

For Immediate Release

October 10, 2012

**Ohio Coal Development Technical Advisory Committee
Recommends Project Funding***Three projects to research coal industry improvements*

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Coal Development Office (OCDO) Technical Advisory Committee has recommended, and the Ohio Development Services Agency has approved, three projects for funding to research the clean use of Ohio coals. The project proposals were submitted in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) the OCDO released in August. The OCDO invests in the development and implementation of technologies that can use Ohio's vast reserves of coal in an economical, environmentally sound manner.

"The projects that we are funding will provide valuable research as the state and industry work to find ways to improve the efficiency and reduce the environmental impact of Ohio coal," said Chad Smith, deputy chief of the Ohio Development Services Agency's Office of Energy and director of the Ohio Coal Development Office.

The following projects have been approved for funding:

Battelle, located in Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$199,999 for its project: *Systematic Assessment of Wellbore Integrity for Geologic Carbon Storage Using Regulatory and Industry Information*. The project will review well records to determine categories of well integrity based upon well age, construction methods and materials. This information will be linked to field records of casing pressure to help facilitate the use of CO₂ in enhanced oil recovery and help locate suitable CO₂ storage fields throughout Ohio. The total project cost is more than \$1.7 million and Battelle is partnering with the U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory, BP Alternative Energy, and NiSource Gas Transmission and Storage.

Battelle, located in Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$150,000 for its project: *Simplified Predictive Models for CO₂ Sequestration Performance Assessment*. The project will develop and validate simplified modeling tools that would enable rapid feasibility and risk assessment of CO₂ sequestration projects. The total project cost is more than \$1 million and Battelle is partnering with U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory and Stanford University.

The Ohio State University, located in Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$1,643,820 for its project: *Reclamation of Ohio Coal Mine Sites Using FGD Byproducts: Phase III Demonstration Projects*. The objective of the project is to demonstrate in the field that the byproducts that are produced from scrubbing coal (stabilized sulfite FGD material and FGD gypsum) can be beneficially utilized in large-volumes for coal mine reclamation and to show how these byproducts can be used to remediate acid mine drainage at Ohio coal mine locations. The total project cost is more than \$6.7 million and Ohio State is partnering with Resource International, Baker's Enviro Services and Technology, Haley & Aldrich, AEP, GSE Environmental, Harold Walker and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Projects were identified through a public solicitation, and reviewed and scored by OCDO-contracted third-party reviewers. The RFP remains open and funding is still available for projects that develop technologies to improve coal combustion efficiency, reduce pollution emissions, develop productive uses for the by-products of coal combustion, or that investigate new processes that enable the efficient conversion of Ohio coal as a feedstock.

For more information about the Request for Proposal call (614) 466-6797 or visit http://development.ohio.gov/bs/bs_ohiocoaldev.htm.

*The **Office of Energy** works to grow the economy of the state by connecting companies and communities to financial and technical resources to increase energy efficiency and deploy advanced energy technologies.*

*The **Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA)** works with partners across business, government, academia, and the nonprofit sector to build strong communities that support job creation. The Agency provides financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio, ensuring a vibrant economic future for all Ohioans. Visit www.development.ohio.gov. Also, follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/OhioDevelopment and Twitter www.twitter.com/OhioDevelopment.*

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