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NREL Teams with French Researchers

NREL Director to Receive Recognition for Joint Research Efforts

Golden, Colo., April XX, 2010 – The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) recently signed a research collaboration agreement with Tenerrdis, located in the Rhône-Alpes Region of France.

As part of the memorandum of understanding (MOU), NREL and Tenerrdis will join forces on solar energy, smart grid and battery technology research as part of ongoing efforts to increase deployment and reduce the costs of renewable energy.

Tenerrdis is a collaborative organization which promotes innovation and encourages partnerships between companies, researchers, educational, and institutional stakeholders to build skills, economic activities and new energy jobs.

Cooperation between NREL and Tenerrdis will range from an exchange of expertise, to participation in joint projects and research. A strengthened working relationship between researchers in France and the U.S. will bolster efforts in tackling common energy efficiency and renewable energy challenges.

In addition, both organizations will also support each other in the area of technology transfer by fostering partnerships between the public and private sectors to advance the commercialization and deployment of clean energy technologies.

“NREL is eager to begin work under the Tenerrdis memorandum of understanding, because by working closely with our French counterparts we continue to create leadership opportunities for clean energy research and development that will benefit France, the U.S. and the entire world,” NREL Director Dan Arvizu said. “These

types of international partnerships help to accelerate research and development, resulting in faster deployment of renewable energy technologies in the global economy.”

Research Collaboration Recognized by French-American Chamber

As a result of the newly signed research agreement, Arvizu will receive an award for Outstanding Contribution to French-American Business and Research from the French-American Chamber of Commerce (FACC) on the evening of May 14 at The Westin Hotel Tabor Center. Claude Graff, executive adviser of New Energy Technologies at Schneider Electric France, also will be honored at the event.

The FACC, through its affiliate organization, the Colorado Rhone-Alpes Association (CORA) has promoted new research collaborations between NREL and renewable energy laboratories in France. CORA has supported an open business dialogue between Colorado and France since 2007, especially in the area of renewable energy.

NREL is DOE’s primary national laboratory for renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development. NREL is operated for DOE by The Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC.

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