

Industrial Commission of North Dakota



Kelly Armstrong
Governor

Drew H. Wrigley
Attorney General

Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

For Immediate Release

March 25, 2025

Industrial Commission awards over \$2.8 million for Lignite Research, Development and Marketing Program

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Industrial Commission today approved more than \$2.8 million in grants during the latest grant round for the Commission’s Lignite Research, Development and Marketing Program. The funding for this program is generated from lignite severance tax as well as oil and gas production tax revenue. The program supports the growth of North Dakota’s lignite industry through research and education.

In a joint statement, the Industrial Commission, consisting of Gov. Kelly Armstrong, Attorney General Drew Wrigley and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, stated, “The projects approved today demonstrate the Commission’s continued commitment to position North Dakota as the nation’s leader in energy-related innovation. We are grateful for the work of the project sponsors and look forward to the positive impact these projects will have on advancing the state’s energy goals.”

The approved Lignite Research projects include:

- \$1.5 million to the Energy & Environmental Research Center in Grand Forks for Phase II of the Carbon Ore, Rare Earth and Critical Minerals (CORE_CM) Initiative
- \$1,325,000 to the Lignite Energy Council for The Regulatory & Litigation Support Project for the North Dakota Lignite Industry.

The next submission deadline for the Lignite Research, Development and Marketing Program is April 1, 2025. Any person, corporation, partnership, cooperative, association or consortium of such parties is eligible to apply for program funding. Funds are required to be matched by private dollars. Information about the program may be found on the Industrial Commission’s website at <https://www.ndic.nd.gov>.

-30-