

We're here to help you

The EU Energy Focus service is a free, Government-funded service that aims to ensure that UK companies, research institutions and other organisations are well informed and have every chance of success in applying for and securing European funding for energy-related projects. Our services include one-to-one discussion of proposal ideas, webinars on key subjects and review of draft proposals. Through this bulletin we aim to provide you with information on sustainable energy policy and funding in Europe and in the UK.

Framework Programme 7

FP7 Energy Calls for Proposals

The 2012 FP7 Energy Calls for Proposals were launched on 20th July 2011. The Call documentation can be downloaded at <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/cooperation#energy>

The one remaining 2012 FP7 Energy Call deadline is 8th March 2012. A summary of the Call content can be accessed at <http://www.energiehelpline.co.uk/fp7/fp7-calls-for-proposals>

European Information Day on the 2012 FP7 Energy Calls for Proposals

The European Information Day on the 2012 FP7 Energy Calls for Proposals took place in Brussels on 7th July 2011. A recording of the event can be accessed at

<http://webcast.ec.europa.eu/eutv/portal/archive.html?viewConference=12591&catId=12521>.

This is an excellent opportunity to hear directly from the Commission Scientific Officers.

UK Information Day on the 2012 FP7 Energy Calls for Proposals

A UK Information Day on the 2012 FP7 Energy Calls for Proposals was held in London on 13th July 2011. The presentations from this event are available to download at <http://www.energiehelpline.co.uk/fp7/fp7-calls-for-proposals>

New IPR helpdesk factsheets published

The European Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Helpdesk has published three new factsheets on the management of Intellectual Property (IP) in FP7. The helpdesk provides bespoke assistance, free of charge to current and potential beneficiaries of EU-funded projects, with a focus on research and the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme. The factsheets aim to help applicants with IP issues at different stages of the FP7 project cycle by providing a general overview of the entire FP7 process, from the proposal stage until the end of the project, and are designed to be read as part of a set.

The first factsheet, 'How to manage IP in FP7 during the proposal stage', looks at some of the issues applicants should consider when putting their project proposal together, along with the kinds of questions that they should address in the text of the proposal itself. The second factsheet, 'How to manage IP in FP7 during the negotiation stage', aims to highlight issues that consortia should bear in mind during negotiation of the grant agreement with the Commission once a proposal has been selected for funding. The third factsheet, 'How to manage IP in FP7 during and after the project', highlights the steps beneficiaries need to follow to pave the way forward for the exploitation and dissemination of the IP generated during the implementation stage.

Further information about the European IPR Helpdesk is available at its website <http://www.iprhelpdesk.eu/frontpage> where you can also download the factsheets.

Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE)

2011 IEE Call results now available

The results of the 2011 IEE Call for Proposals are now available to view online at http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/press-corner/index_en.htm 54 projects have been selected from over 340 proposals to receive a share of the 66M€ Call budget. Contract negotiation with successful projects will take place between November 2011 and January 2012.

IEE 2012 European Information Day

The IEE work programme 2012 is on track for adoption by January 2012. The European information Day on the 2012 Call for Proposals will be held in Brussels on 24th January 2012. You can register for the Information Day at http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/events/2012/european-info-day_en.htm The date for the UK Information Day on the 2012 IEE Call for Proposals will be communicated in December.

Call for tenders - Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign

The details of the Call for Tenders to manage the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/getting-funds/call-for-tenders/index_en.htm The deadline for receipt of tenders is Friday 6th January 2012, 16h00 Brussels time.

European Developments

Europe's smart electricity grid projects go online

The Joint Research Centre and EURELECTRIC, the European organisation for the EU electronics industry, have developed a joint website to provide public information on smart grids projects. The website can be accessed at <http://www.smartgridsprojects.eu> The website includes an interactive map giving an overview of smart grids projects throughout Europe.

Opportunity to contribute to the development of the Energy Research Knowledge Centre

The Commission is strengthening and developing further its Strategic Energy Technologies Information System (SETIS) by preparing the web-based Energy Research Knowledge Centre (ERKC), a unique information resource on energy research across Europe. The ERKC will aim to improve the access to energy research knowledge, allowing it to be timely exploited and used across the EU, thus also increasing the pace of further innovation. The Commission is seeking views on the development of the ERKC via an online questionnaire which can be accessed at <http://setis.ec.europa.eu/newsroom-items-folder/setis-online-energy-research-knowledge-centre-erkc>

UK news

DECC launch offshore wind component technologies development and demonstration scheme

The first call of the Offshore Wind Component Technologies Development and Demonstration Scheme is now open to apply for support for the development and demonstration of innovative component technologies across the offshore wind system. With a call budget of around £5m, the funding will help companies with novel ideas that could further improve offshore wind systems. DECC and the Technology Strategy Board are working together on this scheme. The first call is funded and managed by DECC but the Technology Strategy Board is participating in the appraisal process.

The aim of the scheme is to support the demonstration of component technologies that will lead to cost reduction in offshore wind energy and increase deployment levels by 2020 and in the following decade. To allow the best ideas to come forward, the call has a broad scope and can potentially support innovation in the component technologies for most sub-areas of the offshore wind system.

DECC is exploring opportunities for collaborative innovation projects with other European Union governments. As part of the appraisal process for this Call, DECC will look to identify whether any of the projects that meet the criteria of this Call might be suitable for such collaborations.

