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For more information on the work of the Illinois Development Council, log on to its website at www.ildevelopmentcouncil.org.

For a list of IDC's leadership team, click the following link. [IDC Board of Directors](#).

IDC GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES TAKE FORM

The Governmental Affairs Committee received an excellent response to the first public policy survey which was sent out to members last month. We appreciate and need your interest and involvement ... **you, the members, are the impetus for our agenda and focus.** It is important that we hear from you and you responded. GA Co-Chairs Lori Clark and Janet Mathis are in the process of using this information to divide the GA committee into subject matter sub-committees. You'll hear more from us on this later. Please let us know if you would like to be involved.

You will be receiving a second survey from us in the next two weeks. This information will focus on drilling down on further details for our subcommittees and learning more about our members expertise. Thank you in advance for considering and responding to this.

Finally, we will be holding Governmental Affairs Advocacy Training sessions in each region in tandem with a Social Media presentation being put on by the Education Committee. More information on this is also forthcoming, but you will want to hold one of the following dates on your calendar to attend these informative session:

November 13 – Southern Region – Metro East
 November 23 – Central Region, Champaign-Urbana
 December 1 – Northern Region, LaSalle-Peru
 December 2 – Metro Region, Hoffman Estates

Watch your inbox next week for registration information. Space will be limited so register early.

IDC MEMBER IS HONORED BY IEDC

Mark Rotherth, Executive Director of the Spoon River Partnership for Economic Development in Canton, IL, was recognized as an economic development leader by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) at its 2009 annual conference in Reno, Nevada, October 4-7, 2009. Mark has been a member of IDC since 2007.

Rotherth was presented the organization's **New Economic Developer of the Year Award**. *"The New Economic Developer of the Year Award honors an individual for outstanding achievements at the dawn of his or her economic development career. Mr. Rotherth has spearheaded many successful endeavors since entering into the economic development profession and is aptly deserving of this award,"* said Ian Bromley, IEDC chairman.

In his capacity as executive director of the Spoon River Partnership, Mr. Rotherth's efforts span the scope of business development and attraction, community marketing, tourism development, and downtown revitalization. He has built a close working relationship between the public, private and nonprofit sectors to advance economic development in his community. Since starting in 2005, Mr. Rotherth has been responsible for several initiatives including the grass roots organization of Canton Main Street; downtown historic preservation and revitalization; securing nearly \$5 million in federal and state grants; and helping attract the world's largest private medical device manufacturer, Cook Medical Inc., to revitalize a brownfield site and create up to 300 new jobs.

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is headquartered in Washington, DC. Its

mission is to provide leadership and excellence in economic development for communities, members and partners. IEDC's professional economic development awards annually recognize excellence in the economic development profession.

ILLINOIS ENERGY PLAN

The Illinois Energy Office administers a portfolio of programs designed to encourage investment in the development of Illinois' Green Economy including renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, green buildings, biofuels, and more.

The additional funding under the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for the State Energy Program will allow DCEO to develop new programs and expand current programs in order to fund cost-effective energy projects that create and retain Illinois jobs, reduce energy consumption (and costs), increase renewable energy capacity, reduce green house gas emissions, and leverage private funds.

Illinois Energy Plan is the most comprehensive and innovative program to date to address the state's energy needs. This investment is important to the state's overall economic recovery and will strengthen Illinois' position as a leader in Sustainable, Clean, Renewable, American Energy.

RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION PROGRAM

(Following are some of the programs available along with funding application deadlines.)

Electric Power and Renewable Energy

Illinois boasts significant potential for renewable power generation: wind, solar, biogas, biomass and hydro-electric production offer both economic and environmental benefits. This program is designed to foster the investment in and the development and use of renewable energy resources to generate significant amounts of clean, renewable, American-made energy that can be generally sold into the electricity market. Facilitation of such investment in renewable energy projects will bring strong economic development benefits including new income streams, new jobs, new investment, and new property tax revenues for local governments.

Applications due October 26, 2009.

Community Renewable Energy Program

While a number of utility-scale wind projects are under development in Illinois, so-called medium scale, "Community Renewable Energy" projects are not financially viable without assistance. This program is targeted at solar, wind, and other renewable energy projects that provide energy for the applicants' own energy needs. Eligible applicants include cooperative electric utilities, schools, universities, local governments, not-for-profit organizations and businesses.

DCEO also offers technical assistance, through the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs at Western Illinois University, to potential applicants to answer questions regarding renewable energy systems, to assist with project conceptualization and pre-planning, assist with the application process, and provide other technical assistance. This assistance may also be on specific technical issues such as best practices for project siting, zoning and permitting issues, transmission interconnect and queuing issues, wind monitoring and wind resource assessment, and economic and financial impact analysis. For assistance, please contact the Institute at 309-298-2684 or f-iutzi@wiu.edu. **Applications due October 26, 2009.**

MANUFACTURING

Green Industry Business Development Program

The focus of the Green Business Development Grant Program is to support domestic renewable energy and energy efficiency adoption through the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency businesses and component manufacturers, producers of dedicated biomass crops, and the manufacturers of recycled content products. The Program targets projects that develop and expand these manufacturing sectors and corresponding supply chains while improving the economy of the State through new business development. Manufacturers or producers funded through this Program will expand Illinois' capabilities to support further development of markets for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and recycled content products. Expanded supply for these markets will reduce energy usage, expand renewable energy production, divert material from municipal solid waste landfills, and reduce GHG emissions in Illinois. **Applications due October 26, 2009.**

BIOFUELS

Next Generation Biofuels Production Program

A number of technological improvements are now available that can be used to improve the environmental aspects and resource efficiency of biofuels manufacturing processes. This program is designed to support the adoption of critical improvements. Eligible projects are those that plan to adopt technologies that increase the overall efficiency of the renewable fuel production process or reduce the overall full life-cycle greenhouse gas

emissions of the renewable fuel produced. Such processes include measures that:

- Improve water conservation
- Improve energy conservation
- Add value to bio-fuel co-products and bi-products
- Adopt fractionation processes
- Utilize corn fiber conversion
- Utilize cellulosic conversion

Applications due October 26, 2009.

For more information on any of the above programs, please contact the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity/Bureau of Energy & Recycling 800.785.6055.

http://www.illinoisbiz.biz/dceo/Bureaus/Energy_Recycling/Economic+Stimulus/Illinois+Energy+Plan.htm

HB4599 PASSES ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Illinois House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed legislation initiated by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association that exempts companies from paying sales tax on electricity and natural gas used in the manufacturing process. If passed into law, Illinois will join each if of its neighboring states in offering an incentive to help lower energy costs to encourage job retention and additional investment in the state..

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