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(202) 367-2414 February 22, 2011

MGA Releases Advisory Group Recommendations to Increase Regional Investment

Washington, D.C. – The Midwestern Governors Association (MGA) released a set of recommendations today on ways to increase the flow of investment dollars into the region. The document, *Midwestern Investment Platform for the New Energy Economy: Advisory Group Recommendations*, is the result of six months of deliberation among investment and energy professionals from throughout the Midwest.

Over the past several years, governors have positioned the Midwest to be a global leader in the new energy economy through their focus on ambitious regional energy goals and workforce development strategies. Assessing the investment environment of the region fulfills a crucial element in this new energy transition. Ensuring that sufficient investment opportunities exist for those harnessing the region's strengths will allow business to not just succeed, but also drive innovation that will establish the Midwest as a global leader and job creator.

Investing in businesses, new technologies and new economic opportunities will ensure a sustainable, long-term economic growth in the Midwest.

Some recommendations from the investment advisory group include:

- Crafting a long-term regional strategy that includes measurable benchmarks and a corresponding marketing strategy;
- Supporting the entrepreneurship and commercialization process through the use of information sharing and networking; and
- Exploring the use of financing strategies such as a regional "fund of funds."

MGA Executive Director Jesse Heier stated that the purpose of this work is to focus on the Midwest in general, not specific states. "States, even in the same region, will always compete with each other for investment dollars, new jobs and skilled workers. But by focusing on areas in which states can agree to work together, we will ensure that the entire Midwest is a national and global magnet for economic growth and success."

The document is available at:

http://www.midwesterngovernors.org/Publications/InvestmentPlatform.pdf

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