatic shift. Crews are to break ground by the end of the year on the battery plant. Nissan also is preparing to modify its Smyrna facility to allow for the production of the Leaf, what the company is billing as the first family-size, affordable electric vehicle for the mass market. At full production, the plant is to build 150,000 electric cars a year and create 1,300 jobs for the region.

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### Push for More Ethanol in Gasoline Yields Resistance

[U.S. News & World Report, Sept. 29] When gas prices were high, Americans were fervently interested in alternative fuels, like ethanol, which is made from plants. Now that gas prices have stabilized around \$2.50 a gallon, it seems that the search for other fuels has lost its urgency. However, you could end up with more ethanol in your fuel tank -- whether you want it or not.

## GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL

To view Arizona and U.S. Gasoline and Diesel fuel data plus other pertinent oil information click [here](http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/MotorFuel/).  
<http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/MotorFuel/>

## GRANTS

The RFPs created or supplemented as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) are identified in the RFP titles.

### Arizona Department of Commerce Energy Office Announces Biofuels Grant Application Workshop

The Arizona Department of Commerce Energy Office announced the 2009 Commercial Arizona Biofuel Conversion Program (ACBP) grants application is open. Assistance, in the form of grants, is available to commercial motor fuel dispensing sites to encourage the use of biofuels throughout Arizona. Money is allocated from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Arizona's State Energy Program, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Energy Grant.

These highly competitive grants are available for capital expenses to convert or install Biofuel compatible fuel storage tanks, fuel dispensers, blending equipment and other components for the purpose of dispensing Biofuel. Directly associated expenses, such as fees to clean existing storage tanks and labor for installation of tanks, fuel lines and dispensers are also eligible projects. The grants are for \$30,000 or 40% of the project cost, whichever is less.

Information is available at [www.azcommerce.com/Energy/Biofuels.htm](http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/Biofuels.htm) or by contacting Jennifer Pittman-Leeper at [JenniferL@azcommerce.com](mailto:JenniferL@azcommerce.com) or 602-771-1136. **The deadline for applications is 3 PM on October 15, 2009.**

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### **Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation**

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation. Through this new funding opportunity, the NSF seeks proposals from interdisciplinary teams of researchers, with transformative ideas that represent an opportunity for a significant shift in fundamental engineering knowledge with a strong potential for long term impact on national needs or a grand challenge. Areas of interest include: 1) Renewable Energy Storage, and 2) Science in Energy and Environmental Design (SEED): Engineering Sustainable Buildings. This solicitation is in coordination with the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. \$29 million expected to be available, up to 14 awards anticipated. Letters of Intent due 10/9/09, preliminary proposals due 11/13/09, final proposals due 3/31/10. For more info, go to: [http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf09606](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf09606). Refer to Sol# 09-606. (Grants.gov 8/13/09)

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### **Baseload Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) Generation**

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for **Baseload Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) Generation**. Through this initiative, DOE seeks the development and evaluation of CSP components and/or systems that will lead to solar power plants with a capacity to generate electricity at costs competitive with fossil-fired generators. Areas of interest include: 1) R&D of concepts and components that can be part of a CSP baseload system, 2) Evaluation of the feasibility of a complete CSP baseload system and development of a prototype system that can be implemented in the field. \$15 million expected to be available, up to 13 awards anticipated. Responses due Oct 15, 2009. For more info, contact Andrea Lucero at [andrea.lucero@go.doe.gov](mailto:andrea.lucero@go.doe.gov) or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=48490>. Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000104.

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### **Brownfields Assessment Grants**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for Brownfields Assessment Grants. A brownfield site is defined as real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, controlled substances, petroleum or petroleum products, or is mine-scarred land. This program supports inventories, characterizations, assessments, planning (including cleanup planning) and community involvement related to brownfield sites. \$37.3 million expected to be available, up to 171 awards anticipated. Responses due 10/16/09. For more info, including Regional contacts, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-orcr-09-04.pdf>. Refer to Sol# EPA-OSWER-OBLR-09-04. (Grants.gov 8/12/09)

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### **Brownfields Cleanup Grants**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for Brownfields Cleanup Grants. Cleanup grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at specific brownfield sites owned by the applicant. An individual applicant can apply for up to \$200K per brownfield site and can submit up to three site-specific cleanup proposals. \$35.1 million expected to be available, up to 163 awards anticipated. Responses due 10/16/09. For more info, including Regional contacts, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-orcr-09-05.pdf>. Refer to Sol# EPA-OSWER-OBLR-09-05. (Grants.gov 8/12/09)

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### **Brownfields Revolving Loan Funds**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants. This program provides funds for a grant recipient to capitalize a revolving fund and to make loans and provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites. \$7 million expected to be available, up to 7 awards anticipated. Responses due 10/16/09. For more info, including Regional contacts, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-orcr-09-06.pdf>. Refer to Sol# EPA-OSWER-OBLR-09-06. (Grants.gov 8/12/09)

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### **State Energy Sector Partnership and Training Grants**

The U.S. Department of Labor requests proposals from State Workforce Investment Boards, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories, for **State Energy Sector Partnership and Training Grants**. This program will support training, job placement, and related activities that reflect a comprehensive statewide energy sector strategy including the Governor's overall workforce vision, State energy policies, and training activities that lead to employment in targeted industry sectors. A portion of the funds under this SGA will be reserved for communities

or regions undergoing auto industry related restructurings. \$190 million expected to be available, individual awards NTE \$6 million. Responses due Oct 20, 2009. For more info, contact Jeannette Flowers at [Flowers.Jeannette@dol.gov](mailto:Flowers.Jeannette@dol.gov) or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=48074>. Refer to Sol# SGA-DFA-PY-08-20.

