

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 321

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOMMENDING *PROJECT WATCH*, BE APPROVED AS A QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY BUSINESS PURSUANT TO SECTION 288.106, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR LOCAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN THE FORM OF CASH FOR THE QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REFUND WITH HIGH-IMPACT SECTOR BONUS; DIRECTING THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO DRAFT AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE CORRECTION OF ERRORS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Project Watch is a business that manufacturers decentralized power generation systems with advanced thermal cogeneration technologies utilizing biogas, natural gas and specialty gaseous fuels; and

WHEREAS, Project Watch has expressed interest in St. Johns County as their single Florida site for consideration of locating their first U.S. new clean energy manufacturing facility to produce power generation systems; and

WHEREAS, Project Watch is considering other states in the Southeastern region for the proposed location of this manufacturing facility; and

WHEREAS, Project Watch proposes to bring 100 new jobs to St. Johns County over a five-year period at an average wage equal to 150% of the St. Johns County average wage if the local site is ultimately selected; and

WHEREAS, Project Watch represents a targeted industry for both St. Johns County and the State of Florida and has applied for a Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund for job creation estimated to be \$600,000, of which St. Johns County will provide a local match of 20%; and

WHEREAS, Project Watch has been identified as a Target Industry Business and, moreover, falls within one of the high-impact sectors designated under Florida Statute 288.108, specifically Clean Energy and is eligible to apply for the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund with a High-Impact Sector Bonus, pursuant to s.288.106; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of Recitals.

The Recitals expressed above are incorporated by reference into the body of this Resolution, and such Recitals are hereby adopted as findings of fact.

SECTION 2. Board Recommendation.

The Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida hereby recommends to the State of Florida that Project Watch be approved as a Qualified Target Industry Business.

SECTION 3. Board Acknowledgement of Financial Support.

The Board acknowledges that the necessary commitment of local financial support for Project Watch for the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund with High-Impact Sector Bonus exists in the amount of \$120,000, which includes \$80,000 for the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund and \$40,000 for the High-Impact Sector Refund spread over nine (9) County fiscal years. This amount will be made available in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Department of Economic Opportunity with the stipulation that these funds are intended to represent local financial support pursuant to section 288.106 of the Florida Statutes.

SECTION 4. Draft Economic Development Grant Agreement.

The Board hereby directs the County Attorney to prepare a draft Economic Development Grant Agreement in the amount of \$76,917 for later Board consideration upon St. Johns County being selected as the Project Watch site.

SECTION 5. Correction of Errors.

To the extent that there are typographical and/or administrative errors that do not change the tone, tenor, or concept of this Resolution, then this Resolution may be revised without subsequent approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

SECTION 6. Severability.

It is the intent of the Board, and it is hereby provided, that if any phrases, clause, sentence, subsection, section or provision of this Resolution is held to be invalid, or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction such invalidity of unconstitutionality shall not be construed as to render invalid or unconstitutional the remaining phrases, clauses, subsection or provisions of this Resolution.

SECTION 7. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall be effective upon execution by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida this 1st day of November 2011.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST.
JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: J. Ken Bryan
J. Ken Bryan--Chair

ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk

By: Yvonne King
Deputy Clerk

RENDITION DATE 11-01-11

