

**AGENDA**  
**Iowa Economic Development Authority**  
**SPECIAL Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 29, 2026**  
**1:00 p.m.**

**Public Webinar Access:** <https://akaiowa.us/iedaboard> \*

- I. **Board Chair** *Doug Boone*
  - a. Welcome
  - b. Roll Call
  
- II. **Vendor Approval** *Terry Roberson*  
Nuclear Task Force Facilitation and Technical Assistance *Action*
  
- III. **Public Comment Period**  
A public comment period for the full meeting will be held at this time to accommodate visitors.  
This period is limited to 10 minutes.
  
- IV. **Other Business**  
Next IEDA Board Meeting is February 20, 2026
  
- V. **Adjournment** *Doug Boone*

**Voting Board Members:**

Doug Boone – Chair, Bobbi Bentz – Vice Chair, Rachel Eubank, Mark Kittrell, Brenda Mainwaring, Pankaj Monga, John Riches, Andy Roberts, Emily Schmitt, Melissa Spurgin and Jennifer Steffensmeier.

**Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members:**

Christine Hensley, Rachelle Keck, Dan Kinney, Senator Izaah Knox, Senator Carrie Koelker, Representative David Jacoby and Representative Ray Sorensen.

**Please Note:**

The meeting will convene no earlier than stated above, but may begin later, depending upon length of earlier meetings. Some members of the board may participate electronically due to travel issues. Agenda items may be considered out of order at the discretion of the Chair. If you require accommodation to participate in this public meeting, call (515) 348-6146 to make your request. Please notify us as long as possible in advance of meeting.

\*This meeting will be accessible to members of the public in person at IEDA or click on the link above to join the meeting via Teams.



**ACTION**

**REPORT**  
**IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD**  
**January 2026 (Special Meeting)**

From: Accounting  
Subject: Vendor Approval

IEDA is seeking approval to enter into an agreement with Battery Innovation Center, dba Energy Systems Network (ESN).

ESN will support the Nuclear Energy Task Force created by Executive Order 17, issued by Governor Reynolds on January 5, 2026. The task force will provide a platform to strategies and policies that ensure the safe, efficient, and responsible deployment of nuclear energy, positioning Iowa as a leader in this sector. The duties of the task force include evaluating the state's role in deploying and using advanced nuclear reactors, assessing emerging technologies such as small modular reactors, identifying federal or state regulatory barriers to deployment, fostering partnerships to develop a highly skilled workforce to support nuclear energy sector, assessing the partnerships and investments needed to cultivate a nuclear supply chain in Iowa, and evaluating opportunities to enhance economic growth in Iowa by utilizing nuclear energy. Pursuant to the executive order, IEDA will provide staffing and administrative assistance to the task force.

The vendor will provide technical assistance to IEDA, assist in the identification of information gaps related to the feasibility of nuclear energy in Iowa, facilitate task force meetings, and develop a written report. The total cost for this contract is not to exceed \$231,910.

According to its submitted proposal, ESN is a 16-year-old non-profit organization with deep experience convening diverse stakeholders, facilitating complex technology-driven initiatives, and translating technical analysis into actionable public policy and economic development strategies. ESN will engage Regional Strategic, Ltd, for advisory services that will allow ESN to leverage the decades of economic modeling and strategic advisory experience they bring that is specific to Iowa.

---

**Proposed Motion: Approval of the Vendor**

---

Submitted By: Terry Roberson  
Attachments: None