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East Bay Collaboration Receives Grant Award for $475,000 from the California Energy Commission for Breakthrough Solar Technology

Grant will support deployment of innovative high-efficiency, high-concentration solar-electric panels for demonstration on Peralta Community College campus rooftops

ALAMEDA, CA. May 16, 2013. A team effort resulting from strategic partnerships facilitated by the East Bay Green Corridor involving Alameda-based cleantech startup Sun Synchrony, the Peralta Community College District, Sandia National Laboratory, Berkeley-based PV Evolution Labs, Hayward-based Plastikon Industries, and other partners and supporters has resulted in a $475,000 California Energy Commission (CEC) award, with Sun Synchrony as the prime recipient.

Sun Synchrony, seeking to develop its novel solar technology, applied for the grant through the CEC's Public Interest Energy Research Program's "Community Scale Renewable Energy Development, Deployment and Integration" RD&D Grant Solicitation. The company was one of only two awardees in the category "Breakthrough Community Scale Renewable Energy Technology Development."

Sun Synchrony's submission, "Breakthrough Power Density for Rooftop PV Applications" features a photovoltaic (PV) system that simultaneously concentrates the sun's energy on high-efficiency multi-junction cells and automatically self-aligns to the sun—making it small-scale and cost effective. Traditional concentration PV systems have been ground based and unfit for rooftops because of their weight and space requirements. The $475,000 grant will enable the company to further develop its pioneering high-efficiency solar technology.

"The Peralta Community College District is committed to providing up to $45,000 of in-kind services, such as access to expert faculty and staff and use of the machine technology shop at Laney College

for component fabrication," said Charles Neal, Peralta's Energy Environmental Sustainability Manager. In 2014, Laney campus will serve as a demonstration site for Sun Synchrony's systems. "The process of fabricating the components and installing the systems will provide an unprecedented learning opportunity for students from at least three of Laney's programs: Machine Technology, Green Technology, and Environmental Control Technology," said Neal.

Sun Synchrony's win is the latest success story to come out of the Green Corridor, which provides cleantech startups with the support and connections that enable them to flourish. "By leveraging the entrepreneurial, technological and educational assets of the Green Corridor, a successful team formed and will demonstrate innovative solar technology for widespread distributed rooftop deployment in our region and beyond," said Carla Din, director of the Green Corridor.

"The Green Corridor's recognition of synergies between partners was vital to the success of this application. We are thrilled to be working alongside the Peralta Community College District because they can seize so many of the benefits that surround this project," said Mark Perlin, Vice President of Sun Synchrony.

About the East Bay Green Corridor and the Peralta Community College District:
The East Bay Green Corridor is a nine-city partnership anchored by UC Berkeley and the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, with the mission of creating a thriving region of clean energy innovation, commercialization and local economic development. The Peralta Community College District, comprised of four campuses serving northern Alameda County, provides accessible, high-quality adult learning opportunities to meet the educational needs of the multicultural East Bay community.

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