Earlier this week, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that Canadian firm Li-Cycle plans to build a $175 million lithium-ion battery recycling Hub at Eastman Business Park in Rochester. This investment is in addition to its Li-Cycle’s first US ‘Spoke’ operation already located at the park in Monroe County. The company has committed to creating at least 100 new jobs at the Hub, in addition to the 23 who will be working at the Spoke facility. In January of 2020, Empire State Development announced that Li-Cycle would establish its first US-based facility in New York State in an effort to tap into the robust lithium-ion battery supply chain and ecosystem in Rochester, New York and the USA. Li-Cycle plans to begin construction on the Hub facility in 2021.

This is great news for Western New York and, indeed, for the entire state as it further reinforces the State’s strength and robust ecosystem for batteries and energy storage technologies. This ecosystem—which includes assets such as the BEST Test and Commercialization Center, the Battery Prototyping Center at RIT and the dedicated beamline for battery storage at the National Synchrotron Light Source II at Brookhaven National Lab, along with numerous other important resources across the state—has positioned the State as a major player in the global development and deployment of the energy storage industry. NY-BEST is proud of the role we have played in helping create and grow these resources in partnership with industry and New York State entities.

The Joint Utilities, with NYSERDA and Department of Public Service Staff will be holding a technical conference on Thursday, September 24, 2020, 9:30-11:00 AM to discuss proposed changes and possible improvements to the utilities’ energy storage RFP processes and to solicit input from storage developers and other stakeholders on this effort. The agenda and process for the technical conference will include a presentation by the Joint Utilities, with NYSERDA and Staff, on proposed refinements to RFPs. Stakeholder feedback and input will be solicited during the discussion.

A copy of the notice with instructions on attending this virtual meeting can be found.
NY-BEST will be attending the Technical Conference and we encourage others with interest in this proceeding to attend as well.

Finally, I’d like to remind you of our upcoming NY-BEST Technology and Innovation Conference. This virtual conference will be held on December 8-9 and will feature presentations from leading researchers, industry leaders and startup company innovators. NY-BEST invites researchers, academics, and students to submit a virtual “poster” presenting your work on technological advances in energy storage and clean energy technologies to display at the conference.

All poster presenters are required to register for the conference and pay the applicable attendee registration fee. Please note, NY-BEST University members, including faculty and students from those universities, are invited to attend free of charge. However, you must still register to attend and access the conference site. There is no additional charge for having a poster.

We hope you will join us in December for two days of what we have planned to be an outstanding conference on storage technology and innovations.

Sincerely,

William P. Acker

Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

NY-BEST Energy Storage Technology and Innovation Conference

The New York Battery and Energy Storage Technology (NY-BEST) Consortium in partnership with the Southern Tier Clean Energy Incubator, is hosting its Annual Energy Storage Technology and Innovation Conference on December 8-9, 2020 as a virtual event!
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Combined Energies

Combined Energies (CE) is a startup based in Latham, NY focused on commercializing revolutionary, wide band gap-based, power electronics for energy storage, distributed generation and electric vehicle markets. CE is addressing their customers’ need to convert variable, low voltage DC power to clean, high voltage DC or AC power with the lowest cost, highest efficiency solutions available. Commercial power electronic solutions are not optimized for these markets, being uni-directional, requiring multi-stage voltage boosting and active cooling, greatly impacting system performance and increasing complexity, opportunities for failure and cost. CE believes that the right power electronics can profoundly advance the adoption of promising, sustainable energy technologies.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Phase I Release 1 Funding Opportunity Announcement (DE-FOA-0002359) for the SBIR and STTR Programs

The Department of Energy (DOE) has issued its FY 2021 Phase I Release 1 Funding Opportunity Announcement (DE-FOA-0002359) for the SBIR and STTR Programs. Qualified small businesses with strong research capabilities in science or engineering in any of the research areas sought in the announcement are encouraged to apply.

The following DOE program offices are participating in this Funding Opportunity Announcement:

- Advanced Scientific Computing Research
- Basic Energy Sciences
- Biological and Environmental Research
- Nuclear Physics

Downloading the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) and Topics

- The FOA (DE-FOA-0002359) is available at Grants.gov at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html. Download the
FOA Instructions and the Application Package by keying in DE-FOA-0002359 under FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER.

The Topics for Release 1 are available at https://science.osti.gov/sbir/Funding-Opportunities.

**STC Solar + Storage RFP**

Solar One has received U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding to implement The Solar Power and Battery Back-up Program for Community Facilities. The project is funded through the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program of the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR). This program will enable several non-profits community centers to generate solar energy throughout the year, maintain critical operations for emergency response and serve as a community power hub during severe weather events and grid outages.

**THE SOLAR POWER AND BATTERY BACK-UP PROGRAM**

Solar One has received U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding to implement The Solar Power and Battery Back-up Program for Community Facilities. The project is funded through the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program of the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR). This program will enable several non-profits community centers to generate solar energy throughout the year, maintain critical operations for emergency response and serve as a community power hub during severe weather events and grid outages.

**AFFORDABLE SOLAR AND STORAGE PREDEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Affordable Solar Predevelopment and Technical Assistance will provide up to a total of $3.6 million to address barriers to solar installations serving low-to-moderate income (LMI) households living in rental housing, multifamily buildings, or other households not served by traditional onsite residential solar. Individual awards will not exceed $200,000. Funding to proposals through this solicitation will offset costs for predevelopment and technical assistance work needed to implement solar installations for multifamily affordable housing and/or shared solar (Community Distributed Generation) installations that benefit LMI households.

