



Community Services | Economic Development & Finance | Tourism | Workforce Development

February 21, 2013

Bruce Gjovig, CEO
UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center
4200 James Ray Drive
Grand Forks, ND 58203

RE: Support of amending existing UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center designation

Dear Mr. Gjovig:

As Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Commerce, I support the UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center's efforts to amend their existing EB-5 Regional Center designation to include the entire state of Minnesota by adding the remaining 67 contiguous counties to the current geographic area of focus; include five additional industry sectors; and to change the name of The UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center to the "North Dakota / Minnesota EB-5 Regional Center" under the Immigrant Investor Pilot Program through the U.S. Immigration & Citizenship Services (USCIS).

Our state and region has historically grown its business base through investments from within while typically being overlooked as a location for injecting capital by outside private investors and investment groups. This is not due to a lack of quality investment opportunities, but rather, the result of an under-utilization of our natural and human resources and creativity that exists in the state of North Dakota.

With a resurgence of entrepreneurial activity, enhanced efforts to commercialize university research and the strategic delivery of aggressive business development programs within our region, we see tremendous opportunities to diversify and expand our economic base with resources that can be brought forth through EB-5 investments.

The North Dakota Department of Commerce strongly supports the UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center's efforts to amend their existing regional center designation. Your approval of this amendment will result in positive benefits for the State of North Dakota, the State of Minnesota and the United States as a whole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Anderson".

Al Anderson
Commissioner

"We lead North Dakota's efforts to attract, retain and expand wealth."