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New Legislation for Energy Park to be unveiled at Press Conferences

January 17, 2008

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By [A.J. Knowles](#)

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Herald Staff Writer

New legislation will be unveiled for the Great Lakes Energy and Research Park and press conferences are being scheduled in Lansing and Alma to help answer any questions about the issue. The total contents of the bipartisan legislature is not going to be released until the press conference but it is aimed at helping the Great Lakes Energy and Research Park become a reality for Gratiot County.

“This is a wonderful opportunity and it is more than exciting,” said Senator Roger Kahn. “It is a way of protecting our environment and our jobs.”

The first press conference will be held at the Capitol Rotunda in Lansing at 9:30 a.m. Following the Lansing Press Conference, officials will be at the Alma Public Library at 12:45 p.m. to present the legislation to the citizens of Gratiot County.

“We are excited there is going to be a press conference,” said Alma City Manager Phil Moore. “We are also happy that our local representatives in the State Legislature are in tune with our needs and the Energy Park’s needs.”

The press conference comes following the announcement that a representative of Gov. Jennifer Granholm’s office is scheduled to meet with Moore on the week of January 21. Getting interest in the project has been a collaborative effort from officials at the city, county and state levels with hopes that project can be a cornerstone for Gratiot County.

“Over the course of the year, where we have been successful is getting it on the radar screen,” said Representative Paul Opsommer.

Opsommer will also be available for further questions about the Great Lakes Energy Park and any other concerns on January 26 at the Alma Book Shoppe in downtown Alma. Citizens are encouraged to bring their questions to Opsommer, whom will be available at 9 a.m.