terrafore

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TERRAFORE, INC. TO EXPLORE NEWER THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE TECHNOLOGY TO MAXIMIZE SOLAR POWER EFFICIENCY

Awarded up to $1.4 million grant from the Department of Energy

RIVERSIDE, CA – Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) systems use arrays of mirrors to collect high temperature thermal energy from the sun. This energy is then used to generate steam and drive turbines and produce electricity. One of the advantages of CSP is the ability to store thermal energy so that electricity can be produced as necessary needed during off-peak solar collection times or cloudy days. In large CSP installations, the cost of storing some or all of the high temperature thermal energy collected is a significant determining factor for total plant cost and efficiency.

Riverside, CA based Terrafore, Inc. has been pioneering new research to develop more efficient and lower cost Thermal Energy Storage (TES) using inorganic molten salt mixtures.

The Department of Energy selected Terrafore to grant an award under the Baseload Concentrating Solar Power Generation - Research and Development category for *Encapsulated Phase Change Material in Thermal Storage for Baseload Concentrating Solar Power Plants* concept, which seeks to improve storage efficiency and reduce the cost of energy delivered from CSP plants.

Terrafore, will partner with Southwest Research Institute, San Antonio, Texas and University of California at Riverside, for this R&D project.

Anoop Mathur, Chief Technology Officer for Terrafore, said "This second funding award from DoE will help us further our current R&D efforts in Phase Change Thermal Energy Storage ….”

The DoE in a Press Release dated May 7, 2010 said “…. This funding will support improvements in CSP systems, components, and thermal energy storage to accelerate the market-readiness of this renewable energy technology. Accelerating breakthroughs in renewable energy technologies supports the Administration’s strategy of diversifying the U.S. energy portfolio to increase our energy independence while fostering a fast-growing clean-energy economy….”

Terrafore, Inc. incorporated in 2007 is focused on renewable energy and sustainable technologies. In addition to TES systems, the company is developing medium scale CSP technologies and offers consulting services for renewable energy installations.
www.terrafore.com