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Power Electronics Industry Collaborative awarded \$500,000 National Institute of Standards and Technology grant for Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia Program, NextEnergy receives sub award

Detroit, Mich., May 13, 2014 – The Power Electronics Industry Collaborative (PEIC) has been awarded a \$500,000, two-year grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia (AMTech) Program to fund their proposal titled "Strengthening the Domestic Power Electronics Ecosystem". NextEnergy, a leader in accelerating advanced technologies and PEIC member organization, will receive over \$300,000 as a sub award to support grant activities.

The AMTech program provides support to industry-driven consortia to develop plans that address challenges impeding advanced manufacturing in the United States. Funds provided through the AMTech program will help develop an in-depth understanding of the manufacturing and innovation capabilities of the nation's fragmented and diverse power electronics industry, and produce consensus-based

technology roadmaps to guide cooperative, pre-competitive research and workforce development efforts.

"We are elated to be engaged in this opportunity," said NextEnergy President and CEO, Jean Redfield.

"As an organization, PEIC serves an essential function within the power electronics industry. This award will allow both PEIC and NextEnergy to leverage the collective expertise of PEIC member organizations, among other industry stakeholders, to address opportunities for industry growth."

Other nations throughout the world have made significant investments to advance power electronics technologies and products that will have a lasting impact on a wide variety of markets and industries, including transportation, consumer electronics, energy storage, and renewable energy. The United States currently trails other nations in developing the ecosystem necessary to support competitive manufacturing of power electronics for the fast-growing global market.

The PEIC, a national consortium of original equipment manufacturers, suppliers, researchers, and other United States power electronics industry stakeholders, will address challenges facing the industry by:

- Convening the United States power electronics industry to assess and document the industry's current status and competitive position
- Analyzing how technology and policy drivers could provide opportunity for United States
 leadership in power electronics innovation and manufacturing
- Seeking consensus on detailed technology, product, and policy roadmaps that will enable industry stakeholders to cooperate on pre-competitive research and on achieving common market, policy, and workforce development goals

"We couldn't be more thrilled that the NIST has selected PEIC for this opportunity," said PEIC Board President, Mark Bellinger. "The AMTech Program will enable PEIC to conduct a thorough analysis of industry supply and value chains, ultimately strengthening the domestic power electronics ecosystem."

As a sub recipient of the award, NextEnergy will conduct the research and analysis required to develop detailed industry roadmaps.

"The AMTech Program has provided PEIC and NextEnergy with a critical opportunity," said NextEnergy Vice President, Industry and Venture Development, Dan Radomski. "The work completed through this program will address obstacles the United States power electronics industry currently faces in advanced manufacturing and innovation, and has the potential to make a significant impact on the economy in the United States and in Michigan."

About NextEnergy:

Founded in 2002 as 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, NextEnergy is one of the nation's leading accelerators of advanced energy technologies, businesses and industries. NextEnergy drives technology demonstration and commercialization; delivers industry and venture development services; and provides an authoritative voice in the public sector. Since its inception, NextEnergy has helped attract more than \$1.3 billion of new investment in the state of Michigan, including programs in excess of \$150 million in which NextEnergy has directly participated. For more information, visit nextenergy.org.

About the Power Electronics Industry Collaborative:

The Power Electronics Industry Collaborative (PEIC) is a national, industry-driven, membership-based consortium comprised of OEMs, suppliers, researchers, and other stakeholders working to advance the power electronics industry in the United States. PEIC's vision is to position the United States as the global center of power electronics research, design, and manufacturing. A membership-based organization, PEIC is governed by a Board of Directors from a cross section of the power electronics industry. For more information about PEIC, visit peic-us.org.

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