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Project Proposals for Funding

Under the American Economic Recovery
and Reinvestment Act of 2009,

as requested by

Idaho Executive Order 2009-06, signed February 17, 2009
by Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter

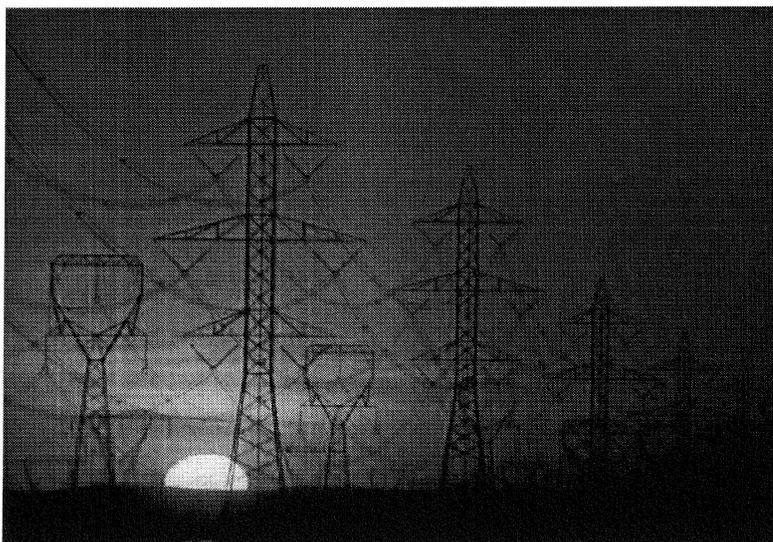
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Eastern Idaho is becoming the nation's focus for innovative Energy development and production initiatives accompanied by the resurgence of specialized products and techniques in Advanced Manufacturing. The growth of each of these industries has the potential to transform our regional economy. Recognizing the valuable opportunities ahead, dedicated leaders in Education, Industry and Economic and Workforce Development organized the Regional Workforce Innovation Team (RWIT) and are now creating a Strategic Plan, or "Blueprint," that charts our course for a networked approach toward global competition and regional success.

We are engaged in a measured and deliberate planning effort to accomplish benchmarked economic improvements, initially to support three targeted industry clusters: Energy, Advanced Manufacturing and Medical/Healthcare.

These industries provide high-pay/high-growth jobs and an environment for creating numerous spin-off and support businesses. Our advancements in energy production have worldwide implications. Our manufacturing of exportable products brings new money into the economy. The



efficient utilization of our resources creates a multiplier effect for increasing personal wealth, poverty reduction, new tax revenue generation, infrastructure construction and ultimately, provides incentives for additional investment in our families, businesses and communities. This regional approach recognizes that every individual and every entity plays a critical role in the success of eastern Idaho.

The key to attracting and retaining high-tech industries to our area is a well-educated and highly-skilled workforce. Studies repeatedly report that a lack of qualified applicants is a primary barrier to business expansion. Our RWIT activities focus on K-16 students and adult education. Through the joint efforts of our team members, we develop student interest in STEM learning, efficient utilization of technology, career pathways, and post-secondary training. We also assist low-income and underemployed individuals with the basic and advanced skills they need to become highly productive workers.

