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## **FUEL CELL CONNECTION -- March 2001 Issue**

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About *Fuel Cell Connection*

News on U.S. Government Fuel Cell Programs

1. *New Los Alamos Research Park to Host LANL, Motorola Research Partners*

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) scientists will work closely with Motorola researchers in the new Los Alamos Research Park facility, as part of a new level of partnership between the two entities on miniature direct methanol fuel cells, other energy technologies and biosciences.

http://www.corporate-ir.net/ireye/ir_site.zhtml?ticker=MOT&script=410&layout=-6&item_id=156777

2. *Annual Energy Outlook Conference Projects Rapid Growth for DG Fuel Cells*

At the recent National Energy Modeling System/Annual Energy Outlook 2001 Conference, the Energy Information Administration presented data projecting that fuel cells will achieve the most rapid growth of distributed generation technologies in buildings by 2020. Results of modeling show an expected decline in fuel cell cost to \$1,500/kW by 2015, and a best technology case projection that fuel cells will provide up to 3.25 billion kWh by 2020. A presentation by Dave Baxter, of Toyota, showed that a fuel cell electric vehicle (hybridized with a battery) using gasoline as fuel, would be cleaner "Full Fuel Cycle" than a hybrid gasoline combustion vehicle. Presentations are posted online.

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/aeo/conf/handouts.html>

3. *Hydrogen Program Analysis Projects Now Online*

A summary report of the 76 analysis projects funded by the DOE Hydrogen Program from 1994-2000 has been added to the Publications page of the Hydrogen Information Network.

<http://www.eren.doe.gov/hydrogen/pdfs/29964.pdf>

4. *ATP National Meeting Scheduled for June*

The Advanced Technology Program of the National Institute of Standards and Technology will hold its national meeting June 4-6, 2001, in Baltimore, Maryland. A Proposers' Conference is planned as part of the meeting, geared towards businesses and organizations interested in applying for funding under ATP's annual competition.

<http://www.atp.nist.gov/nationalmeeting/>

5. *National SBIR Spring Conference Scheduled*

The National SBIR Spring Conference is scheduled for April 19-22, 2001, in Arlington, Virginia. The conference will provide the latest information about the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) programs, and to learn from the success of fellow SBIR and STTR program participants.

<http://www.sbirconference.com/index.html>

RFP/Solicitation News

6. *Comments Needed on California Distributed Generation Grant Program Proposed Guidelines*

The Electricity and Natural Gas Committee of the California Energy Commission is seeking public comment on its proposed guidelines for the Solar Energy and Distributed Generation Grant Program, which is meant to offset the cost of eligible solar energy and distributed generation systems. Funding of up to \$2,000 or 10 percent of the total system cost, whichever is less, is proposed for all eligible distributed generation systems, with eligibility dependent on fuel-to-energy conversion efficiencies. One million dollars has been appropriated for the Program for this fiscal year. Deadline for comments is April 9, 2001. The Committee expects to consider the proposed guidelines for adoption at the April 18, 2001 Business Meeting.

http://www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/sb1345/notices/2001-03-12_committeentnotice.html

7. DARPA Seeks Regenerative Fuel Cell Proposals

Under the Orbital Express Program, DARPA is seeking proposals for water-based propulsion systems, which would include a regenerative fuel cell subsystem. DARPA plans to make approximately \$10 million available for this program, \$5 million for the first phase and \$5 million for the second phase. Proposals for Phase 1 funding are due by April 12, 2001.

<http://www.darpa.mil/baa/BAA01-23.htm>

8. Massachusetts Technology Park Seeking Applications for Fuel Cell Funding

The Massachusetts Technology Park, as administrator of the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust, is seeking applications for fuel cell projects under three solicitations. 1) Premium Power Planning Grants – Will provide up to \$150,000 to examine the feasibility of using fuel cells to provide high quality power at various sites in the state. Funding is only available for technical services, not capital costs. 2) Premium Power Installation Grants – Will provide grants to cover up to cover up to 25% of the total capital costs to purchase and install fuel cell power systems in the state, up to a maximum of \$2 million per project. 3) Green Power Predevelopment Financing – Will provide up to \$150,000 to organizations that are interested in developing grid-connected electric generating facilities (1 MW or greater) in New England that employ renewable energy technologies. Applications for these solicitations will be accepted beginning on April 17th and continuously thereafter until available funds are fully allocated.