Applications Due: December 31, 2024 by 3:00 p.m. ET

**ON-THE-JOB TRAINING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY**

NYSERDA’s On-the-Job Training (OJT) for Energy Efficiency and Clean Technology program provides wage subsidies to eligible businesses to reduce the financial risk of hiring and training new workers, while developing job skills for new workers in energy efficiency and clean technology businesses.

NYSERDA is working closely with the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) to deliver this OJT program. NYSDOL will assist eligible businesses with developing OJT training plans as well as assessing necessary skills and available workers that match those skills. Incentives will be provided to businesses that hire workers for OJT enabling new workers to obtain clean energy field experience that cannot be gained by classroom training alone.

All incentives, maximum funding amounts (i.e., caps), and COVID-19 specific provisions are subject to change on 12/31/20.

Applications Accepted Through:
CURRENT NEWS

NY-BEST Members

**Lithium battery recycling facility welcomed by New York Governor Cuomo**
New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said that a new recycling facility for lithium-ion batteries helps create quality jobs and support clean energy as the state “builds back stronger” from the COVID-19 crisis. Cuomo announced yesterday that lithium recycling company LiCycle Incorporated will build a second facility at New York’s Eastman Business Park in Monroe County, Rochester. LiCycle will be investing over US$174 million dollars on the plant and has committed to creating more than 100 jobs.

**Nuvve, Blue Bird Offer V2G Electric School Buses**
Nuvve Corp., a company that specializes in vehicle-to-grid (V2G) technology, and Blue Bird Corp., an independent designer and manufacturer of school buses, say Blue Bird’s Vision Type C and All American Type D electric school buses enabled with Nuvve’s V2G technology are now available.

**Viridi Parente now making electric powertrains for major equipment maker**
The Buffalo-based startup has inked deals with Doosan Bobcat and Case Construction Equipment. The Bobcat contract was announced this summer while details of the Case partnership will be unveiled in the coming weeks.

**FERC Order May Undermine Renewables, Energy Storage in New York’s Capacity Markets**
Another setback for clean energy resources heightens tension in states considering alternatives to federally regulated markets.

**NYISO allows full participation for energy storage in wholesale power markets**
The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) Sept. 8 announced it would allow full participation of energy storage resources in NYISO’s wholesale energy markets.

**Magnis placement to advance US battery ambitions**
GRAPHITE explorer and integrated battery player Magnis Energy Technologies is seeking to finalise a A$5-7 million placement, primarily to advance its New York battery plant in the US.

Beyond NY-BEST

**BNEF: Lithium battery supply chain is unsurprisingly led by China**
BloombergNEF (BNEF) has ranked China #1 among the countries of the world most involved in the lithium-ion battery supply chain in 2020, with Japan and South Korea in second and third place respectively.

**Hydrogen workforce training key to DOE-funded R&D project with EPRI, GTI & universities**
The focus of a FERC technical conference, held on 23 July, was to look at enabling the pairing of energy storage with generation facilities - described as ‘hybrid resources’.
Tesla co-founder JB Straubel receives backing from Amazon for battery material recycling venture
Tesla co-founder JB Straubel has received backing from Amazon for his battery material recycling venture: Redwood Materials.

The Missing Block to Build an All-Renewable Electric Grid
A new type of thermal storage material, housed in blocks like LEGO®, could see coal-fired power stations converted to run entirely fossil-fuel free.

Energy Department and Other Federal Agencies Launch the Federal Consortium for Advanced Batteries
Today, the Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Commerce (DOC), Department of Defense (DoD), and Department of State launched the Federal Consortium for Advanced Batteries (FCAB) to accelerate the development of a robust, secure, domestic industrial base for advanced batteries.

Its Electric Grid Under Strain, California Turns to Batteries
When demand exceeded supply in a recent heat wave, electricity stored at businesses and even homes was called into service. With proper management, batteries could have made up for an offline gas plant.

US energy storage posts second-largest quarter, with more growth expected as COVID-19 recedes

Lucid Motors looks to challenge Tesla in residential, utility-scale storage markets
Lucid Motors, which unveiled its luxury electric sedan, the Lucid Air, on Wednesday, is developing home energy storage systems as well as utility-scale energy storage, CEO Peter Rawlinson said in a recent interview with Bloomberg Quint.

Solar tonneau cover charges electric pickups, provides portable power
Adding solar panels to tonneau covers seems not only like a natural next step, but a natural complement to the numerous fully electric pickups arriving over the next several years.

Commercializing the Zinc or Graphite Battery in Grid-Scale Energy Storage
Grid-scale renewable energy has been steadily increasing, and, therefore, several researchers have moved their attention from producing energy to the storage of energy.

US government agencies join ‘world-wide race to capture the advanced battery market
With the recognition that “battery technology holds the key” to a future of cleaner transport and flexible, resilient electricity grids, four key US government departments have jointly established a Federal Consortium for Advanced Batteries (FCAB).

Lowering the cost of grid-storage batteries
New type of molten-salt battery could cost a fraction of lithium-ion devices.
If you would like to unsubscribe: http://nybest.org/members/emailopts/preferences.aspx?id=63961931&do=changep&nybest.org&h=f65d43f7f2235b963ece790da40b179a0a2a0