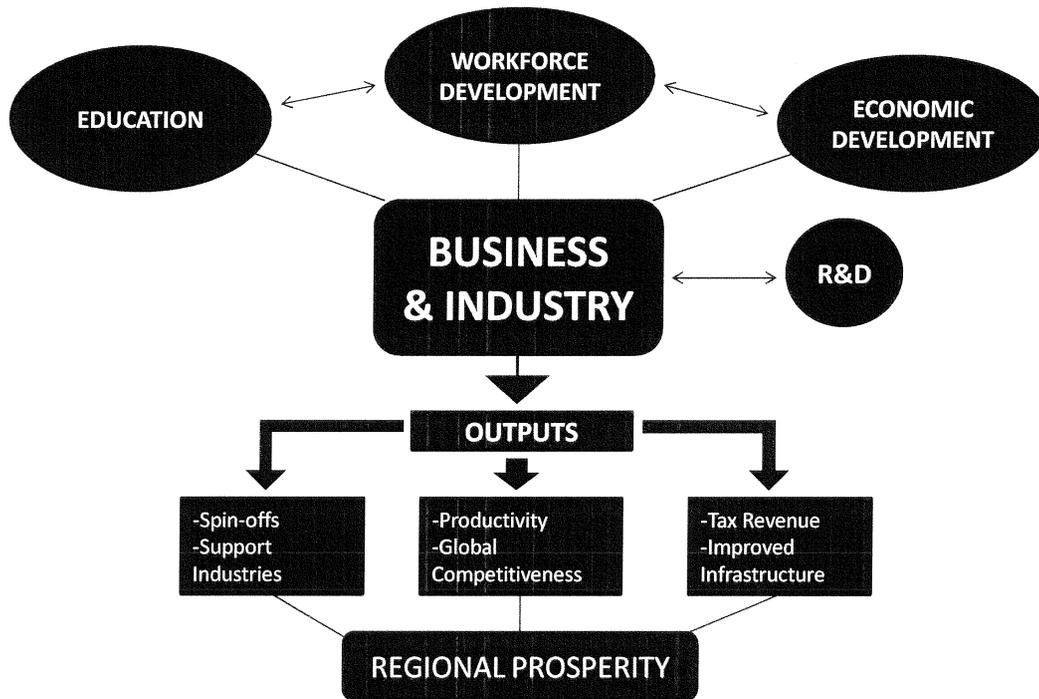
The RWIT organization is funded by a Regional Innovation Grant (RIG) from the U.S. Dept. of Labor-ETA and administered through the Idaho Dept. of Labor. RWIT is also supported by a proactive and growing list of stakeholders from public, private and non-profit entities which include: The Development Co., Partners for Prosperity (P4P), Idaho National Laboratory (INL), the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES), Idaho State University College of Technology (ISU), Eastern Idaho Technical College (EITC), Basic American Foods, The Entrepreneurial Center of Eastern Idaho (E-Center), EPIC Ventures, TECHHELP (ISU), Idaho Dept. of Labor, Bingham Co. Economic

Development, the Community Council of Idaho, and many other city, county and state officials and legislators as well as numerous Superintendents, Principals and Educators throughout Region 5 and 6.

Because funding may become available through the American Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, (Act) we are submitting *very* brief outlines of proposed projects which further the missions of our organization and those of our Team Members who requested that we include their proposals herein. Since the final version of the Act has not been published, and additional rule making has not yet ensued, we cannot cite the specific provisions, programs or dollar amounts slated for expenditure; but generally, all proposals listed originate from express provisions in the House Bill, H.R.-1, dated Jan. 6, 2009 and referenced in www.Recovery.gov, the Whitehouse website, (this is the best information we can find, even though we are fully aware of its limitations).



REGIONAL SUCCESS MODEL



Our proposed programs are connected to expenditures designated to the following federal agencies: The Dept. of Labor (WIA programs for adult education, dislocated workers, summer and high-risk youth programs and workforce development); the Dept. of Education (funding for school computer and science labs and technology training for teachers); the Dept. of Energy and the National Science Foundation (activities for technology-transfer, renewable and fossil energy development, nuclear energy production and training for electric grid workers), and; the Dept. of Commerce (economic development programs);

Timelines regarding the availability, disbursement and final utilization of funds is insufficient for objective reporting and analysis. Each proposed project states whether it is ready for immediate implementation or can be started and completed within a 12-24 month window. In those instances where ongoing funding is necessary, other sources of investment from the public and private sectors will be procured or the activity will be suspended or scaled back to its previous levels.

We anticipate that the Idaho Dept. of Labor will continue to administer any Act funds through existing channels and personnel with either no additional personnel or temporary staffing provided by the program funding itself. No additional spending authority is expected for expending the federal funds. Since the Act is not yet published, or otherwise available for public scrutiny, we cannot address specific issues of state match, cost-sharing or percentage limitation provisions but will consult with the state prior to requesting any funds containing such provisions. Federal reporting and oversight requirements will undoubtedly be mandated, but we are unable to address them due to lack of available information.

Our programs are not fully developed. We are involved in a deliberate process. We continue to foster new partnerships and anticipate many new strategies and functions as our organization matures and additional funding becomes available, but for now, these proposals provide opportunity for immediate results. RWIT anticipates that most of its implementation activities would be funded by a WIRED Grant (included herein for illustration purposes), but if we do not receive one, many of these proposals could be accomplished through this alternative "Stimulus Bill" funding.

The nature of our programs may not produce many new jobs, but they will train hundreds of workers, expose thousands of students and parents to the opportunities available in our targeted industries and will accomplish our federal and state funded directives to stimulate business growth, increase educational attainment, develop workforce and student technology skills, raise the standard of living for diverse and underrepresented populations and otherwise produce a transformative economic impact within eastern Idaho.

