

# EMPOWER



## EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION RECENT ACTIVITIES

JUNE 30, 2016, 2:30 P.M.

TAXATION COMMITTEE

ROUGH RIDER ROOM, STATE CAPITOL

SENATOR JESSICA UNRUH, CHAIRMAN

### ALAN ANDERSON – COMMISSIONER, ND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Good afternoon, Madam Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Al Anderson, Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Commerce and chairman of the EmPower North Dakota Commission.

At your meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup>, you received an update from subcommittee chairs from EmPower ND Commission. Since that time, the EmPower ND Commission held a joint meeting with the Energy Development and Transmission Committee on May 11<sup>th</sup>. The EmPower ND Commission provided four recommendations and offered to assist with any legislation the Energy Development & Transmission wished to pursue.

The four recommendations provided to the Energy Development & Transmission Committee included:

- Provide sales tax equity among fuel sources by removing the sunset on the sales tax exemption for wind powered electrical generation facilities.
- Provide incentives for the capture and use of carbon dioxide.
- Invest in foundational research relating to the state's energy resources.
- Invest in research and development for large-scale commercialization opportunities.

While the EmPower ND Commission stands ready to assist in further development of these recommendations into legislation, we have not yet received any requests to do so.

We also provided the Energy Development & Transmission Committee with copies of the *Spotlight on North Dakota Energy*. The Great Plains Energy Corridor worked with members of the EmPower ND Commission in preparing this update on the energy industry within the state.

Madam Chairman and members of the Taxation Committee, thank you for allowing me the time to visit with you today. That concludes my testimony and I am happy to entertain any questions.