

Alix John  
1/23/2014  
Electrical Distribution Design, Inc.  
(540) 951-2753  
Alix-john@edd-us.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Electrical Distribution Design, Inc. Awarded Research Contract Instrumental to the Future of Solar Power.**

**Blacksburg, VA:** Electrical Distribution Design, Inc. has been hired by the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, which is part of the University of Hawaii, to analyze the effects of integrating smart grid technology into the existing Maui Electric Company grid. The Interconnection Requirement Study will evaluate the impacts of high penetration of distributed rooftop photovoltaic, or PV, systems that are connected to the study circuit and to determine what modifications or upgrades would be required to allow a higher penetration of PV systems in the future.

This contract is part of the Development and Demonstration of Smart Inverters for High-Penetration PV Applications project funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's SunShot Initiative. The project objectives include developing an advanced smart inverter to enable higher penetrations of residential solar power, lowering grid integration costs and increasing benefits to the utility and its customers. The State of Hawaii has an ambitious plan to achieve 70 percent clean energy by 2030, with 30 percent coming from energy efficiency measures and 40 percent coming from locally generated renewable resources under the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative.

**About Electrical Distribution Design, Inc.:** EDD, Inc. is a software product and engineering services company based in Blacksburg, VA. Their core software product is the Distributed Engineering Workstation. Electric utility clients use DEW to create detailed working models of utility distribution and transmission networks for use in engineering and operations. DEW provides advanced analytics that are important to their client's smart grid applications.