

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with House Amendments  
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2249**

Introduced by

Senators Holmberg, Bekkedahl, Meyer

Representatives Mock, J. Nelson, Porter

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact sections 15-11-40 and 57-51.1-07.9 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the state energy research center and the state energy research center  
3 fund; to provide a continuing appropriation; to provide a report; and to provide an expiration  
4 date.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 15-11-40 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as  
7 follows:

8 **15-11-40. State energy research center - Report.**

9 1. The state energy research center at the university of North Dakota energy and  
10 environmental research center is created for the purpose of conducting exploratory,  
11 transformational, and innovative research that advances future energy opportunities  
12 and benefits the state's economy and environment through:

13 a. Exploratory research of technologies and methodologies that facilitate the  
14 prudent development, and clean and efficient use, of the state's energy  
15 resources;

16 b. Greater access to energy experts for timely scientific and engineering studies to  
17 support the state's interests; and

18 c. Education and outreach related to the state's energy resources.

19 2. The state energy research center shall report all research activities and  
20 accomplishments annually to the interim legislative energy development and  
21 transmission committee and to the industrial commission. Upon request, the state  
22 energy research center shall report all research activities and accomplishments to the  
23 appropriations committees of the legislative assembly.

- 1       3. To effectuate the purposes of this section, the energy and environmental research  
2       center may:
- 3       a. Select the research topics and projects to be pursued;  
4       b. Enter contracts or agreements with other North Dakota institutions of higher  
5       education to support select research topics and projects;  
6       c. Enter contracts or agreements with federal, private, and nonprofit organizations  
7       to carry out selected research topics and projects; and  
8       d. Accepting donations, grants, contributions, and gifts from any source to carry out  
9       the selected research topics and projects.
- 10      4. The state energy research center may not conduct research or pursue projects that  
11      will result in the exploration, storage, treatment, or disposal of high-level radioactive  
12      waste in North Dakota.

13      **SECTION 2.** Section 57-51.1-07.9 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and  
14      enacted as follows:

15      **57-51.1-07.9. State energy research center fund - Continuing appropriation.**

16      The state energy research center fund is a special fund in the state treasury. Before  
17      depositing oil and gas gross production tax and oil extraction tax revenues under section  
18      57-51.1-07.5, one percent of the revenues must be deposited monthly into the state energy  
19      research center fund, up to five million dollars per biennium. All moneys deposited in the state  
20      energy research center fund and interest on all such moneys are appropriated on a continuing  
21      basis to the industrial commission for distribution to the state energy research center. The state  
22      energy research center shall use the funds in accordance with section 15-11-40.

23      **SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through June 30, 2023, and after that  
24      date is ineffective.