



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Office of Gov. John Hickenlooper

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**Colorado Energy Office and Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute Sign MOU
to Create Energy-Focused Policy, Economic and Educational Partnership**

GANDHINAGAR, Gujarat – Sept. 12, 2018 – The Colorado Energy Office (CEO) and the Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute (GERMI), a state-backed research institution in the State of Gujarat, India, today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to bolster energy-focused policy, economic and educational partnership. On September 7, 2018 a delegation from CEO, Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, Xcel Energy, Pueblo Office of Economic Development, University of Colorado, Colorado School of Mines’ Payne Institute and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory traveled to Gujarat to engage with peers from government, business and educational sectors.

As part of the [U.S. – India State and Urban Initiative](#) run by the [Center for Strategic & International Studies](#) and its India-based partner, the [Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation](#), this first-of-its-kind subnational energy dialogue between the two states brought together parties to share ideas and experiences regarding successful policy design and implementation, technology innovation, deployment and commercialization, capacity building for new and existing institutions, and workforce development.

As a culmination of the exchange, CEO Executive Director Kathleen Staks and GERMI Director General Dr. Anirbid Sircar signed an MOU formalizing steps to continue the dialogue. The agreement puts forth the following objectives:

- Promote policy exchange to strengthen implementation of renewable energy integration and transportation electrification;
- Enable private sector exchange around renewable energy integration, transportation electrification, economic development, trade and direct foreign investment;
- Connect educational institutions around these topics and foster partnership, exchange and collaboration to assist in furthering the goals of the partnership;
- Facilitate the identification of specific projects, partnerships and collaborations between entities from the State of Colorado and from the State of Gujarat that could lead to direct foreign investment, trade, personnel exchange, knowledge exchange, technical assistance, and/or other opportunities to further the goals of the partnership; and
- Conduct face-to-face dialogue between all state sectors to strengthen the partnership and further the goals as established.

The agreement establishes CEO and GERMI as a joint point of contact for energy policy institutes, businesses and educational entities interested in conducting activities in a partner state.

“Both Colorado and Gujarat are energy powerhouses in their respective country. Both states deliver forward-thinking energy policy, robust energy-focused economies, and unrivalled educational and research institutions,” said CEO Executive Director Kathleen Staks. “We are excited to formalize a partnership pathway, which will increase investment potential to further build on these states’ energy strengths.”

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About the Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute

The Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute (GERMI) is a center of excellence in industry learning for the petroleum and allied energy sectors. GERMI strives to improve the knowledge base of policy makers and technologists and provide a competitive edge to leaders that compete in the global arena. See germi.org for more information.

About the Colorado Energy Office

The Colorado Energy Office works to deliver cost-effective energy services and advance innovative energy solutions for the benefit of all Coloradans. Go to colorado.gov/energyoffice to learn more.