



## **NYSERDA awards \$2 million to eight NY-BEST members to develop energy storage**

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The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has awarded \$250,000 to each of eight companies and research centers to develop working prototypes for a wide range of energy-storage technologies. The recipients are all members of the NY Battery and Energy Storage Technology (NY-BEST) Consortium.

The companies and research centers - located in Albany, Ithaca, New York City, Oneonta, Schenectady, Troy and Williamsville - will each receive \$250,000 provided by NYSERDA, to turn energy storage technologies with proven technical feasibility into working prototypes.

"Energy innovation plays an important role in driving economic growth and helps advanced manufacturers remain competitive. These eight recipients will leverage additional private investment for energy storage solutions developed in NYS," said Francis Murray, Jr., president and CEO, NYSERDA.

"The state's investment, under governor Cuomo, in these companies and research centers will reap rewards for New Yorkers not only today but for the next generation to come."

Under the terms of these awards, each recipient must match NYSERDA's funding, leveraging NYSERDA's \$2 million with a total of \$2.5 million in additional private investment.

This is the first of three rounds of funding to help members of NY-BEST move promising technologies toward commercialization. NY-BEST is an industry-focused coalition working to establish New York as a global leader in energy storage technology for heavy-duty transportation, electric grid and other storage applications.

"NY-BEST is delighted that NYSERDA is awarding \$2 million to companies right here in New York State that are on the cutting edge of developing new innovative energy storage technologies. Energy storage technology is poised to revolutionize the way energy is used throughout the world and these companies are playing an important part in that transformation. NYSERDA and Governor Cuomo have continued to demonstrate their commitment to this rapidly evolving industry and, through their efforts, are helping to attract and grow the energy storage industry in New York State," said Dr. William Acker, Executive Director of NY-BEST.

The companies and research centers receiving funding include:

Custom Electronics Inc. (Oneonta), which seeks to develop an energy-storage device known as a graphene electrolytic capacitor to provide extra energy to ride through power sags, swells, or momentary electric interruptions.

E2TAC (Albany), which seeks to enhance lithium-ion capacitors for improved short-term energy storage for applications ranging from hybrid vehicles to power electronics. E2TAC (Energy and Environmental Technology Applications Center) is located at the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) of the University at Albany.

GE Energy Storage (Schenectady), which seeks to work with Raymond Corp. of Greene to develop an electric forklift for use in freezer warehouses using GE's Durathon batteries. These could replace conventional lead-acid batteries, which work poorly in cold temperatures.

Graphene Devices Ltd. (Williamsville/Rochester), which seeks to develop graphene-based high energy ultracapacitors with three times the energy density of current commercial devices at the same cost. Applications include smart grid devices and the use of energy storage for hybrid vehicles.

Ioxus Inc. (Oneonta), which will continue development of its advanced ultracapacitors. Ultracapacitors can assist with numerous applications including transportation by storing energy generated by braking and discharging that energy back to assist with acceleration and in wind turbine pitch control.

Paper Battery Co. (Troy), which seeks to develop a production prototype of its thin and flexible ultracapacitor to provide temporary backup power in computing applications.

Primet Precision Materials Inc. (Ithaca), which seeks to lower the manufacturing cost of key raw materials for lithium-ion batteries. These could allow more integration of lower-cost energy storage into the electric grid which could bring lower-cost, reliable electricity to ratepayers.

Urban Electric Power Inc. (New York City), which is seeking to store a megawatt-hour worth of power in a "flow-assisted" zinc battery that uses an advanced battery management system -- enough to power 40 homes for a day. The stored energy would be used to reduce peak power demand in the city. The project is being developed in conjunction with the CUNY Energy Institute.

For more information on NY-BEST, visit <http://ny-best.org/>.

#### About NYSERDA

NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation, offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and funding to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce their reliance on fossil fuels. NYSERDA professionals

work to protect our environment and create clean-energy jobs. NYSERDA has been developing partnerships to advance innovative energy solutions in New York since 1975.

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