



Green Jobs Report December 2009

Strategies:

- Developed a regional framework for a systemic approach to green workforce development (see attached)
- Align “green” strategies with regional economic recovery and growth
- Engage/convene strategic partners
- Map assets to share/leverage knowledge, products, and resources
- Focus program resources on re-skilling/re-employing in green jobs
- Build on & leverage existing sector initiatives & green workforce solutions
- Focus program policy & investments on green strategies and opportunities
- Facilitate collaboration on green initiatives
- Analyze & report program outcomes
- Define quality standards for workforce development programs & certify providers

Industry Investments:

- **Green Building \$133,000** –
 - In response to a need identified by IBEW, WSI contracted with the NECA-IBEW Training Center to provide 250 incumbent apprentice electricians with training in Solar Energy, Photovoltaic Basics, and Advanced NABCEP Certification, including a thorough review of the installation, calculations, and code requirements of photovoltaic installation.
 - WSI is funding training for the Willamette Valley Carpenters Training Center Instructional Team that will lead to the US Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) accreditation for each instructor. The goal is for the WVCTC Instructional Team to become sustainable building experts and to develop, deliver and disseminate the first applied green building curriculum for union carpenters. This investment will result in over 100 hours of sustainable building training to as many as 150 carpenter apprentices and journeymen throughout Multnomah and Washington counties over the next 12 months.
 - WSI is also funding BPI Certification for job seeking customers of the Portland Metropolitan Work Source System as well as supporting the cost for incumbent training for weatherization workers across a consortium of green building companies. In partnership with the Energy Trust of Oregon, WSI hopes to continue to work with area retrofit and green building companies to forecast the projected need for new workers, identify the needed skill sets and train up area job seekers to meet the demand.
- **Solar \$80,000** - As a result of the partnership between the Oregon Solar Energy Industry Association (OSEIA) and Worksystems, nearly 300 incumbent solar industry workers received one of five tracks of professional training at the Northwest Solar Expo (April 28th-May 2nd, 2009). The five tracks included courses on both residential and commercial Solar Photovoltaics, Solar Thermal, North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) pre-



certification, and a Solar Business track. Of the workers who received this training, 130 took the test for their NABCEP Certification. WSI is actively participating in the planning for the April 2010 Expo and will again financially support incumbent worker training at the event.

- **Wind \$40,000** – WSI actively participates on Portland Development Commission’s Wind Team and the NW Wind Industry Alliance. WSI sponsored and also coordinated the workforce breakout session at the first regional Wind Summit *The Future of Wind: Beyond Installation* in June 2009. In December 2009 WSI is again coordinating the workforce and training session for the Wind Industry Supply-Chain Roundtable. In partnership with OMEP and Business Oregon, WSI is coordinating wind industry businesses to identify their incumbent workforce training needs for investment.
- **Clean Technology \$200,000** – WSI in partnership with Oregon Training Network convened industry partners including: Inspiration Software, Intel, Energy Trust of OR, Ant Hill Marketing, Standard Insurance, Factory IQ, and IBM to guide regional investments in clean technology workforce training and development. The group defined clean tech as energy efficiency through IT and prioritized funding the following training topics: Managing Virtual Teams, Taking Advantage of Externally Hosted Platforms and Applications, Integrating Sustainability into your Business Practices, Understanding Energy Management and Measurement for your Company.

Initiative Investments:

