EXHIBIT 3
DATE 1-19-05
HB 249

RESOURCE DELIVERY

Certified Regional Development Corporations (Title 90, Chapter 1, Part 116 MCA)

- The goal of this program is to develop greater local capacity for economic development on a regional basis.
- Maximum of 12 regional development organizations that must work with communities throughout their service area to provide technical and financial assistance on economic and community development efforts.
- **Focus**, whenever and wherever possible, is to provide resources and assistance for economic development through local development organizations.
  - Selected and supported locally.
  - Closest to their customers.
  - Knowledge and commitment to their community.
- $425,000 (statutory appropriation) matched $1 to $1 with local funds.

Qualifications For Certification:

- ***Written support from:***
  - All county governments.
  - A majority of all incorporated cities and towns.
  - A significant level of support from economic development organizations in the region.
- ***Experience and ability,***
  - Revolving loan funds.
  - Business technical assistance.
  - State and federal grants and programs.
  - Local and regional planning.

CERTIFIED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS

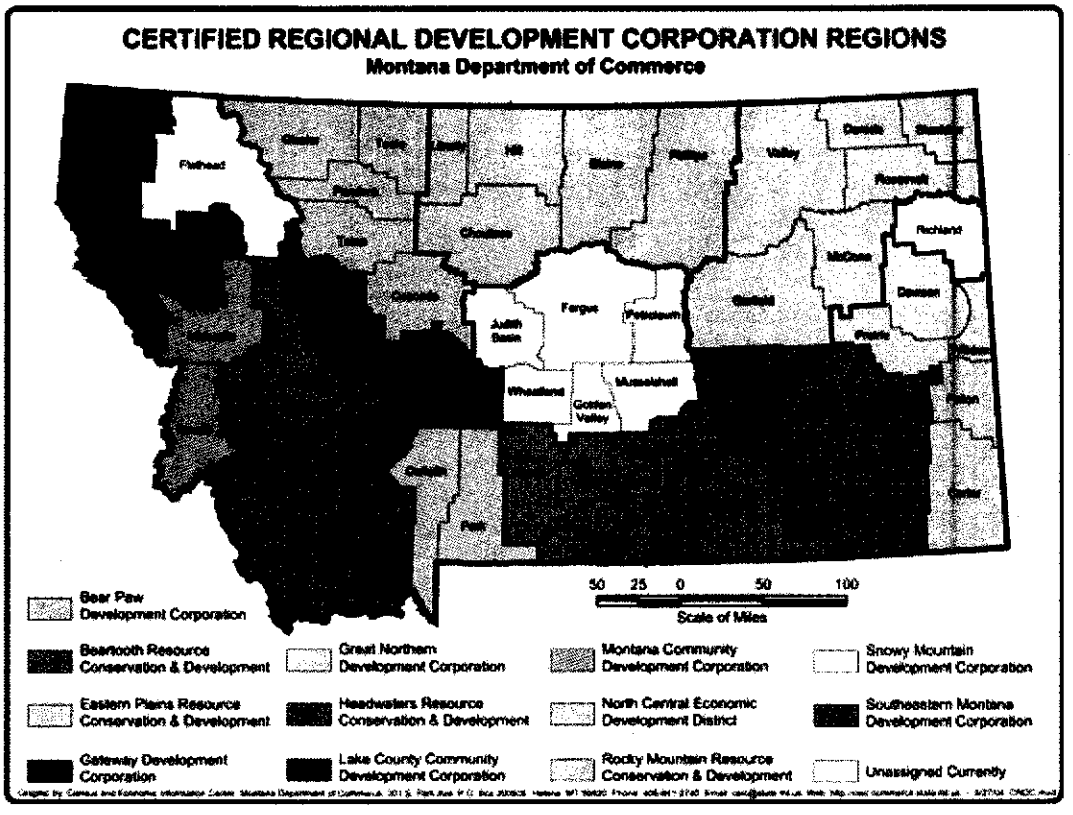
Background

The 2003 Montana Legislature created the Certified Regional Development Corporations (CRDC) program. The legislative intent of the CRDC program is to encourage a regional approach to economic development that facilitates the efficient delivery of economic development programs by supporting regional capacity building.

As directed by HB76, the Department of Commerce (DOC) through the CRDC program designates up to 12 CRDCs and awards regional capacity building grants to match local economic development funds. $425,000 annually was appropriated to the DOC by the legislature for this purpose. The Department of Commerce issued a request for proposals and has selected 12 CRDCs. The first year of funding has been advanced and the Department is preparing for the second round of funding in early 2005..

