



MINNESOTA CLEANTECH CONSORTIUM

Minnesota Cleantech Consortium Charter

Purpose: Bring together public and private partners from across the state to catalyze cleantech economic development through research, workforce development, manufacturing, and innovation. We envision the development and implementation of cutting-edge technologies transforming energy systems, transportation, material sciences, and agriculture through electrification, robotics, and other cleantech solutions.

Background: In 2022, a group of regional partners came together to explore the potential of Minnesota establishing a cold-climate cleantech hub - to spur research, innovation, and economic development partnerships. The result of this collaboration was a proposal to the National Science Foundation to fund our creation of this regional cluster. Although we were not selected by the NSF, we have enough critical mass and immediate opportunities to mobilize a consortium of public and private partners necessary to bring the global wave of cleantech opportunities to Minnesota.

The Opportunity: Our region has an incredible track record of technology innovation, and we have the talent and leadership to bring these opportunities home. The market is already responding to the recent federal action and pending investments, indicating that 2022 numbers will likely break all records for energy technology investments. We envision Minnesota leading the development and deployment of cutting edge technologies transforming agriculture, energy systems, transportation, and material sciences through electrification, robotics, and other cleantech solutions. The future state of this ecosystem has an accessible and tangible pathway for innovators from idea to commercialization and the network of partners to provide the necessary capital, mentoring, market access, and talent to scale our cleantech innovations.



What does this mean for Minnesota? For decades we have been leaders in science and technology, spurred by forward-thinking policy and businesses. There is urgency in this opportunity. Other states are lining up to compete for new business and jobs. To be hesitant now hands other regions the opportunity to sell us technology that Minnesota could have developed. Our collective efforts can lead to a generations' worth of economic development.



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The success of this initiative is predicated upon the experience and collaboration of Minnesota's deep bench of public and private partners. Over the next 12 months, industry and government leaders will work together to identify regional priorities and opportunities to move us forward with an ambitious cleantech economic development strategy. Participating members are asked to contribute the following:

Time: Participating organizations are invited to 4 quarterly meetings, beginning in July 2023. Meetings will be less than 2 hours and be facilitated for efficiency and tangible outcomes. Each organization should identify a point person for participation and a secondary liaison to join meetings if the primary is unavailable. Partners will be provided with background information and materials for each meeting to help make best use of the time together.

Industry Knowledge: Each invited participant represents a key perspective and ability to act on the priorities and strategies identified. This includes experience with energy, agriculture, manufacturing, economic development, investment and financing, research and development, regulatory and policy structures, and community development across all parts of the state.

Commitment to Equity and Inclusion: A successful initiative must include consideration, resources, and meaningful efforts to benefit underserved and underrepresented communities. The Justice40 framework will serve as a starting point for considering how we create more equitable pathways for communities and individuals who have been historically marginalized.

Action: This Consortium will act quickly and effectively to position Minnesota as a leader in the global cleantech marketplace. We will use the projected 12 months of collaboration to create an actionable framework for cleantech economic development and mobilize partners for opportunities that arise within the time working together. We may choose to work with other partners working on alternative timelines who may be more focused on longer-term processes and research or identify additional areas of exploration working on a longer timeframe. However, expedited and tangible action is an essential tenet of this work.

Minnesota Cleantech Innovation Day - June 7, 2023

Our goal is to identify foundational partners for this initiative by June 7, to optimize the visibility of the upcoming [Minnesota Cleantech Innovation Day](#), hosted by Grid Catalyst, 3M, Clean Energy Economy Minnesota, and the University of Minnesota - Technological Leadership Institute.