



Texas Foundation for Innovative Communities Newsletter

Research on Energy Storage Published

Our fourth research report in the “Retrofitting the Workforce” series has been published: [Job Creation and Training Needs for Energy Storage in Texas.](#)

The report highlights published standards from the National Electrical Code, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and others that should form the basis of courses for those being trained to work with electrical energy storage.

The market for storage is projected to grow by an order of magnitude in the next 5-8 years, according to three different market research studies published in the last 18 months. We anticipate this will require a significant amount of new training, largely for those

in existing trades such as engineers, electricians, building and property managers, utility linemen, PV installers, and more.

As with all of our reports, this one will be distributed to workforce boards and community colleges and serve as a base of knowledge for training programs to be developed.

We expect to convene a group of subject matter experts and college instructors in the next six months to build on the findings of the report and create curriculum modules for energy storage. These curriculum modules can then be integrated into existing courses (e.g., PV installer or electrician classes) or offered as stand-alone classes for incumbent workers in relevant fields.

INNOVATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



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TFIC Completes Second Year of Texas Workforce Commission Funding

August 31st marks the end of the contract period for the second year of Wagner-Peyser funding through the Governor’s Office for TFIC. It has been a busy and eventful year for our programs—from holding four meetings of the Green Jobs Business Council to putting on a Green Jobs Initiative Conference and hiring a new Executive Director. All contract deliverables have been met or exceeded.

During the second week of August, staff from TWC’s Field Monitoring Unit came to our office to “monitor” our contract. That consisted of a thorough review of all transactions as well as fiscal and program controls. Their report found “fiscal and program systems are effectively managed”, meaning they found no deficiencies in our management of the contract.

The proposed contract for the third year of Wagner-Peyser funding through the Governor’s Office has been submitted and we are awaiting word on its status.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE FUTURE OF TEXAS

Update on Green Corridor Collaborative Curriculum Development Grant

TFIC and Good Company Associates have continued to work with six community colleges in the Green Corridor Collaborative under a grant from the Texas Workforce Commission to develop "green" curriculum modules in energy efficiency and renewable energy topics.

The intent of the project is to "green" the existing community college curriculum while making the content available for incumbent businesses and their workers as well. Over the past few months we have convened meetings of subject matter experts throughout the state on relevant topics including Building commissioning, Advanced building controls, Solar water heating, Green construction management, Green sales, Sales of technical and scientific products and Residential energy auditing.

Upcoming panels include :

- Commercial Energy Auditors
- Residential HVAC
- Commercial HVAC.

If you are interested in participating, please let us know by calling Doug Lewin at 512-279-0753.

TFIC and Good Company Associates Thank our Green Jobs Business Council Members

The Green Jobs Business Council met four times over the past 12 months in Austin, Dallas and San Antonio. They served as a critical link between business interests and those seeking industry-driven analysis and feedback. Their input ensured that EE/RE training being developed will be industry-driven and responsive to the needs of the companies seeking to hire graduates of the training.

TFIC and Good Company Associates would like to thank the members of the Green Jobs Business Council for their participation and invaluable contribution to the workforce training needs of Texas.



Upcoming Events

[Austin Community College Continuing Education](#)

Austin Community College, in partnership with Austin Energy, will be presenting Commercial Energy Efficiency classes free to building owners, managers, or their representatives. Click [here for more information and a registration form](#). The course is perfect for those who would like help understanding how to plan and implement projects or how to rate the energy efficiency of buildings to comply with Austin's Energy Conservation Audit & Disclosure (ECAD) Ordinance.

Commercial Energy Efficiency – HART 1053 ACC Highland Business Center

Morning class 8:30 a.m. to noon OR Afternoon
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

September 7 & 9, 2010

October 12 & 14, 2010

November 9 & 10, 2010

Portfolio Manager – HARX 3006

ACC Highland Business Center

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

September 15 & 16, 2010

October 20 & 21, 2010

November 17 & 18, 2010

Renewable Energy Roundup & Green Living Fair

September 24-26 Fredericksburg will be the place to be and be green. Over the past 10 years, this community and family-oriented Green Living Fair has grown to be the largest "green show" in the South. It's fun, environmentally friendly, and a great place to learn how you can make a difference.