



# Fuel Cell & Hydrogen Energy Association

TRANSFORMING THE ENERGY NETWORK

## A Note on Our List Changeover

You will notice this month we have changed the look and name of our monthly newsletter from the Fuel Cell Connection to the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Connection, reflecting the recent merger of the US Fuel Cell Council with the National Hydrogen Association to form the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association. Because you have been a subscriber to the Fuel Cell Connection newsletter, you will continue to receive the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Connection.

You can subscribe to the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Connection at <http://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=tdevbseab&p=oi&m=1104412315763>

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## FUEL CELL AND HYDROGEN ENERGY CONNECTION – March 2011 Issue

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## Federal Program News

### 1. Energy and Defense Departments Enhance Collaboration on Clean Energy

The U.S. Departments of Energy and Defense (DOE and DOD) announced new steps to further a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2010 regarding development of advanced clean energy technologies. The DOD's Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research & Engineering plans to use DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) expertise in grid scale energy storage, batteries for electric vehicles, and power electronics, to develop an energy storage device "that will provide future defense systems with long duration storage suitable for a variety of applications, including military bases and vehicles and eventually commercial grids." Efforts on the new projects are expected to begin in FY 2012.

[http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/progress\\_alerts.cfm/pa\\_id=494](http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/progress_alerts.cfm/pa_id=494)

### 2. Fuel Cell Backup Systems Slated for Nine Federal Installations

Eight U.S. Department of Defense installations and the National Aeronautical and Space Administration's Ames Research Center will receive emergency fuel cell backup power units through a project to be managed by LOGANEnergy and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center's Construction Engineering Research Laboratory. The U.S. Department of Energy Fuel Cell Technologies Program funded the majority of the \$2.5 million cost-shared effort. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory will collect performance data for the first two years of the five-year demonstration. The fuel cell systems are slated for installation starting in June 2011.

<http://www.cecer.army.mil/td/tips/docs/josefik-CERL-DOEFuelCellProject2-11-final.pdf>

### 3. LBNL Announces Breakthrough in Nanocomposite for Hydrogen Storage

Researchers at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) have designed a new hydrogen storage composite material made up of "nanoparticles of magnesium metal sprinkled through a matrix of polymethyl methacrylate, a polymer related to Plexiglas." According to the researchers, the new material "rapidly absorbs and releases hydrogen at modest temperatures without oxidizing the metal after cycling."

<http://newscenter.lbl.gov/news-releases/2011/03/14/breakthrough-in-hydrogen-storage/>

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## RFP / Solicitation News

### 4. NIST Seeks Industry Feedback on Hydrogen Dispenser Performance Testing

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Weights and Measures Division (WMD) seeks feedback regarding industry and other sector experiences with performance testing hydrogen dispensers. NIST WMD is planning a possible meeting on the subject. The deadline for feedback is March 30, 2011.

<http://www.hydrogenandfuelcellsafety.info/2011/mar/nist.asp>

### 5. Fuel Cell Technologies Program Announces Hydrogen Storage FOA

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Fuel Cell Technologies Program issued a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to provide up to \$12 million for "Research and Development for Hydrogen Storage" for stationary, early market, and transportation applications. There are two topics of interest: Reducing the Cost of Hydrogen Storage Tanks and New Materials Discovery. DOE anticipates making up to twelve awards, with a maximum award size of \$2 million for individual awards and a maximum of \$4 million for team awards. Letters of intent are requested by April 8, 2011, but are not required. Full proposals are due on April 29, 2011.

[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells/news\\_detail.html?news\\_id=16806](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells/news_detail.html?news_id=16806)

## **6. Air Force Issues RFI for Lighter than Air (LTA) and Hybrid Aircraft**

The Department of the Air Force issued a Request for Information (RFI) for "Lighter than Air (LTA) and Hybrid Aircraft Concept Development." Analysis components of interest include, but are not limited to, Propulsion, Subsystems, Structures, and Aerodynamics. No funding is available under this solicitation. Deadline for responses is May 2, 2011.

