

## Two area firms qualify for jobs rebates

by: ROD WALTON World Staff Writer  
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A fledgling Tulsa-based natural gas producer and an engineering and flight training technology company in Broken Arrow were named Thursday to join the Oklahoma Quality Jobs program and potentially qualify for millions in payroll tax rebates.

Primary Natural Resources III and CymStar LLC joined the quality jobs list, along with Weather Decision Technologies of Norman. The incentive program can rebate companies up to 5 percent of payroll tax if the members meet certain criteria for full-time hiring.

Primary Natural Resources III, which hopes to explore and produce natural gas in Texas and Oklahoma, is based in south Tulsa. The company, started by Rich Talley with six employees in December 2008, is hoping to employ as many as 120 within a few years.

The state's Quality Jobs program would pay PNR III as much as \$6.67 million in payroll tax rebates if those job goals are met.

"We do plan on growing substantially this year," said Talley, whose company is up to nine administrative employees and has hired contract workers at wells in western Oklahoma. "We hope to spend \$50 million to \$100 million on acquisitions this year and explore those properties in 2011."

In the past decade, Talley and his partners started two Primary Natural Resources companies. Both of them were sold later for six or seven times the initial capital investments.

CymStar offers engineering and technology help for flight training, simulation and other military applications. The Broken Arrow company will receive up to \$2.3 million in payroll tax rebates if it employs 83 people within the qualifying time period.


Weather Decision Technologies creates software for weather forecasting and delivering that information to Internet customers. The Norman company is eligible for up to \$3 million in state incentives if it makes up to 100 new hires.

To qualify for Quality Jobs incentives, the company must have its central administrative, manufacturing or research and development facility in Oklahoma or make 75 percent of sales to out-of-state customers. Most applicants also must achieve a \$2.5 million taxable payroll for any four consecutive quarters during the first three years in the program.

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**Rod Walton 581-8457**  
rod.walton@tulsaworld.com

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