

Title: TIBC NOPA request for *Building Technologies Technical Briefs and Market Outreach*, from E Source Companies

Amount: \$507,331

Term: 36 months

PIER Contact: David Weightman

RD&D Committee: 12/3/2009

Funding

Funding detail provided on *Technology Innovations for Buildings and Communities II NOPA* Decision Memo.

Recommendation

Approve inclusion of this solicited research proposal, which passed scoring at Rank 7, in the NOPA release of recommended awards by the RFP 500-08-503 Scoring Committee.

The Problem

CEC/PIER-sponsored research covering buildings end-use energy cannot come to fruition until the market is aware of research results and widely adopts the energy efficiency technologies and practices that emerge from the research program. All research projects maintain strong market connections by identifying research that is responsive to known market needs, having market partners on research teams, and identifying or developing links to the building community, manufacturers, utilities, codes and standards groups, and other implementers of building efficiency market actions. PIER has learned that additional market connections efforts are necessary to ensure that the findings of the entire span of PIER Buildings End-use Energy research projects are adequately disseminated to the key market players (e.g. utilities, architects, engineers, designers, building owners/managers, and other end-users) who are in the position to put the research results to work.

Proposed Research

E Source will research, write, and publish a series of Technical Briefs that describe the results of PIER-funded building technology projects. The Briefs will use the proven, concise (two-page) format that PIER has found invaluable for reaching key decision-makers who do not otherwise follow PIER's case studies or other research project literature. Some of the Briefs will be produced in both English and Spanish to reach traditionally under-served professional segments. E Source will then make industry professionals aware of the results of PIER-funded building technology projects by disseminating the Technical Briefs. Those Technology Transfer activities will include sending Technical Briefs to professional and technical journals and web sites, and distributing Briefs at relevant conferences. Project information will also be provided through web conferences and electronic media in easy-to-digest formats and segments.

Research Justification and Goals

This program "will develop, and help bring to market increased energy efficiency in buildings, appliances, lighting, and other applications beyond applicable standards, which will benefit electric utility customers" (Public Resources Code 25620.1.(b)(2)), (Chapter 512, Statutes of 2006)); and supports California's goal to allocate and prioritize RD&D funding for energy efficiency and demand response, including new communication and control technologies, end-use technologies, and validation methodologies per the Energy Action Plan 2005 by:

- Disseminating the findings of PIER program research by producing a series of Technical Briefs covering California Energy Commission PIER program research in the Buildings End-Use Energy Efficiency area targeted to building energy professionals who can make practical use of the results,
- Distributing the Briefs to the key audiences via email announcements, through professional and technical journals and web sites, and at relevant conferences, and
- Leveraging developed outreach information of PIER products through web conferences and electronic media in easy-to-digest formats and segments.

Background

Project Organization

E Source Companies, the prime contractor, will organize and manage a research team to conduct a linked program of market connection projects that will benefit the entire set of CEC/PIER research projects. This coordinated market connection program has the potential to reduce system costs while significantly improving the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings throughout California.

TIBC Scoring

The Technology Innovations for Buildings and Communities II solicitation was released in April 2009. There were 33 proposals received, representing a total of approximately \$50 million of funding requests. After a Stage 1 Scoring Committee review, 17 proposals were passed onto to Stage 2. All 17 proposals were received for stage 2 scoring but 4 were screened for failing to adhere to the Stage 2 submission requirements. The 13 Stage 2 proposals represent a total \$ 21,732,328 in research requests.