The call closes at 1pm on 23rd December 2011 and any grants awarded under this scheme must be claimed in full by 31st March 2014. More information can be found at

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/funding/funding_ops/innovation/innov_fund/owctdd_scheme/owctdd_scheme.aspx

TSB Competition - Carbon abatement technologies Phase 2

The Technology Strategy Board's £4.5m Competition for Carbon Abatement Technologies is now open. The competition is addressing innovative solutions for the reduction of CO₂ from large single point emitters, such as power stations and process industries. There are 2 strands to the competition: Strand 1 (£4m allocated) for Collaborative R&D projects with an element of demonstration, and Strand 2 (£0.5m allocated) for feasibility studies. More information can be found at

<http://www.innovateuk.org/content/competition/carbon-abatement-technologies-phase-2-feasibility.ashx>

Advanced Biofuels: The Potential for a UK Industry

This study, commissioned by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and the Department for Transport (DfT), and written by the National Non-Food Crops Centre (NNFCC) found that due to limited availability and competing demands for sustainable vegetable oils, conventional biofuels are likely to produce just 3.7 to 6.6% of the energy needed in road and rail transport by 2020. More information including details of how to view the report can be found at

<http://www.nnfcc.co.uk/tools/advanced-biofuels-the-potential-for-a-uk-industry-nnfcc-11-011>

Research Challenges in Hydrogen and Fuel Cells workshop

The Research Councils' Energy programme invites expressions of interest from eligible individuals to attend a workshop to be held at Hilton Birmingham Metropole on the 23rd February 2012. The workshop will be a one day event that aims to scope the challenges that face the deployment hydrogen and fuel cells technologies. The aim of this workshop is to bring together the various academic and industrial hydrogen and fuel cell energy communities to scope the issues for an open SUPERGEN Challenge call to support research projects that will hasten the deployment of Hydrogen and Fuel Cell energy technologies. More information can be found at

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/open/Pages/hydrogenandfuelcellsworkshop.aspx>

Energy Research Partnership (ERP) published key message on Industrial Energy Efficiency

ERP has published a Key Messages Summary report on 'Industrial Energy Efficiency'. This report highlights the key messages and recommendations emerging from a study into energy efficiency across industry. The report highlights the importance of energy efficiency, in delivering cost savings to industry and reducing carbon emissions. Greater emphasis is needed on implementing efficiency measures, requiring a package of measures so as to avoid more costly actions in the future. More information and the report can be found at

<http://www.energyresearchpartnership.org.uk/tiki%20index.php?page=industrialefficiency>

Events

IEEE PES ISGT 2011 Europe, Manchester (UK), 5th – 7th December 2011

The second European conference and exhibition on Innovative Smart Grid Technologies (ISGT-EUROPE 2011), sponsored by the IEEE Power & Energy Society (PES) and hosted by the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering of The University of Manchester, will be held in December. More information can be found at <http://www.ieee-isgt-2011.eu/>

European IEE Information Day, Brussels (Belgium), 24th January 2012

The European information Day on the 2012 Call for Proposals will be held in Brussels on 24th January 2012. You can register for the Information Day at

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/events/2012/european-info-day_en.htm

Background to the EU energy funding programmes

Framework Programme 7

The EU's largest ever funding programme for research and technological development, FP7, was launched on 1 January 2007. With a budget of nearly 54B€ over the seven years (2007-2013), FP7 responds to the increased need for coordinated and focused research to support the knowledge based economy in Europe. FP7 aims to build on the accomplishments of the previous research Framework Programmes whilst featuring simpler instruments and streamlined procedures for funding and participation. The Programme continues to work towards the goal of creating a European Research Area (ERA) that will be the world's leading research area.

The Energy theme has a budget of 2.3 B€ across the seven years of the programme. There are nine other thematic areas including environment and transport. More information can be found at <http://cordis.europa.eu>

Intelligent Energy Europe

Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) is a European funding programme that supports non-technological actions aimed at reaching the EU's sustainable energy goals. IEE aims to tackle market barriers and raise awareness of European Energy policy and legislation among energy providers, promoters, advisers, trainers, agencies, policy makers and users.

The first IEE Programme ran from 2002 to 2006 and funded more than 280 European projects, 50 local/regional energy agencies and 60 European events.

IEE is now one of the three pillars of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) which runs from 2007 to 2013. The second IEE Programme builds on the experience gained from the first Programme and will continue to support actions that tackle the non-technological barriers to the spread of efficient use of energy and greater use of new and renewable energy sources. It includes the priorities of SAVE (energy efficiency), ALTENER (renewables), STEER (energy in transport) and Integrated Initiatives.

<http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/>



The Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) outlines, from a European perspective, what needs to be done in terms of technology development, demonstration and deployment, to achieve the EU's 2020 energy and emission targets and its 2050 vision. This includes ensuring security of energy supplies and retaining the EU's competitiveness in world markets. In terms of status, it is a statement of EU energy technology policy, endorsed by Ministers and the Energy Council. The Plan puts a strong emphasis on the pooling of national innovation efforts into wider European co-operation.

In addition to supporting the development and deployment of energy efficiency technologies, the SET-Plan's priorities are split between a group of technologies identified as most likely to enable the EU to achieve its 2020 targets, and those that are important for it to achieve its 2050 vision. The technologies identified for 2020 are: 2nd generation biofuels; CO₂ capture, transport and storage; wind, particularly off-shore wind; photovoltaic and concentrated solar power; smart grids; more efficient energy conversion and end-use devices and systems in buildings, transport and industry, for example poly-generation and fuel cells; and nuclear fission, including long-term waste management solutions. The technologies currently further away from deployment, but expected to have an important role in the EU meeting its 2050 vision are: energy storage; hydrogen fuel cell vehicles; generation IV nuclear fission; fusion; trans-European energy networks; and new technologies for energy efficiency, including materials, nano-science, information and communication, bioscience and computation. These priorities will be reviewed as necessary in line with technology developments to ensure that they remain the most appropriate and they will increasingly drive decisions on what technologies receive support under FP7 Energy grant funding and other relevant EU programmes. <http://setis.ec.europa.eu/>