



North Carolina Department of Administration

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MEDIA ADVISORY

SENATOR TOM DASCHLE, LT. GOVERNOR BEVERLY PERDUE TO ADDRESS N.C. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CONFERENCE

RALEIGH—The State Energy Office (SEO) of the N.C. Department of Administration will present its fourth annual N.C. Sustainable Energy Conference on Wednesday and Thursday at the Jane S. McKimmon Conference and Training Center in Raleigh.

Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue is scheduled to deliver the event's first keynote address at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday. Her speech will focus on North Carolina's "green economy."

Senator Tom Daschle, special policy advisor with Alston & Bird, LLP, and former U.S. Senate majority leader, will deliver his address "Turning Crisis into Opportunity: Energy and North Carolina" at 8:45 a.m. Thursday.

Daschle served as the leader of the Democratic Party from 1994-2004, making him the second longest serving Democratic leader in U.S. history. He represented his home state of South Dakota for 26 years in both the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate before leaving politics to serve as a nationally recognized advisor on issues such as energy, agriculture and financial services.

The theme of the N.C. Sustainable Energy Conference 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.

Wednesday's 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 \$52 million in avoided utility costs.

Thursday's 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.

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Energy industry exhibitors will be on hand Thursday to discuss their services for North Carolina businesses and consumers. A special “Ride and Drive” exhibit will take place Thursday as well and will feature alternative fuel, flex-fuel and hybrid vehicles from manufacturers such as General Motors, Lexus, Lotus and Mercedes-Benz.

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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