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Governor Doyle Announces Climate Change Partnership with Manitoba

COPENHAGEN, Denmark – Governor Jim Doyle and Manitoban Premier Greg Selinger today announced Wisconsin and Manitoba will host bilateral workshops on building a green economy as a first step towards implementing the Memorandum of Understanding signed in October. The agreement was made at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The workshops will focus on four areas – green jobs, economic growth in the low-carbon economy, bioenergy and agriculture, and watershed management – and provide businesses, organizations and municipal governments with opportunities to work across borders to expand a green economy. They will be jointly organized by state and provincial government departments.

“Today’s agreement builds upon Wisconsin’s and Manitoba’s leading efforts to promote new technologies in agriculture and clean energy,” Governor Doyle said. “Our continued commitment to collaboration will lead the future of innovation and grow our economies.”

“Governor Doyle and I have agreed that, as a first step in implementing our cooperation agreement, we will host a series of workshops involving experts from within the Midwest region in an effort to increase private and public sector relationships and to maximize opportunities for growth,” said Premier Selinger.

Manitoba and Wisconsin share many perspectives in common related to climate change and renewable energy measures and work together as partners in the Midwestern Greenhouse Gas Accord.

Both Premier Selinger and Governor Doyle are in Copenhagen with other subnational leaders to participate in the Climate Leaders Summit. They are encouraging world leaders to reach a political agreement on climate change and to recognize the role of subnational governments in climate change actions.

In October 2009, Wisconsin and Manitoba signed a Memorandum of Understanding promoting the growth of innovation through collaboration, commercialization and bilateral trade. The agreement promotes a working relationship between Wisconsin and Manitoba and builds upon current efforts to advance emerging technologies and enhance the mid-continent knowledge “IQ” corridor.