

NEWS RELEASE



BYRON DORGAN

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ACTION SUMMIT TO FOCUS ON BOOSTING RENEWABLE ENERGY IN N.D.

Top national energy official will keynote event

(BISMARCK, N.D.) - Energy industry stakeholders, elected officials and educators will gather in Bismarck on June 14 to discuss North Dakota's role in the nation's renewable energy future.

The upcoming Renewable Energy Action Summit at Bismarck State College will emphasize the importance of reducing America's dependence on foreign oil, increasing energy diversity, expanding job creation and showcasing the latest innovations in energy development.

U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.) announced today that Dr. Kristina Johnson, the Under Secretary of Energy, will be one of the keynote speakers. Johnson plays a critical role in directing the nation's renewable energy portfolio, and Dorgan said her presence at the conference underscores North Dakota's success - and its potential - as a renewable energy powerhouse for the nation.

"North Dakota is one of America's energy leaders, placing our state in a key position to help increase our nation's energy security," Dorgan said. "This event is about generating more energy opportunities to help with that mission, while creating more good-paying jobs in the state."

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 \$35.

Dorgan will co-host this event with the Great Plains Energy Corridor office, Bismarck State College, the North Dakota Alliance for Renewable Energy, and engineering firm Kadrmass, Lee and Jackson.

The 2010 Renewable Energy Action Summit is part of Dorgan's strategy to continue advancing energy production in North Dakota. The senator is a senior member of the U.S. Senate's Energy and Natural Resources Committee and chairs the Senate's Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee. In 2005, Dorgan launched the Great Plains Energy Corridor initiative - a plan aimed at bolstering energy production in North Dakota to create good-paying jobs and help America reduce its dependence on foreign sources of energy.

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