

**Grant Round Application for LRC LXXIII(73)-C**

**TECHNICAL ADVISOR’S SUMMARY and RECOMMENDATION**

**LRC-LXXIII (73) – C**

**“Geomechanical Study of Harmon Lignite and Surrounding Rocks for  
Underground Coal Gasification in Western North Dakota”**

Submitted by: University of North Dakota Institute for Energy Studies;

Request for: \$242,729; Total Project Costs: \$485,712;

Principal Investigator: Zhengwen Zeng, Ph.D.;

Co-Principal Investigators: Steven A. Benson, Ph.D. and Scott F. Korom, Ph.D.;

Project Duration: Two Years.

**Description of the Project:**

The project team proposes to determine the feasibility of using underground coal gasification (UCG) to access currently un-economic lignite resources in North Dakota.

**Technical Advisor’s Recommendation: Fund**

Fund subject to the following:

- Matching Funding received from all the parties.
- Cost quoted for drilling is verified.
- Option for additional wells is considered and decision made based on consultation with Technical Advisor.

**Conflict of Interest:**

Great Northern Project Development