<https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=170a7130944e221e89124506f8d1de8c&tab=core&cvview=0>

## **7. EPA SBIR Solicitation Includes Waste-to-Energy, Biofuels Topics**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) funding opportunity, which includes among its topics of interest "Biofuels" and "Waste-to-Energy Systems." Approximately 35 contracts of up to \$80,000 each are expected to be given for Phase I awards. Proposals are due May 3, 2011.

<http://www.epa.gov/ncer/sbir/>

## **8. i6 Green Challenge to Focus on Proof of Concept Centers**

This year's i6 Green Challenge -- a competition to support innovative ideas and technology commercialization and entrepreneurship -- will focus on promoting Proof of Concept Centers. The \$12 million competition, which will support awards for six teams around the United States, is sponsored by a partnership of the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Energy, along with the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Science Foundation. The deadline for teams to submit an application is May 26, 2011.

<http://www.eda.gov/i6>

## **9. NSF SBIR Includes Hydrogen, Fuel Cell R&D as Potential Project Topics**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has issued its Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program Phase I Solicitation FY-2011 (Release 2), which includes hydrogen storage/production and fuel cell technologies as potential project topics. Approximately 150 Phase I awards of up to \$150,000 each are expected, with an anticipated total funding of \$22.5 million available under this solicitation. Proposals will be accepted from May 10, 2011 through June 10, 2011.

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11691/nsf11691.htm>

## **10. DOE Fuel Cell Technologies Program Offers Postdoctoral Fellowships**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy seeks applicants for a Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in multiple areas, including the Fuel Cell Technologies Program, offering recent Ph.D. recipients the opportunity to conduct applied research. Up to five positions are available in the Fuel Cell Technologies Program. Applications are due June 30, 2011.

[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells/news\\_detail.html?news\\_id=16786](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells/news_detail.html?news_id=16786)

## **11. NYSERDA Offers Incentives for Fuel Cell Installations in State**

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is offering financial incentives to support the installation and operation of fuel cell systems in New York State through Program Opportunity Notice (PON) 2157, "Renewable Portfolio Standard Customer-Sited Tier Fuel Cell Program." Up to \$1 million is available for systems rated larger than 25 kW, and up to \$50,000 for systems rated at 25 kW or less. Approximately \$21 million total is available for this PON. Funding is on a first-come, first-served basis until December 31, 2015, or until all funding has been fully committed, whichever comes first.

<http://www.nyserda.org/funding/2157pon.asp>

## **12. Clean Cities Accepting Applications for Projects in National Parks**

The U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities program and the U.S. Department of Interior's National Park Service are accepting project ideas for transportation-related projects using renewable and alternative fuels, electric drive and advanced vehicles, and fuel saving initiatives. Fuel cell electric vehicles are listed under eligible vehicle technologies. Interested applicants may submit a one-page Project Idea Form. Proposers whose ideas are selected for further consideration will be asked to submit an in-depth project proposal. No deadline is given for submission of Project Idea Forms.

[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/national\\_parks\\_application.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/national_parks_application.html)

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## **About the *Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Connection***

### **Administration**

Press releases and story ideas may be forwarded to Bernadette Geyer, editor, for consideration at [fuelcellconnection@yahoo.com](mailto:fuelcellconnection@yahoo.com)

Visit the Fuel Cell RFPs Web site (<http://www.fuelcellrfps.com>) for a listing of open solicitations and funding opportunities.

You can subscribe to the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Connection at <http://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=tdevbseab&p=oi&m=1104412315763>

### **The Sponsors**

*Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association* -- The Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association (FCHEA) is the world's premier advocacy organization dedicated to the commercialization of fuel cells and hydrogen energy technologies. Its membership represents the full spectrum of the supply chain from universities, government laboratories and agencies, fuel cell materials, component and system manufacturers, hydrogen producers and fuel distributors, utilities and other end users. (<http://www.fchea.org/>)

*National Energy Technology Laboratory* -- The National Energy Technology Laboratory is federally owned and operated. Its mission is "We Solve National Energy and Environmental Problems." NETL performs, procures, and partners in technical research, development, and demonstration to advance technology into the commercial marketplace, thereby benefiting the environment, contributing to U.S. employment, and advancing the position of U.S. industries in the global market. (<http://www.netl.doe.gov>)