



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

John Hoeven
Governor

Wayne Stenehjem
Attorney General

Roger Johnson
Agriculture Commissioner

News Release

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For Immediate Release

North Dakota Industrial Commission thanks participants for their work on the FutureGen Facility Proposal

BISMARCK – The North Dakota Industrial Commission today expressed their disappointment in the North Dakota site at Gascoyne not making the final list of projects to host the \$1 billion FutureGen Facility.

“With our 800-year supply of lignite, a favorable business climate, abundant geologic storage opportunities for CO₂ and other resources, we submitted an exceptional site for the FutureGen facility,” said the commission members – Gov. John Hoeven, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson – in a joint statement. “Although we wish North Dakota had been chosen to continue in this selection process, we look forward to working with the FutureGen Alliance on this exciting demonstration project. We believe the background information gathered and documented in this process is valuable and will be put to good use. We know North Dakota’s lignite will play an important role in fueling the nation’s energy demands for decades to come.”

The Industrial Commission thanked Westmoreland Coal for working with the state in submitting the Gascoyne site for the FutureGen project. “Westmoreland not only offered a site, but actively participated in the development of the proposal. We appreciate all their efforts.”

Financial assistance for developing the proposal was provided through the Lignite Research Fund. The commission thanked the Lignite Research Council and Lignite Energy Council for their assistance. “We couldn’t have gotten the proposal done without the financial assistance and work provided by staff.”

The Industrial Commission also thanked the Energy and Environmental Research Center for its work in assembling the proposal. “Once again the staff of the EERC demonstrated their extensive expertise and knowledge in putting together an excellent proposal to host the world’s first coal-fueled, ‘zero-emission’ power plant. Our thanks to EERC Director Gerald Groenewold and his staff, especially Mike Jones who led this effort, for all their hard work and dedication to this project.”

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