

Local, State and Regional Resources

[AFAB USA](#)

A Swedish private business group wanting to establish manufacturing, sales and distribution in the USA with a connection to IRETI at MSU

[Agriculture Utilization Research Institute \(AURI\)](#)

An agricultural research organization that provides scientific and technical assistance to Minnesota industries and entrepreneurs

- Waseca site capabilities include testing ag co-products, pelletizing and other capabilities. The Waseca office also includes AURI's [co-products utilization lab](#). This facility helps develop products from such low value items as crop residue, animal manures and food processing waste
- Marshall site capabilities. AURI's Southwest office includes a fats and oils laboratory for research on new uses for plant oils and animal fats. It also includes a [meat lab](#) that is used to assist in food product development and safety training
- Crookston site capabilities. AURI's Crookston office includes the [state headquarters](#), a [product development lab](#) used in the creation of new food products from concept to finished product and a [fermentation and chemistry lab](#) for the research and analysis of industrial products and microbiology

[BioBusiness Alliance of MN](#)

An organization of people representing Minnesota companies, academia, and government, devoted to building the bioscience industry, retaining and creating jobs, and positioning Minnesota as a global leader in biobusiness with the ultimate goal of improving economic, health, social, and environmental well-being.

- [Destination 2025 publications](#) (vision documents, white papers, road map, etc.)
- [2010 Statewide industry assessment documents](#)

[Clean Energy Resource Teams \(CERTs\)](#)

The Clean Energy Resource Teams connect you with resources to identify and implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects

- [Technical resources](#) you need to identify and implement community-scale energy efficiency and renewable energy projects
- [Project planning resources](#) for organizing and catalyzing your efforts

[Iowa Economic Development Authority](#)

The Iowa Economic Development Authority has many programs and services to offer individuals, communities and business

- [Iowa Economic Development – Renewable Energy](#)

[MN Center for Energy and Environment \(MCEE\)](#)

Provides practical, innovative, energy solutions for homeowners, businesses, nonprofits, and government

- [Major industry sectors](#)
[Identifying effective biomass strategies: quantifying Minnesota's resources and evaluating future opportunities](#)
[Conservation and waste reduction](#)

Local, State and Regional Resources Cont.

[MN Department of Employment and Economic Development \(DEED\)](#)

DEED facilitates an economic environment to produce jobs and improve the quality of the state's workforce.

Major functions include:

- Support business creation, expansion, relocation, and retention in Minnesota
- Stabilize and stimulate the economy in times of downturn through benefit payments
- Support the workforce needs of Minnesota's businesses, workers, and communities

- [Renewable Energy](#)
 - [Clean Tech/Renewable energy specialist](#)
 - [Green business assistance](#)
- [Wind Power](#)
 - [Wind specialist](#)
 - [Supply chain](#)
 - [Great Lakes Wind Network \(GLWN\)](#)
 - [Wind industry fact sheets](#)

[MSU Center for Renewable Energy Resources](#)

College of CSET Computer, Science, Engineering and Technology at MSU

- Faculty listing
 - [Automotive testing labs](#)
 - Biomass research on various materials
 - [Water Resource Center](#)
 - Small wind testing facilities
 - Electric vehicles and hybrids
- Information on [International Renewable Energy Technology Institute \(IRETI\)](#)

[National Renewable Energy Laboratory](#)

Provide access to a variety of tools at the national level to help people with renewable energy ideas connect to resources to help them transfer their technology to a commercial solution. A national data base of information about renewable energy resources and maps to identify potential locations for renewable energy development

- [Technology partnership agreements](#)
- [Renewable resources maps and data](#)

[Office of Energy Security, MN Dept. of Commerce](#)

State custodians for the federal stimulus funds

- [Resources](#)

[U of M, Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment \(IREE\)](#)

Seeks out the most promising new renewable energy ideas and brings them to life

- [Regional sustainable development partnerships](#)

[U of M, Southern Research and Outreach Center](#)

Research at the Southern Research and Outreach Center includes the following areas: [Agronomy](#) | [Dairy and Beef](#) | [Horticulture](#) | [Nematology](#) | [Renewable energy & environmental engineering](#) | [Soil science and water quality](#) | [Swine](#) | [Weather information](#).

- [Waseca site capabilities and mission](#)
- [Other U of M Agricultural Experiment Station Research and Outreach Centers](#)

Renewable Energy Funding Sources

[AgStar Financial Services](#)

A cooperative, owned by client-stockholders, provides a broad range of financial services and business tools for agricultural and rural clients in Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin

- [Funding source for green businesses](#)

[Burrill Agbio Capital Fund, L.P.](#)

Burrill & Company is the general partner of the [Burrill Agbio Capital Fund, L.P.](#) ("Fund I"). Fund I invests in companies having bio-based technologies broadly applicable to the agricultural, food and chemical industries, at various stages of development. In general, most of the investments are in the early stage (though generally not "seed round" investments) through mezzanine stage, with the largest number of investments in Series A/B and mid-stage rounds. Fund I closed in 1998 and is capitalized at \$66 million.

[Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development \(DEED\)](#)

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- Support the workforce needs of Minnesota's businesses, workers, and communities
- [Business Development Funding](#)

[Minnesota Office of Grants Management](#)

Provides a single entry point to grant opportunities in Minnesota. Grant seekers can search for grant opportunities by state agency or by subject area

- [Agriculture](#) | [Energy](#) | [Environment](#) | [Science and Technology](#)

[Office of Energy Security, MN Dept. of Commerce](#)

State custodians for the federal stimulus funds

- [Grants and loan opportunities and resources](#)
- [Resources](#)

[Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation \(SMIF\)](#)

A catalyst for economic growth in 20 Minnesota counties, SMIF invests in emerging businesses and the emerging workforce

- [Financing & Services for Biobusiness](#)

[Two Rivers Angel Investors Network](#)

Two Rivers focuses its attention on the area surrounding Mankato, Minnesota with other interests where its members reside. The fund is part of the [RAIN Source Capital](#) network.

