



GREENIUS FULL PRESS RELEASE

Twenty five innovative companies and universities from across the UK who secured initial funding in the first phase of the Technology Strategy Board's Greenius – or Green Genius – funding competition have now submitted proposals to further develop their innovations, through larger research and development contracts.

Commenting on the first round of funding awards, the Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg, said:

“When we launched Greenius, we wanted to encourage the very best of our “green talent” to set their minds to some of the toughest sustainability challenges facing the country today. As well as helping to ensure that we manage our food, water and energy supplies more sustainably, the technologies that will be developed from the best of these proposals will save money for consumers and businesses create jobs and help drive economic growth.”

Launched by the Deputy Prime Minister last year, the Greenius initiative sought innovative solutions to global food, water and energy sustainability challenges – such as bringing down the cost of household bills and managing food, water and energy resources better.

For Phase 1, 25 organisations received funding to carry out feasibility studies into their initial proposals. Now undergoing rigorous assessment, the six best proposed solutions will each receive development contracts worth between £200,000 and £1 million per selected project. The solutions must be efficient and sustainable, and must be capable of rapid commercialisation, providing significant benefits for consumers and/or businesses.

Organisations were invited to compete for a share of a total £3million fund for the further development and commercialisation of innovative, near-market technologies. Food, water and energy are the themes of the challenge and the proposals awarded funding in the first phase of the Greenius competition include ideas that may lead to the development of:

- A new-concept cooker with low energy and water use, and low emissions;
- Innovative food production technologies;
- Energy efficient water purification with reduced water wastage;
- The incorporation of wave energy devices into offshore aquaculture sites;
- Electricity generation from waste using stacks of Microbial Fuel Cells (MFCs);
- Thermal control system including waste thermal energy re-use;

The competition, which is jointly funded by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), is being managed by the UK's innovation agency, the Technology Strategy Board (www.innovateuk.org).

Iain Gray, Chief Executive of the Technology Strategy Board, said:

“The significant challenges that we face around food, water and energy sustainability also provide innovative UK businesses, engineers and scientists with enormous opportunities. The environmental goods and services sector is worth over £3 trillion globally, green industries are booming in the UK and there is enormous potential for growth.”

“The technology innovations that we are supporting through Greenius will, once fully developed, help to reduce bills for consumers and businesses, make better use of our resources and contribute to ensuring security of supply.”

The **Technology Strategy Board** is the UK’s innovation agency. Its goal is to accelerate economic growth by stimulating and supporting business-led innovation. Sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), the Technology Strategy Board brings together business, research and the public sector, supporting and accelerating the development of innovative products and services to meet market needs, tackle major societal challenges and help build the future economy. The vision of the Technology Strategy Board is for the UK to be a global leader in innovation and a magnet for innovative businesses, where technology is applied rapidly, effectively and sustainably to create wealth and enhance quality of life.

Greengineering Limited was the only organisation from the West Midlands to be awarded funding for their project: **“Thermal Control System Including Waste Thermal Energy Re-Use”**, as outlined below:

This project will focus on producing a system, which will reduce fuel used for heating water and spaces. This innovative new system is designed to control the capture of waste thermal energy from various sources, store it in insulated storage tanks and re-deploy it as required. This control system will be able to identify when thermal energy is available and transfer it to a suitable destination. In addition the complete system includes an energy efficient alternative HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning) system to reduce the reliance on expensive to run air conditioning units. The system will also be able to accept thermal inputs from more traditionally available sources, such as solar thermal panels. The system will be able to be retrofitted to existing buildings, and will be ideally suited to new builds as part of an efficient building programme. In addition, at some point in the future it will be relatively simple to adapt the same system for use in emergency camps, building sites or other locations where fixed energy resources are limited. The sources of captured heat could include: - Heat transferred from outlets and exhausts (cooking appliances, generators, etc.) - Heat transferred from wastewater sources. - Air conditioning or refrigeration units - Solar photovoltaic panels - Solar thermal panels - Any industrial waste heat. This system combines innovative new components with existing technology in a novel way. Although some research has already been carried out, further work in this area is needed in order to prove the scientific and commercial merit of this project. Therefore, Phase 1 of this project will focus on assessing the viability of the system including recommending preferred options. This will include research into the following: Existing technology, Heat sources, Control system capability, Potential fuel savings,

The results of the second phase of the Greenius competition, when development contracts will be awarded to the organisations with the top six proposals, are likely to be announced in September 2013.

