



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

Wayne Stenehjem
Attorney General

Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

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Bank of North Dakota Announces Pilot Program to Address Affordable Housing Needs

BISMARCK – Bank of North Dakota (BND) is announcing a pilot program that will support community efforts to build affordable housing in oil country. This is an expansion of the Flex PACE Program already in place at the Bank. The counties eligible for this pilot are Divide, Burke, Williams, Mountrail, McKenzie, Golden Valley, Billings, Dunn, Stark, Slope, Hettinger, Bowman, Adams, Renville, Bottineau, Ward, McLean, and Mercer.

The special session of the North Dakota Legislature in 2011 directed BND to address the need for affordable housing in oil country. For the initial pilot program, \$3 million has been set aside. The results will be reviewed in the next legislative session.

The funds allow for an interest rate buy down up to a maximum of \$300,000 per project. The community where the housing is being built provides matching funds.

“This pilot program is designed to further target the need for affordable housing in our oil producing counties,” Gov. Jack Dalrymple said. “This program gives communities the lead role in determining their needs for affordable housing and how best to fund increased development of affordable housing.”

Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring states, “Communities will be able to designate who qualifies for the affordable housing program, such as law enforcement, elderly, teachers, or health care staff. The flexibility of the Affordable Housing Program is highly beneficial.”

This program is to be used for permanent financing of affordable multi-family housing units. “We recognize that the economic impact of the oil industry has changed the needs in many communities. This pilot program and the subsequent initiative that will develop from the pilot addresses these changes,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem.

The program guidelines include:

- Can be used in conjunction with the use of other state or federal programs targeted to affordable housing
- Maximum of \$25,000 of state interest buydown available per unit committed to affordable housing
- Program will be in effect until June 30, 2013
- Housing unit must be occupied as primary residence

“We hope to make our first loans available starting in April,” said BND President Eric Hardmeyer. “Local banks and developers have contributed to the guidelines that have been established and the initial feedback is very positive.”

Interested participants should visit with their local financial institution about the program. More information is available at www.banknd.nd.gov.

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