CRDCs are responsible for helping local officials, communities, and businesses "assess, plan, and facilitate action within their regions. The CRDC program promotes public and private sector partnerships at the regional level in order to identify and respond to economic development issues and opportunities facing each of Montana's diverse economic regions. Each CRDC is required to have the support of all the counties and a majority of the incorporated cities and towns in their region to obtain and maintain certification. This new program will help local officials, communities and businesses create new economic opportunities throughout the State of Montana.

Certified Regional Development Corporation	Grant Funding Award
Bear Paw Development Corporation	$35,289
Beartooth Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Area, Inc.	$39,292
Eastern Plains Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.	$33,796
Gateway Economic Development Corporation	$28,372
Great Northern Development Corporation	$36,062
Headwaters Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.	$38,915
Lake County Community Development Corporation	$29,522
Montana Community Development Corporation	$34,163
North Central Economic Development District	$41,212
Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D Area, Inc.	$38,483
Snowy Mountain Development Corporation	$36,075
Southeastern Montana Development Corporation	$33,818



Bear Paw Development Corporation

Bear Paw Development Corporation (Bear Paw), based in Havre, is a private, non-profit organization created for the purpose of administering programs to help improve regional economic conditions in Blaine, Chouteau, Hill, Liberty, and Phillips Counties and the Fort Belknap and Rocky Boy's Indian Reservations. Bear Paw works toward this goal by coordinating economic development planning and project implementation among its member entities, assisting local governments in planning public works and coordinating public and private investments.

Contact:	Paul Tuss, Executive Director
Address:	48 Second Avenue, Suite 202
	Havre, MT 59501
Phone:	(406) 265-9226

Beartooth Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Area, Inc.

The Beartooth Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc. (Beartooth RC&D), based in Joliet, was established in1969 as a forum for exchanging ideas, developing projects and assisting in the enhancement of rural communities. Five Montana counties, Sweet Grass, Stillwater, Carbon, Big Horn and Yellowstone are served by the Beartooth RC&D. The leadership of this non-profit corporation is comprised of elected officials and community leaders from the counties, incorporated cities and towns, conservation districts and tribal reservations. Beartooth RC&D is a unique organization that helps

people value and utilize their human, natural and economic resources in a way that will improve the area's economy, environment, and opportunities. The Beartooth RC&D is essentially "Citizens Building Stronger Communities".

Contact: James Klessens, Coordinator
Address: 604 West Front Street
Joliet, MT 59041
Phone: (406) 962-3914

Eastern Plains Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.

The Eastern Plains Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc. (Eastern Plains) based in Sidney, is a private, non-profit organization established in 1992 as a forum for exchanging ideas, developing projects and assisting in the enhancement of Montana's rural economy. Eastern Plains's CRDC region includes: Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux, Fallon and Carter Counties in Eastern Montana.

Contact: Ray Trumpower
Address: 123 West Main Street
Sidney, MT 59270
Phone: (406) 433-5024

Gateway Economic Development Corporation

Gateway Economic Development Corporation (Gateway), formed in 1999 and based in Helena, is a non-profit membership organization that was created to retain existing and create new jobs. Gateway's CRDC region includes: Lewis and Clark, Broadwater and Meagher Counties.

Contact: Sheldon Bartel, Executive Director
Address: 225 Cruse Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
Phone: (406) 447-1510

Great Northern Development Corporation

Great Northern Development Corporation (Great Northern) of Northeastern Montana is a private, non-profit corporation incorporated in 1995. Membership includes Roosevelt, Valley, Sheridan, Daniels, McCone and Garfield Counties as well as the Fort Peck Tribes. Great Northern provides assistance in: community and economic development planning, public facilities, housing, economic development, business loan packaging and business plan development.

Contact: Linda Twitchell, Executive Director
Address: 233 Cascade Street
Wolf Point, MT 59201
Phone: (406) 653-2590

Headwaters Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.

Headwaters Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc. (Headwaters), provides economic development assistance, serving as a multi- county, grass roots organization. Its basic goal is to improve the economic and social well-being of the region through conservation, development, and proper use of natural and human resources. Headwaters' CRDC region includes Granite, Powell, Deer Lodge, Silver Bow, Jefferson, Beaverhead and Madison Counties.

