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*Comment Received From: Sarah Buchanan
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Notice of Proposed Awards- Press Release

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



NOTICE OF PROPOSED AWARDS
PowerForward Grant Solicitation
Zero-Emission Vehicle Battery Manufacturing

September 9, 2024

On April 5, 2024, CALSTART released a grant solicitation and application package entitled “PowerForward: ZEV Battery Manufacturing Grant Program”. This grant solicitation is an offer to fund in-state manufacturing of batteries and related components for zero-emission vehicles.

The grant solicitation announced the availability of \$35 million to fund agreements resulting from this solicitation and that CALSTART, in coordination with the California Energy Commission (CEC), reserves the right to increase or reduce the amount of funds available under this solicitation.

Funding is awarded first to the highest scoring application with a passing score within each of the two project categories. Remaining funds will then be allocated to the next overall highest scoring applications with a passing score, regardless of project category, in ranked order until all funds available are exhausted. The attached table, “Notice of Proposed Awards” identifies each applicant selected and recommended for funding by CALSTART staff and includes the amount of recommended funding and score.

Funding of proposed projects resulting from this solicitation is contingent upon the approval of these projects’ CEQA compliance at a publicly noticed CEC Business Meeting. After approval of the project’s CEQA compliance, the Recipient will execute the grant agreement with CALSTART. This notice is posted on PowerForward’s website at: <http://powerforwardgrant.org/nopa>.

Questions and debriefing requests should be directed to:

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**Zero-Emission Vehicle Battery Manufacturing
 Notice of Proposed Awards for PowerForward
 September 9, 2024**

Table 1: Proposed Top Scoring Awards by Category

Category #	Applica tion #	Applicant	Project Title	Funds Requested	Proposed Award	Match Amount	Score	Recommen dation
1 Cathode Active Materials Processing	A-0012	Sparkz, Inc.	Establishing First-of-a-kind LFP CAM Manufacturing in the U.S.	\$17,000,000	\$17,000,000	\$17,399,687	77.3%	Awardee
2 Cell Component Manufacturing	A-0020	Sepion Technologies Inc	Sepion Manufacturing Expansion	\$17,499,957	\$17,499,957	\$48,637,270	78.4%	Awardee

Table 2: Proposed Awards by Overall Score

Category #	Applica tion #	Applicant	Project Title	Funds Requested	Proposed Award	Match Amount	Score	Recommen dation
2 Cell Component Manufacturing	A-0028	South 8 Technologies, Inc.	Liquified Gas Electrolytes to Power ZEVs	\$9,074,472	\$9,074,472	\$11,826,276	75.3%	Awardee

Table 3: Did Not Pass

Category #	Applica tion #	Applicant	Project Title	Funds Requested	Recommendation
1 Cathode Production	A-0006	LiCAP Technologies Inc.	CALMADE: California Manufacturing for Activated Dry Electrode®	\$17,070,578	Did Not Pass
2 Cell Component Manufacturing	A-0016	Anthro Energy Inc.	California Production of Advanced Batteries for Zero Emission Vehicles (CPAB-ZEV)	\$5,487,364	Did Not Pass
2 Module, Pack, and BMS Manufacturing	A-0018	Karma Automotive, Inc.	KICC: Innovative Battery Pack Manufacturing Center in Inland Empire	\$10,918,119	Did Not Pass
2 Module, Pack, and BMS Manufacturing	A-0013	BYD Energy LLC d.b.a RIDE Energy	RIDE Energy Blade Battery Module and Pack Manufacturing Facility	\$17,500,000	Did Not Pass
2 Module, Pack, and BMS Manufacturing	A-0017	RYVID, Inc.	Battery Pack and Battery Management System Manufacturing for Light-Duty Two- and Four-Wheel Zero Emissions Vehicles	\$7,000,000	Did Not Pass
2 Cell Manufacturing	A-0022	Rincell Corporation	Spurring economic and social impact in California through manufacturing of world's highest capacity-performance Silicon-Graphite lithium-ion battery cells for ZEV	\$8,600,796	Did Not Pass
2 Module, Pack, and BMS Manufacturing	A-0026	Joby Aero, Inc.	Joby Aviation Battery Manufacturing For Electric Aircraft	\$17,500,000	Did Not Pass
2 Module, Pack, and BMS Manufacturing	A-0027	Jorge Guillermo Gebhart / Voltu Motor Inc.	Complete powertrain manufacturer featuring proprietary battery packs, modules and BMS	\$17,638,668	Did Not Pass

Category #	Applica tion #	Applicant	Project Title	Funds Requested	Recommendation
2 Cell Manufacturing	A-0031	Nant G Power	Southern California Next-Generation Li- ion 1GWh Technology Accelerator	\$17,643,689	Did Not Pass
1 Cathode Active Materials Processing	A-0033	Solid Energies Inc.	Commercial-scale manufacturing of Cobalt-free, low-cost LNMO cathode materials featuring high safety, high voltage, and fast charging for ZEVs	\$6,000,000	Did Not Pass
2 Module, Pack, and BMS Manufacturing	A-0035	Lithos Energy, Inc.	Manufacturer of high-performance lithium-ion battery systems in California	\$9,074,631	Did Not Pass

GRAND TOTALS: Funds Requested: \$ 178,008,274

Match Amount: \$ 366,130,699

Proposed Awards: \$ 43,574,429

**Match Amount Tied to
Proposed Awards: \$ 77,863,233**