



Governor's Energy Office

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“GOVERNOR’S ENERGY OFFICE AWARDS CLEAN ENERGY FUND GRANTS”
*\$350,000 in New Energy Economic Development Grants Awarded Statewide,
Second Competitive Round has \$650,000 Available*

DENVER— The Governor’s Energy Office (GEO) announced the first “New Energy Economic Development” (NEED) grants to eight awardees, totaling \$350,000 in funding. The NEED grants were created using Clean Energy Funds to advance energy efficiency and renewable energy throughout the state. NEED grants will be administered by GEO to target investments in emerging technologies and attract New Energy Economy investment into Colorado.

The grants were awarded to organizations that advance energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives, create quality jobs in the state, and are compatible with GEO’s programs and the objectives for the Clean Energy Fund. The eight award winners are:

- *PrimeStar Solar.* This Golden-based company received \$25,000 to further its efforts in designing and developing a solar photovoltaic commercial production facility. PrimeStar Solar will manufacture low-priced solar photovoltaic modules to make solar power more affordable and cost-effective to traditional power sources. www.primestarsolar.com
- *San Juan BioEnergy.* Based in the southwest corner, this organization from Dove Creek received \$100,000 to assist in the development and expansion of its biodiesel production facility. The biodiesel is produced from locally grown feedstocks, such as sunflower oil, and supports the local economy. The plant is being designed to use the sunflower hulls to burn produce heat and be a fully integrated bio-energy production facility. www.sanjuanbioenergy.com
- *Mobile Energy Solutions.* Based in Golden, Mobile Energy designs and manufactures composite body fuel cell, hybrid electric and all battery transit, school buses and commercial vans. The grant of \$100,000 will assist in introducing an all electric, zero emissions school bus to the national school bus market. This bus will reduce tailpipe emissions, a contributor to childhood asthma and overall air born emissions. Also, the composite body has been proven to be safer in crash tests and the body style allows for easier handicap accessibility. www.mobileenergysolutions.com
- *Boulder Innovation Center.* This Boulder-based organization received \$50,000 to accelerate an “Entrepreneurial Hub” for renewable energy and clean technology as its new major area of focus. The “hub” extends work experience, established processes from other industries, consulting and provides resources to entrepreneurs to help solve challenges encountered in launching and growing high-potential business. www.boulderinnovationcenter.com
- *Office for Resource Efficiency:* Based in Crested Butte, this organization received a \$10,844 grant for a solar thermal and job training grant. This will provide building, plumbing, and solar professionals in the rural area with a rare training opportunity to enhance and expand their knowledge of solar hot water heating systems. By expanding the skill and knowledge base of solar professionals, it is expected that homeowners will also adopt this technology. www.resourceefficiency.org

- *Cool Energy*. This Boulder-based company received a matching grant of \$25,000 to continue the development of a solar thermal Stirling engine system for combined heating and electric power production for distributed energy applications. This technology and product development addresses the pressing societal need for greater access to inexpensive, non-polluting, renewable sources of electrical energy and building heating. This system is predicted to reduce home heating fuel use by 60 %, water heating use by 95%, and electricity use by 60% by replacing the energy with solar power. www.coolenergyinc.com
- *Costilla County Biodiesel*: This southern county demonstrates how rural areas can produce renewable fuel cost-competitively, while reaping other benefits such as creating jobs, establishing agricultural markets, keeping dollars with the local area, creating energy security and strengthening local economies. A \$25,000 matching grant was awarded to assist in expanding and designing their production facility. Costilla County Economic Development Council (719) 672-0320.
- *Zolo Technologies*: Based in Boulder, this company has developed a service to optimize coal fired power plant performance and help realize savings in cost of raw materials and emissions. The \$25,000 grant funds will assist in the final manufacturing test of the product. www.zolotech.com

“These grants are giving organizations a ‘hand up’ in advancing emerging energy technologies into the marketplace that help us reduce our energy usage and carbon footprint,” said Tom Plant, GEO’s director. “I am happy to recognize these outstanding organizations for advancing Colorado to a New Energy Economy.”

The second round of competitive NEED grant applications will begin February 15, and will be for approximately \$650,000. For more information about the NEED Grants, including the application information and deadlines, visit the Governor’s Energy Office, www.colorado.gov/energy

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