



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

Wayne Stenehjem
Attorney General

Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

NEW

July 28, 2015

NORTH DAKOTA INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION SUPPORTS NEW RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Industrial Commission has approved \$850,000 in research and development grants for two renewable energy projects. The projects involve research and development of renewable energy technologies and processes that have strong growth potential in North Dakota.

The Legislature established the renewable energy grant program in 2007 to provide funding for research, development, marketing and education to foster growth of renewable energy including wind, biofuels, biomass, solar, hydroelectric, geothermal and hydrogen.

“These two projects are examples of research that enhance renewable energy by utilizing our own North Dakota agricultural projects as well as building on our work to advance North Dakota’s unmanned aerial systems (UAS) industry,” said the Commission in a joint statement. “Both of these projects could lead to manufacturing opportunities here in the state.” The North Dakota Industrial Commission, consisting of Governor Jack Dalrymple, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, oversees the Renewable Energy Program.

The projects are:

c2renew – Fargo, ND

Amount awarded: \$500,000

Total Project Costs: \$1,250,000

c2renew combines agriculture's leftovers such as sunflower hulls, oat hulls, sugar beet pulp and flax stalks with plastics to create biocomposites that can be used in a number of applications. Expected results of the project include expanded production from 520,000 pounds of material to 6 million pounds of material per year, increased throughput rate, lower production costs, expanded compounding capabilities, and new customers and market growth. Ultimately, the applicant plans to establish a production facility in Colfax.

Packet Digital – Fargo, ND

Amount awarded: \$350,000

Total Project Costs: \$1,000,000

Packet Digital is a pioneer in using autonomous system-level power management to achieve dramatic power savings. The unique, industry-leading, patented architecture is flexible and portable across multiple applications, from laptops to handsets, and from servers to embedded devices.

The overall goal of this project is to create a solar soaring power management system for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) to initially double fly times and ultimately provide unlimited endurance powered by solar energy. This project has the potential to create manufacturing opportunities in North Dakota for a variety of products including solar arrays and UAS along with product development opportunities for ND companies.

Three grant rounds are held each year. The next application deadline is September 1.

For more information on these projects or the program, contact Karlene Fine (701-328-3722) or Andrea Holl Pfennig (701-328-5300) or visit www.nd.gov/ndic/renew-infopage.htm.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT
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