

Local Tech Wire

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'Cleantech' opportunities will be focus of RTP event



Cleantech such as windmills will be discussed at RTP event

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C. — Clark Waterfall, chairman of the Ignite Clean Energy business competition backed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is coming to the Triangle to talk about opportunities for new ventures in cleantech.

Ignite Clean Energy, or ICE, is a 5-year-old effort to foster cleantech innovation with grants and support through a business-plan competition.

Waterfall is teaming with the Council for Entrepreneurial Development and venture capital firm SJF Ventures, which has an office in Durham, to put on the event. SJF focuses on cleantech investments.

The program is set for Jan. 7 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the MCNC building in RTP.

Waterfall, who also is co-founder and managing director of international executive search firm BSG Team Ventures, will discuss the latest happenings in ICE. A panel discussion about opportunities in cleantech will follow.

There are many opportunities for North Carolina's cleantech companies, said CED President Joan Siefert Rose, so we are excited to partner with ICE and SJF Ventures to raise awareness about these opportunities in our area and beyond.

In addition to Waterfall, other panelists include:

- Scott Clark, executive vice president, Vanir Energy
- Dr. John Hardin, acting executive director, North Carolina Board of Science and Technology
- David Kirkpatrick, founder and managing director, SJF Ventures
- David Rizzo, managing partner, IDEA Fund Partners

Advance registration is required and can be made at the CED Web site or by calling 919-549-7500.

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