

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

*More than \$3M in testing vouchers awarded to 15 clean energy entrepreneurs through the CalTestBed Program*

**SACRAMENTO** – More than \$3 million in testing vouchers awarded to 15 clean energy entrepreneurs were announced at the national California Test Bed (CalTestBed) virtual Symposium Dec. 1 and 2, 2021 hosted by New Energy Nexus in partnership with the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI).

The CalTestBed Initiative is a California Energy Commission (CEC)-funded effort to speed the commercialization of clean energy technologies to realize the benefits of the flourishing industry through economic, environmental, and social impacts. 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 are awarded to competitively selected companies to secure third-party testing at more than 60 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.

In opening the symposium, CalTestBed Program Director Tenley Dalstrom reported that there has been more than \$107.5 million in follow-on funding and 137 new jobs created in less than a year since the cohort 1 voucher recipients were announced, and the number of available testbeds under the program has doubled to more than 60, with more growth on the horizon.

Keynote remarks were provided by California Energy Commission Chair David Hochschild, 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 CalTestBed program has provided startup companies with access to some of the most state-of-the-art testing facilities and expertise in the world," says Chair Hochschild, "And through that process, these companies have been able to demonstrate their merits in the private sector."

The symposium featured panels discussing a number of clean energy topics such as energy storage, pathways to clean energy commercialization, and clean energy generation. The panelists were representatives of the voucher recipient companies, providing an opportunity to spotlight their activities and perspectives with moderators from our key partner institutions.

The event also included two special panels featuring national leaders in clean energy commercialization. Mark Feasel from Schneider Electric, Aravind Kailas from the Volvo

Group, and Tim DeMoss from the Port of Los Angeles provided guidance on how entrepreneurs can secure pilot and demonstration partnerships. Dr. Vanessa Chan, Chief Commercialization Officer at the U.S. Department of Energy, and Dan Adler, Senior Advisor for Climate Finance, CA Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development, discussed the various ways government is investing in accelerating a just and equitable transition to a clean energy future.

Jigar Shah, Director of the Loans Programs Office at the U.S. Department of Energy noted in the Day 2 keynote that the transition to clean energy is "the largest wealth creation opportunity this century, and it needs to be inclusive, just and equitable."

Dr. Michael V. Drake, President of the University of California said "this program reflects a bold commitment by University of California, the California Energy Commission and California startups to work together to accelerate clean energy technologies. Through this unique public-private partnership, we are connecting entrepreneurs with our statewide network of more than 60 cutting-edge testing facilities."

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.

"The 20x follow-on from the \$5.5m of CEC testbed vouchers accrues to the state in all sorts of ways. Dozens more startups further down the track to commercialization; 137 new jobs since these companies came into the cohort; and progress on California's decarb goals. Shine on CalTestBed!" said Danny Kennedy, CEO of New Energy Nexus.

CalTestBed is funded by the CEC, implemented by New Energy Nexus in partnership with the University of California Office of the President and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory with support from Momentum, and the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator.

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

**CalTestBed Cohort 2 Companies include:**

Anthro Energy	Paulsson, Inc.
Community Energy Labs	Portable Solar Inc.
Cyclonatix	Sylvatex Inc.
EH Group Technologies	Tectonicus
EnZinc Inc.	UCAP Power Inc.
EvolOh, Inc.	
Gridware	
Icarus RT, Inc.	
Noon Energy	
Parthian Energy	