

INSIDE: CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING BEGINS ON C4

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BUSINESS

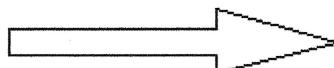
DOLLAR
ONE U.S. DOLLAR EQUALS
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INSIDE: Market roundup C2

TUESDAY
July 13, 2010



THE SAN DIEGO
UNION-TRIBUNE

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Two firms get funds for energy research

By O'Neill R. Soto, STAFF WRITER

Energy Secretary Steven Chu said Monday that two San Diego companies have qualified for \$8.4 million in federal stimulus grants for "shoot the moon" energy research.

General Atomics will get nearly \$2 million to work with the University of California, San Diego to develop a battery big enough to store power for utilities, in which chemicals would flow through cells as power is needed.

Counseling and Consulting Associates has landed \$400,000 to develop an air-conditioning system that uses air instead of exotic gases as its cooling fluid. It is working with Flometrics and On Target design.

The two companies are among 43 recipients that landed \$12 million in funding Monday.

"These are very radical ideas," Chu said in telephone conference call. "We are purposely looking for ideas that are not standard technology but are really shooting for the moon."

Chu said the grant amounts range from a few hundred thousand dollars to several million and are designed to help companies develop technology to a level that will get private investors interested.

"When you start a new project, even a couple of hundred thousand dollars is the difference between go and nogo," he said.

Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., who joined Chu on the call, said the grants—\$12 million of which went to companies in California—will spur job creation.

"These will be products made in America again," Boxer said.

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