

# Press Release



New Energy and Industrial Technology  
Development Organization

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## **MOU Concluded for Smart Grid Demonstration Project to be Carried Out on the Island of Maui in Hawaii**

**The New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) and the State of Hawaii signed a Memorandum of Understanding on November 22, 2011 for a smart grid demonstration project to be carried out on the island of Maui in the State of Hawaii. NEDO selected three companies, Hitachi, Ltd., Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd. and Cyber Defense Institute, Inc., to participate in the project, which will be conducted collaboratively by NEDO, the State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), Hawaiian Electric Company, Maui Electric Company, the University of Hawaii's Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, the County of Maui, the Maui Economic Development Board and other U.S. participating national laboratories and entities.**

Based on the Japan-U.S. Clean Energy Technologies Action Plan agreed at the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting in November 2009, a Memorandum of Cooperation among the U.S. Department of Energy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, the State of Hawaii and the Okinawa Prefecture creating the Hawaii-Okinawa Partnership on Clean and Efficient Energy Development and Deployment was concluded in June 2010. This collaborative smart grid demonstration project will be carried out based on the partnership. NEDO and the State of Hawaii began negotiations regarding the projects scope and how it would be formalized into MOU. Both parties agreed to undertake the project and to move forward and to complete the collaborative MOU, because a preliminary survey and project proposal received high evaluations. The duration of the project will be four years to FY2014, and the budget will be \$37 million.

NEDO, in cooperation with a number of U.S. participants, will research and demonstrate clean energy technologies on the island of Maui because of its unique characteristics. Maui has had substantial growth in distributed renewable generation, which causes unstable frequency variation and volatility. The project will establish and demonstrate a smart grid environment in Kihei as well as a system that can facilitate EV charging on Maui.

The Maui project is NEDO's second U.S. smart grid community demonstration project following a project still in progress in the State of New Mexico that started last year.

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