[U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy \(EERE\)](#)

Invest in clean energy technologies that strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and reduce dependence on foreign oil

- [Clean, renewable energy technologies](#)
 - [Solar](#) | [Wind](#) | [Water](#) | [Biomass](#) | [Geothermal](#) | [Hydrogen and fuel cells](#)
 - [Funding Opportunities](#)

South Central MN Renewable Energy/Materials Supply Chain

Renewable Energy and Agricultural Co-Products Business Development Group

- Companies in the area with renewable energy supply chain capabilities
 - [Ameristar Manufacturing](#) contract manufacturer providing metal stamping, machining, assembly, sheet metal fabrication, laser & water-jet cutting & CNC machining for energy efficiency and renewable energy applications
 - [CAB Construction](#), metal fabricators for energy efficiency and renewable energy applications
 - [Easy Energy Systems, Inc.](#), manufacturer modular ethanol production systems for converting biomass to gas and energy
 - [Environmental Technologies](#), proposing to manufacture and distribute anaerobic digesters to hog farmers that will convert their manure into biogases that can be used for heating and powering vehicles
 - [Jones Metal Products](#), metal fabricators for energy efficiency and renewable energy applications
 - [Kato Cable, Inc.](#) produces quality cable assemblies, wire harnesses and electro-mechanical assemblies for energy related applications of all sizes
 - [Kato Engineering](#), Wind industry supply-chain custom generation
 - [MICO, Inc.](#) designs and manufactures hydraulic components, controls, and brake systems primarily for off-road markets
 - [MidWest Biogas](#), proposing regional anaerobic digester facilities across the Midwest to convert animal and food processing waste into various forms of energy
 - [MTU Onsite Energy](#), diesel and fuel cell generation, combined heat and power systems (CHP)
 - [Natural Gas Turbine Technologies, Inc.](#), natural gas generators
 - [Pro-Fabrication, Inc.](#), metal fabricators for energy efficiency and renewable energy applications
 - [Schwickerts](#), daylighting and green roofing engineering & contracting
 - [Today's Alternatives](#), boilers and small wind sales & service
 - [Windings, Inc.](#), manufactures custom built electric motor/generators for use in a variety of applications including small wind and gas generators

Renewable Energy Workforce Resources

[Minnesota West Community and Technical College \(MNWEST\)](#)

Offers education programs to support the ethanol and wind energy industries

[Minnesota Renewable Energy Marketplace \(MNREM\)](#)

Industry-led consortium of economic development, workforce development, education and workforce leaders that provides the framework and commitment to transform the 36 county region of South Central, Southwest, and West Central Minnesota from primarily agriculture-dependent to a knowledge and innovation-based economy that capitalizes on the region's strength in agriculture and renewable energy.

Energy Efficiency Resources for Business

[American Council on Renewable Energy \(ACORE\)](#)

Focus on technology, finance and policy, ACORE promotes all renewable energy options for the production of electricity, hydrogen, fuels and end-use energy including: [Solar](#) | [Wind](#) | [Biofuel](#) | [Biomass](#)

- [Markets, economic development and policy overviews for each state in the US](#)

[DSIRE](#)

Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency

- [Database of MN incentives for renewables and efficiency](#)
- [National database of incentives for renewables and efficiency](#)

[Energy Matters Minnesota](#)

A diverse group of businesses and business-focused organizations in Minnesota that want to be informed about the impact of energy policies and emerging energy issues on businesses, consumers, and the state economy. The organization, led by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, also serves as a public information resource to individuals and organizations and is an advocate on energy issues.

[Energy Star Program](#)

Tools for consumers, businesses, schools and all entities to assist them in identifying opportunities for energy savings and taking action to continuously improve

- [Building and plants](#)
- [Tools and resources library](#)
- [Energy Star products for business](#)

[Minnesota Energy Smart](#)

Energy Smart helps Minnesota businesses find ways to save energy and connect to financial incentives

- [Energy efficiency audit program for small business](#)

[Minnesota Renewable Energy Society \(MRES\)](#)

Promotes the use of, and engages in advocacy for, renewable energies in Minnesota through education and through the demonstration of practical applications. MRES is involved in education, awareness, and advocacy efforts for all forms of renewable energy, with a particular emphasis on solar technologies.

[U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy \(EERE\)](#)

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- [Clean, renewable energy technologies](#)
 - [Energy Efficiency](#) | [Renewable Energy](#) | [Research & Deployment](#) | [Financial Opportunities](#)
- [Industrial Technology Programs \(ITP\) to assist companies in reducing their energy consumption by 25%](#)
- [Resources and tools](#)

[U of M, Minnesota Technology Assistance Program \(MnTAP\)](#)

Helps Minnesota businesses develop and implement industry-tailored solutions that prevent pollution at the source, maximize efficient use of resources, and reduce energy use and cost to improve public health and the environment

[Xcel Energy](#)

An electric and natural gas company based in Minneapolis, Minn., and operate in eight states

- [Online energy small business save energy and money tools](#)
- [Renewable energy programs for business](#) | [Additional programs](#)
- [Energy partners](#)
- [Renewable energy](#)
- [Renewable energy - educational](#)

- [Other commercial tips for business](#)