



North Carolina Department of Administration

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STATE ENERGY OFFICE PRESENTS ANNUAL N.C. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CONFERENCE

Senator Tom Daschle to Serve as Keynote Speaker

RALEIGH—The State Energy Office (SEO) of the N.C. Department of Administration will present its fourth annual N.C. Sustainable Energy Conference March 7-8 at the Jane S. McKimmon Conference and Training Center in Raleigh. Senator Tom Daschle, special policy advisor with Alston & Bird, LLP, and former U.S. Senate majority leader, will serve as the keynote speaker.

The theme of the event is “Linking Energy, Environment, and Economy.” Sessions will explore how the three are connected for a sustainable energy future for North Carolina. A full agenda is available online at www.energync.net.

The March 7 half-day sessions will center on the state’s Utility Savings Initiative (USI), a program aimed at helping state agencies, universities, community colleges and public schools reduce energy and water use by 20 percent by 2008. Since the program’s inception in 2002, USI has saved the state more than \$50 million in avoided utility costs. Sessions will highlight how state agencies can employ ENERGY STAR® tools and resources in their clean energy and green building programs and how to properly craft a “request for proposals” for a performance contract project.

A reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m. March 7 will honor the memory of two leading advocates for sustainability in North Carolina who passed away last year: Hamilton Horton, the former senator representing N.C. District 31 in Forsyth County and a N.C. Energy Policy Council board member, and Ralph Goodwin, former director of the Electric Vehicle Challenge, a statewide high school program that educates students on alternative fuel vehicles.

The March 8 plenary will focus on broader sustainability issues that impact all North Carolina consumers and businesses such as current energy policy and legislation; climate change solutions for the state; the health benefits of energy efficiency; and new economic development opportunities created by investments in energy efficiency, renewable energy and alternative fuels.

The Leadership in Sustainable Energy Awards will be presented during the March 8 luncheon and will recognize North Carolina companies and organizations that are leading proponents of energy efficiency, renewable energy, alternative fuels, sustainable economic development, and environmental stewardship. Nominations will be accepted until Feb. 16. Nomination forms can be found at www.energync.net.

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Registration for the conference is required and is \$89 until Feb. 22; after Feb. 22, the cost is \$109. Visit <http://continuingeducation.ncsu.edu/State-Energy-Conference.html> to register.

Platinum sponsors for the fourth annual N.C. Sustainable Energy Conference include Brady Trane; Center for Energy Research and Technology at N.C. A&T State University; N.C. Biotechnology Center; N.C. Farm Bureau; Pepco Energy Services; Southern States Energy Board; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The SEO serves as North Carolina's lead agency for energy programs, services and information. The office promotes energy efficiency, renewable energy and alternative fuels, striving toward a sustainable energy future.

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