



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

John Hoeven
Governor

Wayne Stenehjem
Attorney General

Roger Johnson
Agriculture Commissioner

News Release

October 24, 2007

For Immediate Release

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION APPROVES RENEWABLE ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The North Dakota Industrial Commission, at a recent meeting, acted on the recommendations from the Renewable Energy Council regarding guidelines for a Renewable Energy Grant program. The program was created by the 2007 Legislature to promote the growth of North Dakota's renewable energy industries through research, development, marketing and education.

"We have seen real progress in our efforts to grow the renewable energy industry in North Dakota, but there's more work to be done," said Gov. John Hoeven, Chairman of the Industrial Commission. "The new research, development and commercialization this program provides will help us and the Commission take our Empower North Dakota plan to the next level."

Two rounds of grants will be approved each year with the first application deadline set for Dec. 1, 2007. The deadline for the next round will be May 1, 2008. The maximum grant amount allowed is \$500,000 and any entity receiving a state grant must match the funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Any person, corporation, partnership, cooperative, association or consortium is eligible to apply. Projects can involve education, research, development, or marketing of renewable energy resources.

"This program is modeled after Industrial Commission's successful research and development programs targeting lignite, oil and gas," said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. "Research in renewable energy is growing and North Dakota, with its vast resources, can be a key player in partnership with the private sector."

"The development of the 'next generation' of renewable energy holds great opportunity for North Dakota agriculture and other industries," said Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson. "This research program will help leverage efforts to develop new technologies and products."

Interested applicants should contact Justin Dever of the North Dakota Department of Commerce at 328-5300 or go the Renewable Energy Council's website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/renew-infopage.htm> for policies and application procedures.

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