

Lignite Research Program- Grant Round 109- Application Summaries						
Application Number	Application Title	Applicant	Project Duration	Summary of Project	Funding Requested	Total Project Cost
LRC-109-A	The Forge Project: Rare Earths and Critical Materials Integration	Ore Spring Materials, LLC by AmeriCarbon Enterprises, LLC	24 Months	The Forge Project will integrate carbon manufacturing with rare earth element and critical mineral recovery by combining AmeriCarbon's Eco-Pitch™ process with technologies developed by the University of North Dakota and Microbeam Technologies. The project will optimize lignite-based feedstocks, recover valuable critical minerals from process by-products, and develop the engineering and economic framework for a commercial-scale integrated manufacturing facility in North Dakota.	\$1,175,000	\$4,600,000
LRC-109-B	Lignite Energy Council Education Program	Lignite Energy Council	39 Months	The Lignite Education Program provides teachers and students with educational opportunities about North Dakota's lignite industry through seminars, tours, outreach events, and classroom resources. The program aims to increase awareness of the industry's role in energy production, economic development, and career opportunities while providing accurate, up-to-date educational materials.	\$550,000	\$1,150,000
LRC-109-C	Bakken Cracking the Code 2.0: Broad Infrastructure and Development for CO ₂ -Based EOR	Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC)	30 Months	This project will evaluate the infrastructure needed to capture, transport, and deliver carbon dioxide from North Dakota industrial facilities for enhanced oil recovery in the Bakken. The project aims to support long-term CO ₂ markets that strengthen the state's lignite and petroleum industries while sustaining energy production and economic growth.	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000
LRC-109-D	Demonstration of REE-CM Exploration &	Microbeam Technologies, LLC	32 Months	This project will demonstrate and evaluate technologies for identifying rare earth elements and critical minerals in North	\$971,225	\$1,956,105

	Characterization Technologies for ND Lignite			Dakota Lignite while characterizing the Center Mine coal resource. The project aims to improve exploration methods, enhance understanding of REE and critical mineral occurrence, and support future development of these resources.		
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