Contact: Judie Tilman, Coordinator
Address: 305 West Mercury, Suite 211
Butte, MT 59701
Phone: (406) 782-7333

Lake County Community Development Corporation

The Lake County Community Development Corporation ("LCCDC"), formed in 1995, is a non-profit organization located in Ronan. LCCDC's mission is to enhance the quality of life and economic well-being of all residents of its member counties and the Flathead Indian Reservation. LCCDC's CRDC region includes: Lincoln, Sanders, Lake and Mineral Counties.

Contact: Billie Lee, Executive Director
319 Main Street Southwest
Ronan, MT 59864
Phone: (406) 676-5901

Montana Community Development Corporation

The mission of the Montana Community Development Corporation (MCDC) is to work with people and communities that want to prosper, offering financing and business development services that create income opportunities. Since 1989, MCDC has served hundreds of entrepreneurs with loans, consulting and training. The businesses our clients create help sustain their local communities and provide jobs. MCDC's CRDC region includes Missoula and Ravalli Counites.

Contact: Rosalie Sheehy Cates, Executive Director
10 East Broadway, 2nd Floor
Missoula, MT 59802
Phone: (406) 728-9234 ext 205

North Central Economic Development District

The North Central Economic Development District (NCEDD) was organized to improve the quality of life of all the citizens in North Central Montana through the comprehensive and coordinated efforts of local leadership. NCEDD's CRDC region includes Glacier, Toole, Pondera, Teton and Cascade Counties.

Contact: Joni Stewart, Coordinator

Address: P.O. Box 1329
Cut Bank, MT 59427
Phone: (406) 873-2337

Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D Area, Inc.

The Northern Rocky Mountain Resource Conservation and Development (Northern Rocky Mountain) Area Inc., located in Bozeman, is a locally led non-profit, rural development organization covering Park, Meagher, and Gallatin counties in southwestern Montana. Northern Rocky Mountain serves as a framework for local individuals, groups, businesses, and units of government to cooperate regionally to meet common needs and tackle common problems. Northern Rocky Mountain's CRDC region includes: Park & Gallatin Counties.

Contact: Josh Kellar, Coordinator
3710 Fallon, Suite B
Bozeman, MT 59718
Phone: (406) 522-4029

Snowy Mountain Development Corporation

Snowy Mountain Development Corporation (Snowy Mountain) was established to provide a resource to retain and expand existing businesses and support the recruitment of new businesses to Central Montana. Snowy Mountain's CRDC region includes Judith Basin, Fergus, Petroleum, Wheatland, Golden Valley and Musselshell Counties.

Contact: Kathie Bailey, Executive Director
Address: 613 North East Main
Lewistown, MT 59457
Phone: (406) 538-2591

Southeastern Montana Development Corporation

A group of concerned counties and communities formed the Southeastern Montana Development Corporation in 1997 to stabilize existing businesses and encourage growth of business in Southeastern Montana. The partnership of these counties and communities allows for synergy and prevents duplication of efforts, while providing a vehicle agency located locally to receive funding and administer services for economic development. Current supporting members of the Southeastern Montana Development Corporation are Custer, Powder River, Rosebud, and Treasure Counties; the cities of Colstrip, Forsyth, and Miles City; and the towns of Broadus and Hysham.

Contacts: Jim Atchison, Executive Director
6200 Main Street
Colstrip, MT 59323
Phone: (406) 748-2990

CRDC Activities

CRDCs leverage scarce resources for economic development. Most local governments and communities lack the financial resources to hire and maintain professional economic development staff and find themselves in need of assistance in providing development services to local businesses and citizens. CRDC program funding supports local governments and communities in developing professional economic development capacity.

CRDCs provide professional economic development services. CRDCs have the resources: staff, knowledge and funds (albeit limited) and are better equipped than many local governments to provide economic development services. CRDC staffs are made up of professionals with a wide range of backgrounds in such areas as economic development, human services, management, and planning.

CRDCs facilitate the identification of priority needs of local communities. There is a clear recognition that local strategic planning is critical in developing local economies. CRDCs foster collaboration and bring elected officials, business leaders and stakeholders together to prepare and implement regional development strategies. CRDCs provide business technical assistance and financing.

CRDCs leverage financial resources from a variety of sectors that include government (federal, state, county and local), the private sector, philanthropic community and academia to aide in the expansion of their regions economy. For example, CRDCs manage Revolving Loan Funds (RLF) that are designed to assist new and/or expanding businesses. Business financing through an RLF assists in making a project a reality and thereby creating new local employment opportunities.