**GROWING BUSINESSES**

Northrop Grumman - Construction of a 36,000 sq. ft. aerospace manufacturing facility at the Grand Sky UAS Business Park. The facility will employ 100+ employees.

Bobcat – 320+ employees and a 39,000 sq. ft. expansion of their headquarters in West Fargo.

National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC) – Adding a 33,000 sq. ft. expansion and 70+ employees to their Mandan computer software development facility.

General Atomics – Construction of a new 19,000 sq. ft. aerospace training facility at the Grand Sky UAS Business Park.

Appareo Systems LLC – 180+ new employees in 46,000 sq. ft. expansion in Fargo.

Dakota Gasification – A $402 million expansion that will create an estimated 40 jobs in Beulah and produce 1,100 tons of urea fertilizer daily.

ONEOK - A $355 million new gas plant in Watford City that will create an estimated 50 jobs and process 200 million cubic feet of natural gas per day.

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**DEMOGRAPHICS**

Population (2014 census estimate)
North Dakota .................................. 739,482

MSAs (2014)
Fargo - Moorhead.............................. 228,291
Bismarck - Mandan ................................ 126,597
Grand Forks - East Grand Forks............. 101,842

Employment Profile (2015 Annual Avg.)
Health Care and Social Assistance .......... 61,189
Retail Trade .................................. 50,966
Accommodation & Food Services ............ 36,590
Construction .................................. 35,993
Educational Services .......................... 35,715
Wholesale Trade .............................. 27,273
Manufacturing ................................ 25,805
Mining, Quarrying & Oil & Gas Extraction .... 23,773
Transportation & Warehousing .............. 22,630
Public Administration ......................... 22,450
Finance and Insurance ....................... 18,143
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services . 17,878
Administrative & Waste Services ............ 14,413
Other Services (except Public Admin.) ...... 13,111
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation .......... 9,930
Information .................................. 6,794
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing ............... 6,181
Management of Companies & Enterprises ... 5,358
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting ... 4,274
Utilities ..................................... 4,105

Total Nonfarm Employment ................... 464,800
Total Nonfarm Private Employment ........... 381,000
STRATEGIC INCENTIVES

Property Tax Exemptions
• Up to five-year property tax exemption. Additional five years available for agricultural processors or projects located in property leased from a governmental entity.
• In lieu of a property tax exemption, in full or part, a company may negotiate a fixed or graduated rate for a period not to exceed 20 years.
• North Dakota exempts all personal property from property taxation except that of certain oil and gas refineries and utilities.

Corporate Tax Exemptions
• Five-year corporate income tax exemption for new or expanding primary sector business.
• Salary and R&D tax credits available.

Sales Tax Exemptions
• Sales and use tax exemptions on manufacturing, computer/telecommunication equipment, water, electricity and interstate communications for technology-based business.

Financial Incentives
• North Dakota Development Fund – gap financing loan and equity program.
• PACE Program – interest buy down program at Bank of North Dakota.
• Match Program – loans at U.S. Treasury yield rate + 0.25% to businesses other than retail that create new wealth, provide needed jobs and demonstrate considerable financial strength.

Job Training Programs
• One-stop job training assistance – both state and federal programs available for businesses.
• Workforce 2020 – state-funded program for training new technologies and processes.
• New Jobs Training Program – "no cost" program utilizing employee withholding tax.

Workers Compensation
• Lowest workers compensation premium rates in the nation (2014).

STRONG INFRASTRUCTURE

Voice/Data
• 100% fiber optic broadband communication network links all regions of the state.
• Minimal investment needed to reach major fiber trunk.
• Dakota Carrier Network operates multiple SONET systems in ND, SD and MN. DCN’s Ethernet core utilizes an MPLS core capable of 2 terabits of switching capacity per node and sub 50ms failover redundancy.
• Reliable T1, DS3 and OCx services with a core supporting sub 50ms failover capabilities.
• Ideal physical environment with minimal risk of natural disasters.

Transportation
• Two major Interstates: I-94 East/West, I-29 North/South.
• Foreign trade zone.
• Two Canada-Mexico Trade Corridors.
  › Fifth largest port of entry for Canadian goods by truck and rail.
  › 24-hour ports of entry along the North Dakota-Canadian border.
• Extensive cargo rail by Burlington Northern Santa Fe and Canadian Pacific.
  › BNSF – main line route including Seattle to Chicago.
  › CP – main line route including Vancouver to Chicago.
• Five international airports – Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, Minot and Williston.
• Three additional commercial airports – Devils Lake, Dickinson and Jamestown.

COMPETITIVE BUSINESS COSTS

Power
• Power offered at industrial rates of avg. 8.29 cents/kWh (YTD August 2015).
• 56% of electricity generated in the state is provided to interstate trade.
• Supporting “green” business trend by developing renewable energy sources.

Public Policy
• Person-to-person access to public officials.
• Only state-owned bank in the nation offers business expansion funds.

Taxes
• In 2013, State Legislature lowered top corporate income tax rate from 4.53% to 4.31%.

LEGENDARY QUALITY OF LIFE

Primary/Secondary Education
• 11.8 to 1 student to teacher ratio (2013-2014 school year).
• #4 in high school graduation rates – North Dakota’s high school graduation rate is 91% compared to the national average of 81% (2012).

Post Secondary Education
• North Dakota college enrollment rates amongst 18-24 year olds is 46.5% (2013) compared to the national average of 42.7% (2013).
• Nineteen college and university campuses, including two major research universities.

Workforce Proficiency
• North Dakota is a right-to-work state. Union membership is 5% (2014) of the workforce.
• 7.1% annual average turnover rate for private manufacturers in North Dakota.

Quality of Life
• North Dakota has the 4th strongest personal income growth in the nation.
• North Dakotans enjoy an 18 minute average commute to work compared to the national average of 26 minutes.