- **Green Futures \$300,000** – To prepare interested job seekers from all readiness levels and communities, WSI worked with industry and local training providers to outline and invest in eligible trainings that lead to employment in Green Manufacturing & Technology and Green Building. In addition WSI invested in scholarships for 100 WorkSource customers to attend the Green Professionals Conference in Portland January 2010.
- **Sustainability Curriculum \$90,000** - A modularized "Sustainability Curriculum" that covers sustainability principles, concepts, philosophy and practices that can be inserted into any existing program of training or course of instruction. Additional curriculum covers the application of sustainability principals in Manufacturing, Healthcare, Office and Green Building industries. WSI is currently planning the dissemination strategy to share this curriculum (free of charge) with post secondary educational institutions, organized labor training programs, private sector companies, and secondary schools.
- **Clean Energy Works**- WSI through its staffing of CAWS is currently working in conjunction with the City of Portland, Multnomah County, ShoreBank Enterprise Cascadia, Energy Trust of Oregon, NW Natural, Pacific Power and Portland General Electric, on a 500 home energy efficiency and weatherization pilot program intended to enable homeowners to access low-interest, long-term financing for quick, easy and affordable investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy. In setting the standard for community engagement, the Clean Energy Works Portland Pilot Program has developed a Community Workforce Agreement that set a standard for equity and inclusion for both workers and contractors alike. As the project goes to scale the opportunity to create new jobs with long-term employment opportunities and career paths for Portland area residents greatly increases. WSI continues to offer staff support for the project and participates on the Stakeholder Evaluation and Implementation Committee.



- **Bioscience Retraining** - WSI funded the development of a bioscience training program, in partnership with Linn Benton Community College and Oregon Bioscience Association, to identify and retrain dislocated high tech engineers to take advantage of employment opportunities in bioscience.
- **Engineering Employment Symposium** – In November two events were coordinated by the SW Washington Workforce Development Council, Worksystems, the Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County, Management and Training Corp., and the Enterprise for Employment & Education to serve over **380** dislocated engineers. The symposia offered top level industry speakers, coaching, education, and resources through three presentation tracks including: education/training, entrepreneurship, and job seeking skills. A component of each of these tracks included highlighting opportunities in green industries like renewable energy and clean technology.
- **Climate Prosperity Project** – WSI serves on the executive council for this regional effort to bring together economic development and environmentalist toward reducing the carbon footprint of the region.

Grants:

- **Energy Sector Partnership Proposal \$5 million** - In partnership with Oregon Manufacturing Extension Partnership, three (3) other Local Workforce Boards, Organized Labor, Private Sector Companies, and six (6) Community Colleges – WSI submitted a proposal for workforce training to Department of Labor. If funded the grant would preserve and create 1,734 green jobs in the renewable energy industries (electric power and biofuels) by building a skilled workforce to support companies that generate power, as well as by assisting local manufacturers to retool their workforce to produce products to support these companies and industries. We hope to hear by the end of January about funding.
- **State Energy Sector Partnership \$652,700** – As part of the state’s overall proposal, WSI requested over half million to skill 100 individuals up for emerging occupations in the green energy sector. It will assist them to get credentials that will qualify them for jobs. The project targets unemployed or underemployed people with some college credits (40-70% of the credits required for an AA or AAS) who are not currently enrolled in college and supports them to complete their Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in renewable electric power, sustainable manufacturing and energy efficiency. In addition these funds will support 15 Oregon Institute of Technology BS of Renewable Energy Engineers complete internships at local green companies.
- **Pathways out of Poverty \$4 million** – Worksystems partnered with the Green Careers Community Team, a coalition of community based and culturally specific service organizations to submit a proposal to the Department of Labor. The project’s design is focused on engaging 360 unemployed and disadvantaged individuals living in areas of high poverty from the east Cully and Rockwood neighborhoods, providing them with comprehensive wrap-around, culturally-specific support and skill building services to better prepare them to enter into green careers. The targeted industries and green pathways include the energy-efficient building, construction and retrofit; renewable electric power; green manufacturing; and emerging green occupations in sustainable agriculture, transportation, and environmental protection industries.



If funded, the project will provide participating individuals an opportunity to earn certificates and degrees through community colleges, organized labor, and industry-recognized training providers, as well as employment placement and retention support in their chosen green career pathway.

Links

Clean Tech trainings <http://www.worksystems.org/>

Greening of the Oregon Workforce <http://www.qualityinfo.org/pubs/green/greening.pdf>

Partners:

Oregon Bioscience Association <http://www.oregonbio.org/>

Oregon Training Network <http://oregontrainingnetwork.com/>

Climate Prosperity Project/POSI <http://www.pdxinstitute.org/index.php/pmcpp>

Clean Tech Alliance <http://cleantechnologyalliance.ning.com/>

Energy Trust of Oregon <http://energytrust.org/>