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3 U SYSTEM UNITS TO REQUEST
\$2.5-MILLION FROM NSF FOR ENERGY STUDY

MISSOULA--

A team of scientists from three units of the Montana University System --Montana State University, Bozeman; Montana Tech, Butte, and the University of Montana, Missoula-- will submit the final draft of a \$2.5-million energy study proposal to the National Science Foundation in several weeks.

If the multi-million-dollar award is granted by the NSF, scientists from the three campuses will define and implement a coordinated study of coal, and other resources in eastern Montana. A total of 50 researchers from the three schools prepared the energy study proposal under the interim direction of Dr. Arnold J. Silverman, a geology professor at UM.

The three MUS units already have received about \$250,000 from state and federal agencies for various segments of the energy study.

Of the \$250,000, the UM Energy Study Team received about \$150,000 for its portion of the study.

"The UM Energy Study Team is working closely with the Montana Energy Advisory Council in attempting to assess potential impacts related to coal development in eastern Montana," Silverman said. "The team from the University also has been working with the federal government's Northern Great Plains Resources Program, which will issue an analytical and informational report for energy policy and planning decisions at all levels of government."

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