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## FUEL CELL CONNECTION – April 2010 Issue

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#### Administration

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#### RFP / Solicitation News

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#### 1. DOE Issues RFI for Manufacturing Stationary Fuel Cell Systems

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a Request for Information (RFI) from stakeholders to assist in developing a future Funding Opportunity Announcement for new fuel cell manufacturing research activities. The aim of the research is to reduce costs and improve quality and reliability of high-temperature combined heat and power fuel cells for stationary applications. Deadline for responses to the RFI is May 13, 2010.

[http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/news\\_20100415.html](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/news_20100415.html)

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*2. Funding Opportunity for Joint U.S.-Chinese Clean Energy Research*

DOE Secretary Steven Chu announced the availability of \$37.5 million over the next five years to support the U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center (CERC). In conjunction with this news, DOE issued a Funding Opportunity Announcement, soliciting applications for work on building efficiency, clean coal, or clean vehicles – CERC’s initial three work areas. Funding from the DOE will be used to support work conducted by U.S. institutions and individuals only. One award will be made in each area, with individual awards expected to be \$2.5 million in the first year. Applications are due by May 14, 2010.

<http://www.energy.gov/news/8804.htm>

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*3. California Provides Funding for Alternative Fuel Vehicle Manufacturing and Assembly Plants*

The California Energy Commission is accepting proposals for funding and financial assistance for the development and expansion of manufacturing and assembly plants that produce electric vehicles, batteries, and component parts for alternative fuel vehicles. Awards will be in the form of grants or loan assistance. A total of \$19 million is available for this solicitation, but the Commission “reserves the right to increase this amount to \$26 million.” The deadline to submit proposals is May 20, 2010.

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/PON-09-605/>

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*4. SSTI Invites Applicants for Technology-Based Economic Development Awards*

The State Science Technology Institute (SSTI) invites organizations to apply for the 2010 Excellence in Technology-Based Economic Development (TBED) Awards. Categories include “Expanding the Research Capacity” and “Commercializing Research.” Winners will be recognized during SSTI’s 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in September 2010. Deadline for applications is June 1, 2010.

<http://www.ssti.org/Awards/index.shtml>

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*5. Sandia Seeks Potential Technology Partnerships*

Sandia National Laboratories’ Technology Partnerships Program recently posted a notice that the lab is accepting inquiries from potential partners in five key areas: Nuclear Weapons, Energy and Infrastructure Assurance, Nonproliferation, Defense Systems and Assessments, and Homeland Security. The response date for inquiries is June 2, 2010.

<https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=1ef54792cd2c1de06243b9391ced8f80&tab=core&cvview=0>

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*6. California PIER EISG Program Issues Solicitation for Electricity Program*

The California Public Interest Energy Research Energy Innovations Small Grant Program (PIER EISG) has issued a Program Solicitation Notice for its Electricity Program. Approximately \$2.6 million is available to support the early development of promising new energy technology concepts. Individual grants are a maximum of \$95,000 for hardware projects requiring physical testing, and \$50,000 for modeling projects. The deadline for proposals is June 10, 2010. A pre-proposal workshop will be held May 6, 2010, in Sacramento, California.

[http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/smallgrant/10-01\\_electricity/index.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/smallgrant/10-01_electricity/index.html)

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*7. California PIER EISG Program Issues Solicitation for Natural Gas Program*

The California Public Interest Energy Research Energy Innovations Small Grant Program (PIER EISG) has issued a Program Solicitation Notice for its Natural Gas Program. Individual grants are a maximum of \$95,000 for hardware projects requiring physical testing, and \$50,000 for modeling projects. The deadline

for proposals is June 10, 2010. A pre-proposal workshop will be held May 6, 2010, in Sacramento, California.

[http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/smallgrant/10-01G\\_natural\\_gas/index.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/smallgrant/10-01G_natural_gas/index.html)

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*8. DOD 2010.2 SBIR Solicitation Includes Fuel Cell, Hydrogen Topics*

The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) 2010.2 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) solicitation has been pre-released. DOD will begin accepting proposals on May 19, 2010. The solicitation includes hydrogen and fuel cell-related topics such as "Anion Exchange Membranes for Alkaline and Low-temperature Fuel Cell Applications" and "Solid Hydrogen Fuel Cartridges." Phase I awards are typically \$70,000 to \$150,000 in size over a period of six to nine months. Successful Phase I projects will be invited to submit proposals for Phase II funding of \$500,000 to \$1 million. Potential proposers may ask questions of Topic Authors until May 18, 2010. The deadline for proposals is June 23, 2010.

<http://www.acq.osd.mil/osbp/sbir/solicitations/sbir102/index.htm>

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*9. NIST TIP Competition Open to Projects for Advanced Materials and Critical Processes*

The U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will award approximately \$25 million through a new competition under its Technology Innovation Program (TIP), for innovative research on "Manufacturing and Biomanufacturing: Materials Advances and Critical Processes." The 2010 TIP competition is open to research in three areas, including "process scale-up, integration and design for materials advances." NIST expects to fund 25 new TIP projects through this competition. The deadline for submission of proposals is July 15, 2010.

[http://www.nist.gov/public\\_affairs/releases/20100413\\_TIP\\_comp\\_announce.html](http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/releases/20100413_TIP_comp_announce.html)

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*10. California Offers Alternative Energy Manufacturing Equipment Sales Tax Exemption*

California businesses may now apply for a sales tax exemption for the purchase of renewable energy equipment, combined heat and power equipment, and alternative transportation equipment. Project owners will need to apply to the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority (CAEATFA) to receive the sales tax exclusion. Unless amended by the California Legislature, the incentive will be in place until January 1, 2021.

<http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/caeatfa/sb71/index.asp>

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*11. Air Force BAA Topics Include Power Generation and Storage*

The U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) has issued a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) seeking proposals on a wide variety of topics, including "Space Power and Propulsion," and special programs such as the Small Business Technology Transfer Program and the Multidisciplinary Research Program of the University Research Initiative. Awards will be made in the form of grants, cooperative agreements or contracts. Approximately \$200 million is available through this BAA, with individual awards averaging \$150,000 per year. This is an open-ended BAA. Optional white papers may be submitted in advance of submitting a full proposal. Full proposals may be submitted until this solicitation is replaced by a successor BAA.

<https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=f3398b88fcc85983eac6461f316cc12d&tab=core&cvview=1>

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Press releases and story ideas may be forwarded to Bernadette Geyer, editor, for consideration at fuelcellconnection @ yahoo.com.

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**The Sponsor**

*US Fuel Cell Council* -- The US Fuel Cell Council is the business association for anyone seeking to foster the commercialization of fuel cells in the United States. Our membership includes producers of all types of fuel cells, as well as major suppliers and customers. The Council is member driven, with eight active Working Groups focusing on: Codes & Standards; Transportation; Power Generation; Portable Power; Stack Materials and Components; Sustainability; Government Affairs; and Education & Marketing. The Council provides its members with an opportunity to develop policies and directions for the fuel cell industry, and also gives every member the chance to benefit from one-on-one interaction with colleagues and opinion leaders important to the industry. Members also have access to exclusive data, studies, reports and analyses prepared by the Council, and access to the "Members Only" section of its web site. [\(http://www.usfcc.com/\)](http://www.usfcc.com/)