

Renewable Energy Action Summit



Contacts: Brenden Timpe (Dorgan) 202-224-2551

Brandi Pelham (Hoeven) 701-328-2200

ENERGY SUMMIT TO FOCUS ON N.D. RENEWABLES

Senator Dorgan, Governor Hoeven invite former DOE official to Bismarck

(BISMARCK, N.D.) - Energy industry stakeholders, elected officials and educators from around the region will gather in Bismarck on June 1 to discuss North Dakota's role in America's renewable energy future.

The upcoming Renewable Energy Action Summit at Bismarck State College's new National Energy Center of Excellence building will emphasize reducing the country's dependence on foreign oil, increasing energy efficiency, and job creation.

As part of the discussion, event hosts Governor John Hoeven and Senator Byron Dorgan announced today that former U.S. Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Andy Karsner will be the keynote speaker.

The event will also include discussions and workshops on Smart Grid technology, local renewable energy potential, and contemporary energy public policy.

"North Dakota can produce vast amounts of renewable energy. Our state is in a key position to help reduce America's dependence on foreign oil, creating homegrown, good-paying jobs along the way," Senator Dorgan said. "I'm looking forward to discussions at this event and am very excited about former Assistant Secretary Karsner coming to share his views on renewable energy."

"I want to welcome Andy Karsner as this year's keynote speaker at our Renewable Energy Action Summit," Governor Hoeven said. "North Dakota is rich in both traditional and renewable energy resources, and it is important that we continue to explore new ways and develop new technologies to use those resources as efficiently as possible. North Dakota is quickly becoming a foremost leader in energy development, and we welcome this opportunity each year to share new ideas and information to ensure this industry continues growing."

The Renewable Energy Action Summit is open to the public. To register, visit <http://www.bismarckstate.edu/energysummit>, email BSC.CETI@bsc.nodak.edu or call 1-877-846-9387. The cost is only \$30.

-MORE-

Other co-hosts for this event include BSC and Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson.

The 2009 Renewable Energy Action Summit is part of Governor Hoeven's EmpowerND initiative, the state's comprehensive energy policy, and Senator Dorgan's Great Plains Energy Corridor. These initiatives are aimed at bolstering energy production in North Dakota to create good-paying jobs and help America reduce its dependence on foreign sources of energy.

-END-