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#### **Fellowships for Graduate Environmental Study**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Fellowships for Graduate Environmental Study. Through this RFP, EPA is offering Graduate Fellowships for master's and doctoral level students in environmental fields of study. 16 Topic Areas identified which include, but are not limited to: Global Change; Energy; Green Engineering/Building/Chemistry/Materials; and Environmental Behavior and Decision Making. \$4.5 million expected to be available, up to 120 awards anticipated. Responses due 10/22/09. For more info, contact Brandon Jones at [2009FellowshipsRFA@epa.gov](mailto:2009FellowshipsRFA@epa.gov) or go to: [http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2009/2009\\_star\\_gradfellow.html](http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2009/2009_star_gradfellow.html). Refer to Sol# EPA-F2009-STAR. (Grants.gov 8/19/09)

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#### **NSF STTR Phase I**

The National Science Foundation requests proposals from small businesses for Phase I of the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program. STTR requires researchers at universities and other research institutions to play a significant intellectual role in the conduct of each STTR project. The topic of interest is Multi-Functional Materials. The subtopics of interest include: Bio-inspired Materials and Systems; Materials for Energy Generation and Storage; Materials for Sustainability; Nanostructured Materials; and Smart Materials and Structures. \$5 million expected to be available, up to 35 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/17/09. For more info, contact Ben Schrag at [bschrag@nsf.gov](mailto:bschrag@nsf.gov) or go to: [http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf09605](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf09605). Refer to Sol# 09-605. (Grants.gov 8/13/09)

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#### **Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control invite proposals for the **Green and Healthy Homes and Technical Studies Program**. Up to \$2.4 million is available to fund up to 7 cooperative agreements to improve knowledge of the effects green residential building has on: 1) indoor environmental quality, and 2) occupant health, with a particular focus on children and other sensitive populations in low income households. Eligibility is unrestricted domestically. Proposals are due Nov 17, 2009. More information regarding FR-5300-N-20 is available at: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa09/grplead.cfm>.

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#### **Environmental Information Exchange Network**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for the National Environmental Information Exchange Network Grant Program. This program supports the development of information technology and information management capabilities needed to actively participate in the Exchange Network, a secure, Internet and standards-based way to support electronic data reporting, sharing, and integration of both regulatory and non-regulatory environmental data. \$10 million expected to be available, up to 50 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/20/09. For more info, contact Edward Mixon at [mixon.edward@epa.gov](mailto:mixon.edward@epa.gov) or go to: <http://epa.gov/exchangenetwork/grants/>. Refer to Sol# EPA-OEI-10-01. (Grants.gov 7/29/09)

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#### **Workforce Training for the Electric Power Sector - Recovery Act**

Workforce Training for the Electric Power Sector Two Topic Areas of Interest: Topic A is Developing and Enhancing Workforce Training Programs for the Electric Power Sector. Topic B is Smart Grid Workforce Training. The objective of this Funding Opportunity Announcement is to facilitate the development of a well-trained, highly skilled electric power sector workforce which is vital to implementing a national clean-energy smart grid. This FOA supports the development and deployment of Training Program(s), as well as the actual training of personnel. Response Due Date: 11/23/2009 8:00:00 PM ET. For more information, contact Linda Jarnagin at [linds\\_k\\_jarnagin@rl.gov](mailto:linds_k_jarnagin@rl.gov). Reference Number: DE-FOA-0000152

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The DOE Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability has extended the deadline for Phase II applications in the **Smart Grid Investment Grant Program**. Letters of intent are due Nov 30 and proposals are due Dec 15. Phase III of the program has been cancelled based on the number of high-quality applications received during

Phase I. More information regarding DE-FOA-0000058 is available through the Search Public Opportunities link on <https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/>

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### **Interdisciplinary Solar Energy Research**

The National Science Foundation Divisions of Chemistry (CHE), Materials Research (DMR), and Mathematical Sciences (DMS) requests proposals for the CHE-DMR-DMS Solar Energy Initiative. The purpose of this initiative is to support potentially catalytic interdisciplinary work by groups of researchers to address the scientific challenges of efficient harvesting, conversion, and storage of solar energy. The intent is to encourage new collaborations in which the mathematical sciences are linked in a synergistic way with the chemical and materials sciences to develop novel, potentially transformative approaches in an area of much activity but largely incremental advances. \$7 million expected to be available, up to 10 awards anticipated. Preliminary proposals due 12/8/09, final proposals due 3/10/10. For more info, go to:

[http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf09604](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf09604).

Refer to Sol# 09-604. (Grants.gov 8/13/09)

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For additional information visit the DOE Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program home page at: <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/>

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*Special thanks to the Washington State University Extension Energy Program for collecting this information.*

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