

West Virginia  
*WorkForce*



**WEST VIRGINIA STATE ENERGY SECTOR PARTNERSHIP**



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**WEST VIRGINIA**

## MISSION

The Workforce West Virginia State Energy Sector Partnership seeks to develop an energy sector education and training plan for West Virginia that aligns with the State's energy plan and supports job expansion and creation in the energy efficiency, renewable energy, alternative energy and advanced traditional energy fields.

## RATIONALE

- ◆ The U.S. Department of Labor is incentivizing these efforts by offering states that enter into such partnerships a \$2 million to \$6 million grant opportunity.
- ◆ West Virginia needs an energy sector jobs plan, particularly for the green jobs sector, that aligns with the State's energy plan.

## SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS

- ◆ West Virginia is projected to add 10,700 new green jobs by 2038.
- ◆ West Virginia is one of only ten states that produces more energy than it consumes (4,168 trillion BTU vs. 851.27 BTU in 2007).
- ◆ While we traditionally think of coal, natural gas and oil when we think of energy, West Virginia does have green energy employers (332) and employees (3,065), according to the Pew Charitable Trusts. (This does not include “greened-up” jobs.)

## GREEN ENERGY JOBS

There's no single definition, but the major categories include:

- ◆ Energy efficiency (e.g., construction and building trades; commercial and residential buildings; vehicles)
- ◆ Renewable energy (e.g., solar, wind, hydroelectric)
- ◆ Alternative energy (e.g., biofuels)
- ◆ Advanced traditional energy (e.g., coal gasification; carbon sequestration)
- ◆ Other (e.g., environmental protection; sustainable agriculture)

## WEST VIRGINIA'S STRENGTHS

- ◆ A long history of being a dominant player in the energy field.
- ◆ A strong energy research and development infrastructure (e.g., NETL, WVU National Research Center for Coal and Energy).
- ◆ An educational and training infrastructure to support energy jobs (e.g., CTCs, career centers, apprenticeship programs, National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium).
- ◆ A state energy plan. (Only one-half of the southern states have such a plan.)

## WEST VIRGINIA'S WEAKNESSES

- ◆ No green jobs education and training plan that aligns with the state energy plan.
- ◆ People don't know about the state's clean energy efforts.
- ◆ Did WV actually see a decrease in clean energy jobs over the last decade? (Source: Pew)
- ◆ No clean energy venture capital investment from 2006 to 2008? (Source: Pew)

## STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

- ◆ Review state workforce and energy plans and policies.
- ◆ Establish state strategic vision and goals.
- ◆ Identify and analyze sectors in which investments will be made.
- ◆ Analyze the target student population.
- ◆ Develop a collaborative plan to educate and train workers.

## REQUIRED STATE-LEVEL PARTNERS

- ◆ Government officials
- ◆ Business and industry leaders
- ◆ Labor organizations
- ◆ USDOL Office of Apprenticeship
- ◆ Nonprofit organizations
- ◆ Education and training community
- ◆ Veterans' agencies
- ◆ Economic development organizations

## COMPONENTS OF TRAINING PLANS

- ◆ Recruitment
- ◆ Training (grant can cover costs for faculty/instructors; support staff; classroom space; equipment; books, materials and supplies; etc.)
- ◆ Support Services
- ◆ Placement
- ◆ Retention

## POSSIBLE USES FOR FUNDS

- ◆ Greening up current curricula
- ◆ Greening up skills of current employees (e.g., journeymen)
- ◆ Obtaining green professional development for instructors (e.g., train the trainer)
- ◆ Buying green equipment for use in education/training
- ◆ Expanding existing green programs
- ◆ Starting new green programs

## OTHER ELEMENTS

- ◆ Local Partnerships (training provider, local WIB, employers)
- ◆ Sustainability Planning
- ◆ Management

## CONCLUSION

- ◆ We have been presented with a great opportunity.
- ◆ We have a lot to do and a little time in which to do it.
- ◆ If we are going to be successful, we all will have to work together.

## LEARN MORE

◆ WEBSITE:

[http://www.dctadvisors.com/DCT\\_Advisors/Energy\\_Sector\\_Partnership.html](http://www.dctadvisors.com/DCT_Advisors/Energy_Sector_Partnership.html)

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