



MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

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Senator Frank Barnitz Announces \$2.5 Million Pledge from Missouri Technology Corporation to Missouri S&T

JEFFERSON CITY – Missouri Technology Corporation (MTC) announced at the small business and entrepreneur summit recently hosted by Senator Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, that \$2.5 million in funding will be pledged to the Missouri University of Science and Technology. The funding would support the implementation of a solar energy hub in Rolla.

The university applied for a federal grant opportunity to establish a major innovation hub in Missouri in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy. The hub would utilize a highly collaborative team, spanning multiple scientific, engineering, economics, and public-policy disciplines to advance alternative energy, specifically solar energy. If the federal grant is awarded to Missouri S&T, the hub could receive more than \$100 million in federal dollars over the next five years.

“Missouri S&T greatly appreciates the support of Missouri Technology Corporation,” said Chancellor John F. Carney III. “Our technological research university is uniquely qualified to lead the important research proposed in the S&T solar energy grant application.”

The MTC board recently approved the \$2.5 million pledge through the MTC Opportunity Fund, a one-time funding opportunity passed by the Missouri General Assembly in 2007. “With the leading scientists at Missouri S&T and the tremendously skilled workforce in the greater Rolla community, we believe that this solar energy hub application will stand second to none,” said Jason Hall, Executive Director of the Missouri Technology Corporation. The funding shows Missouri’s support for the project and makes Missouri S&T’s application more competitive.

“This is an exciting opportunity for our community and for our state to be on the cutting edge of new technology and groundbreaking research,” said Sen. Barnitz. “With the state’s support of this project, we are sending the signal that Missouri is willing and able to get behind the solar energy hub. It is an economic development opportunity that would attract high-tech companies and 21st century jobs to our state.”

The grant deadline is at the end of March and the decision from the federal government should be announced within several months. The pledge from MTC is contingent on Missouri S&T receiving the grant.

About the MTC

The Missouri Technology Corporation was created by the Missouri General Assembly in 1994 and is charged by law with leading Missouri’s technology-based economic development programs. It is governed by a board of directors appointed by Missouri’s Governor, Speaker of the House, and President Pro Tem of the Senate, and includes the President of the University of Missouri system and the Director of the Department of Economic Development. MTC promotes entrepreneurship, fosters the growth of new high-tech companies, and leads efforts to expand Missouri’s high-tech clusters in areas such as plant science, animal health, information technology, applied engineering, and materials science. These clusters are often linked to Missouri’s historic strength and current leading position in agriculture. Further information is available at <http://www.missouritechnology.com/>.

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