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**OAQDA Approves Grant for Scale-up of Clean Coal Research Project at OSU**  
*Promising technology also enjoys support of U.S. Department of Energy*

(Columbus) A promising clean coal research project at The Ohio State University that seeks to produce hydrogen, liquid fuels and a sequestration-ready stream of carbon dioxide from coal combustion received additional support from the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) at its September meeting. OAQDA authorized an Ohio Coal Development Office (OCDO) grant of up to \$158,459 to assist in the study of the "syngas chemical looping process."

The funds will help move the project from the research stage to a small pilot-sized demonstration project. Developed by chemical engineering professor Liang-shih Fan of Ohio State, the project demonstrates a method to produce hydrogen and a sequestration-ready stream of carbon dioxide from coal syngas. Syngas is produced during coal combustion and contains a mixture of carbon monoxide and hydrogen. The process can also be modified to produce other liquid fuels and chemicals.

OCDO previously provided \$448,151 in funding for the project, which was undertaken in August 2008. The United States Department of Energy National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) and Babcock and Wilcox matched the OCDO funds with an identical, combined investment. Those organizations are providing \$159,037 in additional funding for the current expansion of the project's scope.

Mark R. Shanahan, OAQDA executive director and the Governor's Energy Advisor, said the additional funds were needed to meet a request from NETL that the project operate continuously for 100 hours, which is 50 hours greater than originally planned. He said the project has attracted considerable attention by NETL, whose director, Carl Bauer, made a personal visit to Ohio State in April to view it in operation. Additional NETL staff observed the project following Bauer's visit.

“Ohio’s universities are operating on the cutting edge in the development of new clean coal technologies that can protect our environment, produce clean fuels and chemicals and aid in the mitigation of carbon dioxide. OAQDA is proud to be a partner in this important work,” Shanahan said.

-30-

The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority is a non-regulatory government agency created to help Ohio businesses comply with clean air regulations. Through its Ohio Coal Development Office, OAQDA also oversees the State of Ohio’s coal research, development, and technology deployment efforts. Since its creation in 1970, the Authority has provided technical and financial help to hundreds of large and small Ohio businesses, awarding more than \$7 billion to finance air quality projects. In addition, the OAQDA Executive Director was appointed Governor’s Energy Advisor in January 2007. Subsequently, in 2008, OAQDA was named as administering authority for the \$150 million Advanced Energy Job Stimulus Program. For more information about OAQDA and its services, please visit its web site, at [www.ohioairquality.org](http://www.ohioairquality.org).