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Funding needed for demonstration and pilot projects

CEC innovation and technology grants appear to focus on pure research or expanding proven technology deployment. Missing is funding for demonstration and pilot projects-whether new technology or innovative or unconventional application of proven technologies. For instance, we have a team working on using a closed-loop wastewater system for pumped storage hydropower. This is a well known technology applied in a novel way. To work out the economics, a demo project would be extremely useful-costs, CEQA, ROI, benefits to the grid and/or behind the meter. It's difficult to find State funding for a demo project. This idea has huge potential throughout California.