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The Manager
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BluGlass wins \$4.96 million government backing for solar cell project

Australian semiconductor innovator BluGlass Limited today announced that the company has been awarded \$4.96 million of Commonwealth Government funding to assist with the development and commercialisation of its high efficiency thin-film solar cell technology.

The Government backing is a major vote of confidence in BluGlass's technology. This will see Australian technology return to the forefront of solar innovation and adoption as Australia leads the way on climate change mitigation, said BluGlass CEO Giles Bourne today.

The funding is being executed between BluGlass and AusIndustry, which will provide the cash over 33 months on the basis that BluGlass matches the grant with its own expenditure.

The High-Efficiency Thin-Film Solar Cell project aims to develop a third generation photovoltaic technology for manufacturing high efficiency solar cells based on the compound semiconductor material, indium-gallium nitride (InGaN).

The project aims to produce technically advanced cells with greater efficiencies than any current solar cell at commercially competitive costs.

The project sets out to reduce the cost of harnessing solar energy that will result in more widespread adoption of solar technology, particularly by utilities as solar becomes more cost competitive relative to other renewable technologies and traditional non-renewable resources.

BluGlass has secured the funding under Climate Ready Program which is one of the three elements of the \$240 million Clean Business Australia initiative.

The Climate Ready program (\$75m over 4 years) is a competitive grants program providing grants from \$50,000 up to \$5m on a matching funding basis to support research and development, proof-of-concept and early-stage commercialisation activities to develop solutions to climate change challenges.

Following the successful capital raising in July, this grant further enhances BluGlass's ability to continue with its research and commercialisation program.

About BluGlass: BluGlass Limited is an Australian green technology company developed to commercialise a breakthrough in the Semiconductor Industry. BluGlass has invented a new process using Remote Plasma Chemical Vapour Deposition (RPCVD) to grow semiconductor materials such as gallium nitride (GaN) and indium gallium nitride (InGaN), crucial to the production of high efficiency devices such as next generation lighting technology Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) with significant low cost potential. BluGlass, through its subsidiary, BluSolar is now exploring the process viability in photovoltaic (solar) applications. The BluGlass process is a low temperature and low cost technology with the potential for inherent scalability.

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