1. Seed Cleaning Facilities – CREC, LREC, NCREC, WREC
(Priority No. 2 capital improvement request in 2013-15 and No. 3 in 2015-17 request)
Seed cleaning facilities at the CREC, LREC, NCREC and WREC need to be replaced. Current facilities are antiquated, lack reliable capability to ensure high-quality seed, and are slow and inefficient. Current facilities were designed to handle cereal crops and have limited/no capability of cleaning pulse crops and other fragile seed that are in high demand. These facilities pose considerable worker safety issues. Partial funding ($1,500,000) was received to purchase equipment for the Carrington and North Central REC seed cleaning plants, along with authorization to raise $3,000,000 in other funds for building construction. Difficulties in the farm economy reduce the opportunities to raise funds for building construction. No funding was received for the Williston or Langdon REC. - $3,750,000

2. Animal Science Meats Research Facility – Main Station
(Priority No. 2 capital improvement request in 2015-17)
A new/upgraded facility is needed urgently. The current Meats Lab was built in the 1950s and no longer serves the needs of modern meat science research. Annual repair and maintenance costs to the current facility continue to increase. Additionally, the lab continues to struggle to meet the U.S. Department of Agriculture inspection requirements for safe meat handling and processing. A new facility is necessary because opportunities to grow the state’s livestock industries are tied to the knowledge of the end product and how that product meets the needs of national and international consumers. - $7,600,000

3. Agronomic, Pathology and Soils Field Lab Facility
(Waldron Hall replacement)
Waldron Hall was built in the mid-1950s to house the field laboratories for the wheat breeding programs in the Department of Agronomy. An addition was built in the mid-1960s to house approximately another 16 scientists from the Departments of Agronomy and Plant Pathology. The building now houses field labs and wet labs for nearly 40 scientists at the Main Station involving a number of disciplines. Many of these labs are shared, and the seed drying, cleaning and storage facilities needed by our scientists are grossly insufficient and a health hazard to anyone working in the facility. A new facility is needed to provide our scientists with a safe environment to conduct their research, as well as process, clean and store seed. - $39,000,000

4. Deferred Maintenance Increase
Deferred maintenance funding continues to be an important issue. Updates and repairs to facilities that enhance worker safety and productivity are needed across the AES. Various and ongoing issues exist at the Main Station and all RECs, primarily with respect to facility updates and repairs. - $1,440,465

5. Equipment Storage Sheds
Expensive purchased and/or leased field equipment is an investment that the AES needs to protect. Storing expensive research plot equipment, such as tractors, seeders and combines, outdoors reduces the life of the machines and can compromise the sophisticated electronics typically used on equipment. - 8 @ $306,250 = $2,450,000