

R016-A: Renewable Energy Commodity Trading Educational Program
Submitted by North Dakota State University
Principal Investigator: William Wilson
Request for \$234,346; Total Project Costs \$468,692

Technical Advisor Comments

- All 3 reviewers recommended the project be funded.
- The 50% cash match comes from industry. Gavilon will provide \$101,407, and ADM will provide \$132,959.
- 1 reviewer wanted great justification as to why the computer lab is necessary.
 - The applicant has stated that licenses will be purchased that are tied to the individual work stations, and the work stations have special keyboards.
- 1 reviewer questioned how wind and electricity will fit into the curriculum.
 - Applicant has stated that initial emphasis will be on biofuel.
- 1 reviewer felt the budget needed to be increased.
 - Applicant has stated that costs were based on an internal cost analysis and is expected to meet the development demands.
- 1 reviewer stated "I can see students enrolling at NDSU specifically due to this program."
- All 3 reviewers felt the management plan was good.
- All 3 reviewers were very positive about PI's awareness of current research and background.
- 1 reviewer recommended that the program have a "disciplined system of annual internal and external program review."
 - Applicant has stated that NDSU's courses are regularly reviewed and updated.
- 1 reviewer stated, "...This project clearly fills a void in both the educational system and industry. This program will not only reap benefits for the state and companies that reside in ND, but will have national impact that reflects back to ND."
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Technical Advisor Recommendations

Fund. All 3 reviewers strongly endorsed the proposal. The match comes from industry, which strengthens the proposal. If successful, this proposal will provide critical education to build the industry and give a North Dakota university a competitive advantage in recruiting students.

Suggested Contingencies If Funded

- None.