As more information becomes available and specific directives flow down from the relevant federal and state agencies, we will be happy to provide the **detailed** information needed for the competitive application for any available funding. Please refer to the chart below for our program proposals.

Proposed Project	Fed Agency with Allocation	Budget	Implementation and Duration	Jobs Created	# Served
Equipment needed for updating current advanced manufacturing, fabrication and welding worker training programs in area tech colleges.	Energy/Labor	\$100,000	Immediate	NA	100's of students

Proposed Project	Fed Agency with Allocation	Budget	Implementation and Duration	Jobs Created	# Served
Summertime, "hands-on", metal design, fabrication and finishing school for high school students. Purchase CAD, computers, materials and supplies for instruction.	Labor	\$20,000 for equip. and materials. Instruction donated	Summer 2009 and 2010	3 PTE	2 Sessions 20 students per session
"Young Einstein's" program. Unique science experiences for grade school students and parents which creates interest in STEM activities and education. Funds will provide equipment, supplies, instructional materials and travel.	Energy	\$70,000 for Manager, \$30,000 materials, etc.	Immediate continuing through funding period	1 FTE	1000's of students and parents
Proposed "technical high school" - Supplemental instructors and equipment for joint program in existing facilities for three area high schools focused on training in auto mechanics, welding, fabrication, and technology.	Labor/ Education/ Energy	\$50,000 for equipment, \$200,000 for instructors	Begin program Fall 2010-purchase equip. in 2009	2 FTE	Approx. 120 in first 2 yrs. - 100's thereafter
Publish and distribute STEM survey results and presentations to educators and the public to stimulate interest in STEM education and progression toward advanced training.	Labor/ Commerce	\$5,000 for materials, publishing	Immediate	1 PTE	Will present to >2000 faculty and business
Technology Skills Development and Industry Essentials courses for economically challenged and non-college bound workforce.	Labor	\$200,000 total program costs	Begin Fall 2009	4 FTE	50 students per course
STEM initiatives, classroom project development and training modules for distribution to educators at low or no cost. Tools will help teachers and develops student interest in science, technology, engineering and math.	Energy	\$20,000 for project tools and supplies	Begin Fall 2009	NA	200 tool kits - will impact 1000's of students
STEM teacher development training workshops - Facilities, supplies, instruction, and travel.	Energy	\$150,000 wages, materials, travel	Begin Fall 2009	1 FTE	Train 250 Teachers
Expand current Professional Technical Education Program including C.N.A., LPN, RN and healthcare Pathways and Articulation programs between area high schools and EITC.	Labor	\$100,000, rent, instruction, materials	Begin Fall 2009	2 FTE	Serve 50 students per semester

Proposed Project	Fed Agency with Allocation	Budget	Implementation and Duration	Jobs Created	# Served
Expand outreach to manufacturers for consulting services on safety, efficiency, and cost reductions for improving competitive position in conjunction with larger manufacturing and energy initiatives.	Labor/ Commerce	\$100,000 with business match req'mts	2 years	4 FTE	20 business per year – impact 100's of workers
Fund RWIT implementation phase, economic and workforce development initiatives as contemplated by USDOL-ETA and IDOL by receipt of a WIRED Grant.	Labor	\$5-10 million	Begin immediately-full implement with full funding	2 FTE	
Create and maintain an Asset Map website as a marketing tool with valuable demographic, workforce and resource availability information to attract new businesses to eastern Idaho.	Labor	\$10,000 website, research and maintenance costs	Immediate	1 PTE	Goal of 1000 visitors per month min.
Eastern Idaho Entrepreneurial Center. Expand BYU-I and ISU student-lead consultation to communities and businesses to overcome challenges to growth and development.	Commerce	\$200,000 rent, admin., travel-business match req.mts	Immediate	10 Interns and 100 student consultants	Approx. 100 business per year
Loan funding for remodel and repair of existing small business development centers to meet needs of business and develop job growth in eastern Idaho.	Energy/ Commerce	\$2 Million	Immediate – Funds revolve	50 FTE	Positive impact in local job creation
Create Revolving Loan Fund for gap financing to assist promising entrepreneurs and stimulate business growth for tech transfer in our targeted industries.	Energy/ Commerce	\$2 Million	Funds revolve in perpetuity	57 FTE	Lead to creation of 100's of new jobs

Thank you.