The University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Engine Research Center (ERC) will take part in $2.6 Million Award from ARPA-E for Transformational Energy Technology

Madison, WI – The University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Engine Research Center (ERC) announced today that it will take part in a $2.6 million award from the U.S. Department of Energy’s Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). The lead institution is ERC spinoff, Wisconsin Engine Research Consultants, WERC, LLC. The funding from this award will be used to develop generator technologies for residential Combined Heat and Power (CHP) systems.

“This funding will support the research necessary to develop small engine technologies that have the potential to significantly reduce fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions. At full implementation, residential CHP has the potential to decreases CO₂ emissions from the power generation sector by 10%”, said Prof. Sage Kokjohn, the principle investigator leading the Engine Research Center’s team.

WERC, LLC., UW-Madison’s Engine Research Center, Briggs & Stratton Corporation, and Adiabatics Inc. partnered to receive this competitive award from ARPA-E’s GENerators for Small Electrical and Thermal Systems (GENSETS) program, which will develop potentially transformational generator technologies to enable widespread deployment of CHP systems. Compared to conventional electricity generation and transmission, CHP requires significantly less fuel to meet a facility’s electricity and heating needs. Further development of CHP systems in the residential sector will lead to significant savings of energy, large reduction of CO₂ emissions, reduced fresh water withdrawal for electricity generation, and increased power reliability.

For additional information about The University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Engine Research Center (ERC) and this project, please visit www.erc.wisc.edu.

ABOUT
The Engine Research Center (ERC) is a world-leading research and educational institution dedicated to investigating the fundamental thermo-physical processes that control combustion performance and the pollutant emissions formed during combustion in internal combustion engines. The ERC includes seven (7) active faculty members and typically ~60 graduate students in addition to several full-time staff members. The annual research expenditures of the ERC have averaged approximately $3 million for the past 5 years.

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