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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 4, 2016 For More Information Contact: Danielle Jensen (402) 471-3360

FREE WORKSHOPS FOR INNOVATIVE CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESSES Small Businesses with 500 Employees or Less Can Request Technical Assistance Vouchers

LINCOLN – Five free workshops are being offered across Nebraska for eligible small businesses with 500 employees or less, to learn about the Small Business Voucher (SBV) program administered by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). This program offers vouchers valued between \$50,000 and \$300,000 that can be used at a national laboratory for technical assistance to help bring the next generation of clean technologies to market.

The featured speaker for the workshops is Matthew Ringer, a Laboratory Program Manager at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). Ringer has been with NREL for more than 11 years, and oversees several EERE programs including the SBV program. Additionally, he works with EERE on various commercialization initiatives and improving many of NREL's business development processes.

The workshops will include one-on-one sessions with Ringer, as well as roundtable discussions with the Director of the Nebraska Energy Office, David Bracht, and a representative from the Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC). The Energy Office, NBDC and NREL partnered together to schedule these free workshops.

Workshop dates, times and locations:

- May 9, Kearney 2:30 pm 5:30 pm UNK's Ockinga Center Conference Room, 2505 20th Avenue
- May 10, Scottsbluff 8:00 am 11:00 am 4502 Avenue I

Registration Deadline May 6th

- May 31, Omaha 2:30 pm 5:30 pm UNO Mammel Hall Auditorium, 6708 Pine Street
- June 1, Norfolk 1:00 pm 5:00 pm City Council Chambers, 309 North 5th Street
- June 2, Lincoln 8:00 am 11:00 am NIC Innovation Commons Boardroom, 2nd Floor, 2021 Transformation Drive

Registration Deadline May 27th

Free registration is available at http://bit.ly/26aANou.

The Nebraska Energy Office was created in 1977 to promote the efficient, economic and environmentally responsible use of energy. It is an authoritative voice and comprehensive resource center for energy issues in the State of Nebraska. In addition, the Energy Office plays an important role in fostering new growth in our renewable energy industry and helping Nebraska lead the way in the new clean energy economy. For more information, please visit www.neo.ne.gov.