

## Nebraska

# Energy and Environment

#### **ISSUE**

The demands of a growing population and a growing economy will require significant new sources of energy in the years to come. Estimates are that by the year 2030 we will need a staggering 30 percent more energy to meet the needs of our domestic economy.

A robust, diverse and innovative approach to energy development is essential to our economic security. This will require expanded domestic production, transmission, and distribution of all energy sources—including coal, natural gas, petroleum, nuclear, hydropower, renewables, and biomass—as well as a new effort to modernize the infrastructure for energy delivery.

Any comprehensive energy plan must include renewable energy. Renewable energy sources are playing an increasing larger role in our energy portfolio. Incentives encourage continued development and expansion of renewable energy sources, enhancing energy security while also creating hundreds of thousands of jobs among industries, including Nebraska's engineering industry, that serve this important sector.

#### **KEY POINTS**

- Nebraska's energy security requires an "all of the above" strategy that expands the domestic
  production of both fossil fuels and renewable energy.
- Tax credits and incentives for energy efficiency, developing and delivering wind, hydropower, geothermal, renewable energy, and conventional fuel sources are critical to continuing the diversification of our domestic energy supply.
- Energy policies should address additional incentives for new building construction as well as retrofits.

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

- Streamline overly burdensome and time consuming environmental review and permitting processes that provide little environmental benefit.
- Develop incentives for Brownfields redevelopment.
- Develop a sustainability policy that represents the interests of Nebraskans, ACEC's member companies and their clients.
- Develop incentives that promote the development of alternative energy technologies beneficial to Nebraskans, ACEC member companies and their clients.