<http://www.mtpc.org/massrenew/fundingopps.htm>

9. PIER RFP Revised, Deadline Moved, Funding Increased

The “Making Renewables Part of an Affordable and Diverse Electricity System in California” RFP for California Energy Commission’s PIER Renewable Energy Program has been revised, moving the deadline for Notice of Intent to Bid from March 20 to March 30, 2001. CEC also moved the proposal due date from April 30 to April 20, 2001. The total amount of funding for this solicitation has been increased from \$18 million to \$40 million for three years. Consequently, each contract may receive up to \$4.3 million per year for a total of up to \$13 million for three years.

http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/2001-01-22_rfp_500-00-506.html

10. Call for Abstracts/Papers for American Chemical Society Fuel Cell Symposia

The American Chemical Society is inviting submission of papers for two symposia entitled “Recent Advances in Fuel Cells” and “Catalysis for Fuel Cells and Fuel Processing: Clean Power in 21st Century.” Both events will be held at the organization’s 222nd National Meeting, which is scheduled for August 26-30, 2001, in Chicago, Illinois. Prospective participants are required to submit a one-paragraph abstract and a two-page preprint by April 23, 2001.

<http://oasys.acs.org/acs/222nm/fuel/papers/index.cgi>

<http://www.acs.org/meetings/chicago2001/>

11. Energy Innovations Small Grants Program Accepting Applications

The PIER Energy Innovations Small Grants Program provides up to \$75,000 for research that establishes the feasibility of new, innovative energy concepts. Projects must target one of the six PIER program areas, address a California energy problem, and provide a potential benefit to California electric ratepayers. Approximately \$2 million per year is available for the EISG Program, and up to four solicitations are expected per year. Applications for this solicitation will be accepted until April 30, 2001.

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/smallgrant/index.html>

12. NETL Solicitation Accepting Proposals for Research on Fuels for Fuel Cells

The "Supporting Science and Enabling Technologies for Clean Fuels" solicitation issued by DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory includes a number of topics related to technologies for reforming or extracting fuels for fuel cell vehicles. Separation techniques, membranes, storage technologies, and additives for hydrogen detection are a few of the solicitation's focus points. An estimated \$100 million is available under this solicitation. Deadline for applications is May 15, 2001.

<http://www.netl.doe.gov/business/solicit/main.html#41114>

13. EPA 2001 SBIR Includes Clean Technology Topic

Nanomaterials and Clean Technology is one of the topics for the Environmental Protection Agency's FY2002 SBIR solicitation, which will be released March 29, 2001. EPA expects to award up to 40 contracts through the solicitation. Proposals are due May 24, 2001. Further information will be available when the solicitation is released.

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

14. CERL BAA to be Issued for Residential PEM Fuel Cell Demonstrations

U.S. Army's Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) will issue on April 1, 2001, a Broad Agency Announcement focusing on demonstrations of domestically produced residential PEM fuel cells in military facilities. Proposals should be submitted no later than May 31, 2001, to qualify for FY2001 funding.

<http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/contract/other.asp>

15. Climate Change Fuel Cell Program Solicitation to be Issued April 2, 2001

The U.S. Department of Defense, through DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory, will provide grants to support the cost of stationary fuel cell demonstrations of US-manufactured fuel cell power plants, up to \$1,000 per kilowatt. Purchased units must be equal to or greater than 3 kilowatts, and projects are anticipated to be less than 3 megawatts in size. The solicitation will be issued on or about April 2, 2001, and proposals will be due on June 1, 2001.

<http://www.netl.doe.gov/business/solicit/index.html>

16. NASA SBIR Seeks Fuel Cell Propulsion Proposals

NASA's latest SBIR includes fuel cell technology within its Platform Technologies for Earth Science "Storage and Energy Conversion and Power Management and Distribution" subtopic. Maximum contract value for Phase I projects is \$70,000, for a six-month period of performance. Deadline for submission of proposals is June 6, 2001.

<http://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/SBIR/sbirsttr2001/solicitation/index.html>

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**Legislation**  
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17. Texas Proposes Fuel Cell Commercialization Initiative

The Texas state legislature is considering a newly filed bill to create the "Texas Fuel Cell Commercialization Initiative," which would allocate at least \$95 million, including loan commitments and cash on hand, to foster the accelerated commercial development and availability of small-scale fuel cell technology to Texas residents and businesses. The Texas state legislature convenes only every other year, and is in session until May. It is expected to act quickly on this legislation, which would take effect September 1, 2001.

