Weapons manufacturer secures \$452 million tax credit for 4,000job plant near Columbus

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COLUMBUS, Ohio – The state approved about \$452 million in job creation tax credits over 30 years to support an <u>advanced weapons manufacturing plant forecasted to create 4,000 new jobs in central Ohio.</u>

The Ohio Tax Credit Authority, part of the state Department of Development, approved the 2.594% refundable tax credit for Anduril Industries at its Monday meeting.

The incentive is performance-based and requires regular payroll reporting from the company. The true value of the credit is based on actual jobs created and payroll generated. All funds are subject to clawback if the company doesn't follow through on its projections, state spokesman Mason Waldvogel said.

The company builds unmanned aerial vehicles and what it describes as an "AI-powered autonomous sensemaking and command-and-control platform" behind them. Its Arsenal-1 plant is planned over 500 acres south of Columbus, near Rickenbacker International Airport.

A release from Gov. Mike DeWine's office says Pickaway County will also request \$70 million for Anduril from the "All Ohio Future Fund," a <u>newly created \$750 million pot of state money</u> for use preparing sites for such megaprojects.

JobsOhio, the state's quasi-public economic development agency, will also provide a grant to the project. Terms of the grant, according to a release from DeWine, will be disclosed after it's finalized. JobsOhio will also provide the company with staffing assistance. An agency spokesman said he did not have any further detials to offer on the grant or its timing.

At a public announcement this month, Anduril officials said the company plans more than \$900 million in investments to build its facility near Rickenbacker International Airport. The company says the 4,000 jobs, which state officials described as the

single-biggest jobs creation project in Ohio history, are expected by 2035 and will have an average salary of \$132,000. The company also projects thousands of temporary construction jobs until then.

The project is the latest central Ohio megaproject to receive large state incentives. Intel's chip manufacturing facility, under construction outside of Columbus, was given about \$2 billion in incentives to locate in Ohio.