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## **EDD Congratulates SkyFuel on DOE Award**

*\$4.3 million to be used towards cutting-edge concentrating solar power technologies*

SANTA FE- The New Mexico Economic Development Department applauds the announcement today that SkyFuel, Inc., of Albuquerque has been selected by the United States Department of Energy (DOE) as one of only 13 companies nationwide to receive funding for research, development, and demonstration of Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) systems capable of providing low-cost electrical power.

“I wish to heartily congratulate SkyFuel,” stated Green Jobs Cabinet Chair and Economic Development Department Cabinet Secretary Fred Mondragón. “We are pleased to see the Department of Energy recognizes that Governor Bill Richardson’s green energy leadership has established New Mexico as a place where meaningful energy breakthroughs are ready to be made.”

SkyFuel, Inc. of Albuquerque will receive up to \$4.3 million to pursue Concentrating Solar Power Component Feasibility Studies. The Department of Energy’s press release states that SkyFuel “will develop a low-cost CSP trough system with significantly larger dimensions than today’s troughs for use in baseload concentrating solar power generation. Increasing the operating temperature and output of CSP power plants that use a trough-shaped reflector to heat a receiving fluid will help make CSP a viable technology for baseload power.”

Overall, up to \$62 million will be awarded by the DOE over the next five years to the winning 13 companies. CSP technologies produce electrical power via turbines or engines that are driven by heat concentrated from the sun's energy. The goal is to improve designs and plants to the point that utility-scale CSP energy can displace traditional coal-burning power plants.

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