

## WASHINGTON GOVERNOR HOPES TO ADD 40,000 JOBS



Washington Gov. Chris Gregoire has outlined a plan to create as many as 40,000 jobs in the state over the next three years. The governor's 10-point plan includes tax incentives, streamlined permitting procedures and energy savings, according to a press release. It is expected to cost about \$15 million and be paid through mid-2011.

- A business and occupation tax credit for large capital projects equal to five percent of the project cost, which will be capped at \$100 million, and be distributed on a first-come-first-served basis. It is expected to create 20,000 construction jobs and 5,000 ongoing jobs over the next three years.
  - Reducing the threshold a company must meet in order to qualify for the Rural County New Employee tax credit from a 15 percent to a 10 percent increase in the number of people they employ.
  - A \$2,000 new employee tax credit for small businesses that don't qualify for other incentives.
- The governor estimates these actions will encourage \$2 billion in private investment in Washington state over the next two years.

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