

MEDIA RELEASE

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ADDITIONAL S\$195 MILLION FUNDING TO SPUR RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

The funding will catalyse growth of the clean energy industry by strengthening our public research capabilities and accelerating commercialisation

The inter-agency Energy Innovation Programme Office (EIPO) announced the allocation of an additional S\$195 million from the National Research Foundation (NRF) to promote research & development (R&D) in the energy sector in the five-year period to 2015. The R&D funding will help EIPO to accelerate the growth of the clean energy industry in Singapore and reach the 2015 targets of S\$1.7 billion of economic value-added and 7,000 skilled jobs. The funding will enable EIPO to build on the existing strengths in solar energy, and diversify into new growth areas such as smart grids, green buildings, and carbon capture and utilisation (CCU).

The funding will support our public research centres to attain global leadership in industry-oriented innovation. Another part will be devoted to competitive grants to solicit bottom-up innovations. In addition, the funding will augment EIPO's efforts in the commercialisation of R&D results and develop postgraduate talent.

Singapore's clean technology sector as a whole has received a boost in R&D funding lately. This allocation follows Deputy Prime Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam's announcement of an additional S\$140 million from NRF devoted to R&D in the water sector.

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About the Energy Innovation Programme Office

The Energy Innovation Programme Office (EIPO), formerly known as Clean Energy Programme Office (CEPO), is Singapore's key inter-agency workgroup responsible for planning and executing strategies to develop the energy sector in Singapore. Since its inception in 2007, EIPO has launched several key initiatives, including the establishment of public sector R&D centres, competitive funding and talent development programmes.

Dedicated with S\$195 million from the National Research Foundation, EIPO is led by the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) and the Energy Market Authority (EMA). EIPO reports to an executive committee co-chaired by Chairman EDB and Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry.

The National Research Foundation

The National Research Foundation (NRF), set up on 1 January 2006, is a department within the Prime Minister's Office.

The NRF sets the national direction for research and development (R&D) by developing policies, plans and strategies for research, innovation and enterprise. It funds strategic initiatives, builds up R&D capabilities and capacities through nurturing local and foreign talents, and coordinates the research agenda of different agencies to transform Singapore into a knowledge-intensive, innovative and entrepreneurial economy.

The NRF provides secretariat support to the Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council (RIEC), chaired by the Prime Minister.

For more information on the NRF, please visit www.nrf.gov.sg.

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