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlo/77r/billtext/HB02845I.HTM>

18. Legislation Introduced in Congress to Provide Tax Credits for Fuel Cell Purchases

Identical legislation has been introduced in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives that would provide tax credits of \$1,000 per kilowatt for home or business purchase of a stationary fuel cell with an electrical generation efficiency of 30 percent or higher. The credit would be available from January 1, 2002, to December 31, 2006. The new legislation can be found as HR#### in the House and S#### in the Senate on the THOMAS legislative web site.

<http://thomas.loc.gov/>

19. Home Energy Generation Act Proposed

Legislation to encourage homeowners and small businesses to install emerging "distributed generation" technologies, including fuel cells, was introduced in the U.S. House by Rep. Jay Inslee (D-Wash.). The bill would allow families, farms and small businesses to send electricity generated in surplus of their needs into the local distribution grid, which is commonly known as "net metering." The bill number is HR954.

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/D?c107:2:./temp/~c107vSDZI3::>

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**Industry Headlines**  
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20. Fuel Cell Vehicles Unveiled/Announced

Toyota showed its new experimental fuel cell vehicle, the FCHV-3, which also has a battery for energy storage and increased system efficiency.

http://www.toyota.com/html/about/news/archive/press_release/environment/docs/2001/20010228fuelcell.jsp

General Motors has announced that it will show a gasoline fuel cell demonstration vehicle next year, and expects to offer a vehicle with a similar system for sale by the end of the decade.

http://quote.bloomberg.com/fgcgi.cgi?T=finer99_auto.ht&s=AOrAHABUhR2VuZXJh

21. H Power Receives Order for 12,300 Small Fuel Cell Systems

H Power has received an \$81 million contract with Energy Co-Opportunity, a consortium of rural electric cooperatives, to market its fuel cells exclusively through more than 900 cooperatives. ECO has agreed to buy 12,300 of H Power's 10-kilowatt fuel cells for \$10,000 each, with installation to start in the second half of this year.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/ncwire/business/Story/314264p-311298c.html>

22. State of Connecticut Contracts for Largest Fuel Cell Installation to Date

The State of Connecticut has awarded a contract to Select Energy for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a state-of-the-art central energy plant that will include six 200-kilowatt fuel cells connected in parallel to the region's electric power grid. The power system will supply power to the Connecticut Juvenile Training School in Middletown, Connecticut.

http://www.selectenergy.com/CorporateInfo/PressRel/press03_27_2001.asp

23. DaimlerChrysler Announces Sale of First Fuel Cell Buses

DaimlerChrysler recently announced it has sold its first fuel cell buses for demonstrations in several European cities. Up to 30 of its Mercedes-Benz Citaro buses will be equipped with new fuel cell engines, which will be supplied by XCELLSIS and feature Ballard Mark 900 series fuel cell stacks.

<http://www.ballard.com/viewpressrelease.asp?sPrID=207>

24. Fuel Cell Power Generating Capacity to Multiply by a Factor of 250 Over Next Decade

A new study by Allied Business Intelligence has projected the overall fuel cell energy generating capacity will increase by a factor of 250, due to the global pressure for new energy sources.

<http://www.alliedworld.com/energy/resource/FCM01PR.html>

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**Administration**

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

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**About Fuel Cell Connection**

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The Sponsors

U.S. Fuel Cell Council -- The U.S. 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 five active Working Groups focusing on: Codes & Standards; Transportation; Power Generation; Portable Power; and Education & Outreach. 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/)

National Fuel Cell Research Center -- The mission of the NFCRC is to promote and support the genesis of a fuel cell industry by providing technological leadership within a vigorous program of research, development and demonstration. By serving as a locus for academic talent of the highest caliber and a non-profit site for the objective evaluation and improvement of industrial products, NFCRC's goal is to become a focal point for advancing fuel cell technology. By supporting industrial research and development, creating partnerships with State and Federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and California Energy Commission (CEC), and overcoming key technical obstacles to fuel cell utilization, the NFCRC can become an invaluable technological incubator for the fuel cell industry.

[\(http://www.nfcrc.uci.edu/\)](http://www.nfcrc.uci.edu/)

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>