

## **CEC Funded CalTestBed Initiative Announces First Cohort of Voucher Recipients**

*More than \$6M in testing vouchers awarded to 26 clean energy entrepreneurs through the CalTestBed Program*

**SACRAMENTO** – More than \$6 million in testing vouchers awarded to 26 clean energy entrepreneurs were announced at the inaugural California Test Bed (CalTestBed) virtual Symposium Dec. 2 and 3, 2020 hosted by New Energy Nexus and the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator.

The CalTestBed Initiative is a California Energy Commission (CEC)-funded effort to speed the commercialization of clean energy technologies. The program is led by New Energy Nexus in partnership with the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Vouchers of up to \$300,000 were awarded to competitively selected companies to secure third-party testing at more than 30 world-class facilities at nine University of California campuses and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. The program is funded through the CEC's Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) program.

"The CEC is proud to support through the EPIC program, this unique program which is helping entrepreneurs advance clean energy technologies through the development pipeline," said CEC Vice Chair Janea Scott. "CalTestBed allows entrepreneurs to test the design of their prototypes, refine them based on user feedback, and verify that the technology meets customer performance and safety specifications prior to field trials."

The CalTestBed Symposium launched with a brief description of the initiative by program director Tenley Dalstrom, followed by keynote remarks from Vice Chair Scott outlining the program's place within the CEC's strategy to achieve the state's goals of achieving 100 percent clean energy by 2045.

The symposium featured panels discussing a number of clean energy topics such as energy storage, electrifying transportation, decarbonizing the built environment and clean energy generation. The panelists were representatives of the voucher recipient companies, providing an opportunity to spotlight their activities and perspectives.

The event also included a special panel featuring national leaders in clean energy commercialization. The panel featured Conner Prochaska, chief commercialization officer at the U.S. Department of Energy, Miranda Ballentine, CEO of the Renewable Energy Buyers Alliance, and Mariah Lichtenstern, founding partner of DiverseCity Ventures.

Dr. Theresa Maldonado, UCOP vice president of the Office of Research and Innovation provided opening remarks for day two of the event stating that "CalTestBed will be the largest testbed ecosystem in the country, and probably the world, dedicated to advancing and commercializing clean energy technologies, systems, and services."

The CalTestBed voucher-recipient companies are preparing for their next steps toward commercialization by de-risking their technologies with third-party testing. They are seeking partners for pilot/demonstration projects, investment, and customer development.

"This symposium provided an exciting shot for CalTestBed startups to cultivate commercialization partners so they can get their impactful innovations into the market. We're pumped to be supporting so many intrepid Californian entrepreneurs with this groundbreaking partnership model with the CEC and more than 30 world-class testing facilities!" said Danny Kennedy, CEO of New Energy Nexus.

CalTestBed is a collaboration between the CEC, New Energy Nexus, the University of California Office of the President, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Momentum, and the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator.

For information on the CalTestBed initiative, visit [www.calstestbed.com](http://www.calstestbed.com).

**Companies in the 2020 CalTestBed Cohort include:**

ALD Tech Solution	Flux Technology	Opus 12
Alionyx Energy Systems Inc.	Future Motors	ReJoule
BEST LLC	Green Tech Motors	Smartville Energy LLC
Alpine Hydromet	Helicoid	Stasis Group
Blue Frontier	Hyperborean	System Z
Coreshell	KIGT	Takachar
Cuberg	Lucent Optics	Umida AG
Element Energy	NEXTenergy	West Biofuels
Feasible	OnTo Tech	