

US funds solar energy grid integration development

Up to US\$11.8 million will be invested in five projects designed to advance the next stage of development of solar energy grid integration systems, according to the US Department of Energy. The selections are part of DOE's continuing work to help assure the nation's electricity grid reliability is maintained and improved as solar energy technologies reach cost competitiveness and increased levels of integration with the grid. "Solar energy will be a critical factor in achieving the President's goal of creating new jobs as part of a clean energy economy," says DOE Secretary Steven Chu. "By integrating renewable energy onto the grid now, we can deliver power more reliably and effectively, lower utility bills for American families, and help rebuild our economy along the way." The selected projects focus on the most promising technology advances and include the development of intelligent system controls. These projects ultimately seek to maintain or improve power quality and reliability as well as return economic value, while increasing the integration of solar technologies into the grid.

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