



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM

Governor
John Hoeven
Attorney General
Wayne Stenehjem
Agriculture Commissioner
Doug Goehring

For Immediate Release

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\$1.1 million in grants supports new renewable energy projects

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Industrial Commission has approved \$1.1 million in research and development grants for four renewable energy projects.

“Supporting research and development of North Dakota renewable resources will continue to grow our economy both now and in the future,” said Gov. John Hoeven, Industrial Commission Chairman. “That means developing opportunities for wind as well as doing research that could bring about the development of renewable fuels from beets, a North Dakota crop.”

“These projects promote expanded use of North Dakota’s vast renewable energy resources, much of which is derived from agriculture,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “If successful, this research and development will result in large and important new markets for our crops, contributing to the sustainability and growth of our rural economy.”

“The Industrial Commission is committed to providing research and development funding for not only the traditional energy sources found in North Dakota but to the new expanding opportunities in the area of renewable energy,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem.

The grants include:

- \$225,000 to Dakota Salts, LLC for feasibility studies on using salt caverns for compressed air energy storage (CAES) from wind energy. If successful, CAES could store wind energy, releasing it as demand grows.
- \$165,000 to Green Vision Group to develop an energy beet biofuel industry in the state. The project will target the Oakes, Carrington, Hannaford, Turtle Lake, and Williston areas.
- \$225,000 to North Dakota State University to equip a biomass testing laboratory. The lab will establish a database of standard performance characteristics for a variety of biomass crops as a resource for attracting industry investment in North Dakota.
- \$500,000 to the Energy & Environmental Research Center at University of North Dakota for a 1.7 million gallon-per-year, renewable oil refinery pilot plant. The plant will be located at the Tesoro Refinery in Mandan.

The four projects will cost an estimated \$7.9 million, mostly from private industry and federal sources.

The Renewable Energy Program promotes North Dakota's renewable energy industries through research, development, marketing, and education. Three grant rounds are held each year. The next application deadline is May 1.



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For more information on these projects or the program, contact Karlene Fine (701-328-3722) or Andrea Holl Pfennig (701-328-2687) or visit www.nd.gov/ndic/renew-infopage.htm.

The North Dakota Industrial Commission, consisting of Governor John Hoeven, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, oversees the Renewable Energy Program.

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