

## CTEWDC Meeting Notes 7/15/2015

**Attendees:** Mary Ann Miller, co-chair (Iroquois), Joe Ryzewski, co-chair (UI), Kendall Ademu-John (PSEG), Eric Brown (CBIA), Tom Burns (Workforce Development Solutions), Craig Clark (Eversource), Andrea Comer (CBIA EF), Mary deManbey (CBIA EF), Jennifer Duggan (CBIA EF), Diane Duva (DEEP), John Greeno (NECS), Eric Gribin (NCC), Janet Hayes (Gateway CC), Shelly Jewell (CSCU Board of Regents), Theresa Lavoie (HPA of CT), Erika Lynch (Gateway CC), Diana McCarthy-Bercury (Eversource), Deirdre Moutinho (Naugatuck Valley CC), Walter Murray (DEEP), Lisa Sarubbi (UI), Samantha Sojka (Eversource), Lynn Stoddard (ISE), Ginger Teubner (DEEP), Marissa Westbrook (UI)

### Introductions

### Energy Workforce Analysis Report

Tom Burns presented an overview of the Energy Workforce Analysis report. The report was sponsored by a grant from DEEP.

#### DEEP assessment priorities:

- Inventory existing certifications, training and degree programs in the energy related fields including energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy installations.
- Define the energy sector by using North American Industry Classification System codes.
- Develop recommendations for aligning existing educational programs with industry demand.
- Provide guidance for collaboration between the CTEWDC and the Board of Regents, the Board of Regents Community College Council of Continuing Education and the Board of Regents Community College of Academic programs.

#### Report Conclusions:

- The NAICS code analysis indicates a robust energy sector with over 5,600 businesses employing approximately 68,000 employees
- The trends in job postings and stable employment indicators show growth in several areas
  - Construction
  - Professional, scientific and technical services
- Regionally located education and training programs limit the availability to all business and individuals interested in an energy career
- Technical High schools, entry level programs and apprenticeships are providing a pool of workers
- Limited funding for training programs
- Lack of energy workforce metrics and no training plan

### Report Recommendations:

- Evaluate the development of continuing training programs at the community colleges including entry level programs
- Expand funding for entry level programs conducted by the workforce boards
- Consider the development of standard curriculum for the energy efficiency businesses
- Consider an expansion of online learning
- Communicate the benefits of the “Home Energy Rating System” (HERS) to home owners and potential home buyers
- Develop a consistent curriculum for “21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills”
- Develop a training plan for the state

The Executive Summary of the “Connecticut Energy Workforce Assessment” report can be found on the [getintoenergyCT.com](http://getintoenergyCT.com) website along with Tom’s PowerPoint presentation at this meeting – under Resources/Publications.

### Group Discussion about Report (comments/questions/feedback):

- Need for a 2 year technical degree vs. going from high school into the workforce. A degree program might get you a better employee but not a cheaper employee.
- There needs to be more business involvement with the community college system around the 2 year technical programs.
- As in the manufacturing field, there should be stackable credentials and certifications that better align with business needs.
- A question was asked of DEEP: Where will this report be shared and how will it be shared? This is still yet to be determined.
- The next step may be to prioritize the recommendations so that you can get the most bang for your buck.
- Federal or state money set aside for training is usually awarded to the utility companies. A suggestion was made that a pool of money be set aside for contractors and small businesses to be reimbursed for their training costs similar to the Mass Save program. Can the energy sector replicate the manufacturing sector model that has the CT “Manufacturing Innovation Fund?”
- Three private training facilities in the state – are they sufficient? Businesses send employees to these training programs in order to fulfill requirements to be in state programs.

### **DEEP Partnerships:**

Diane Duva from DEEP outlined several initiatives/partnerships that are taking place using federal Department of Energy funds that center around Workforce Development in the energy sector. She announced the continuation of the consortium and DEEP partnership for another year which will allow the consortium to prioritize and follow up on the report recommendations. She also reported that a significant way the department continues to increase the energy workforce needs is a program that is upgrading all state buildings to make them more energy efficient.

### **Institute for Sustainable Energy (ISE) – Lynn Stoddard**

Lynn reported on 3 ISE initiatives:

1. GPRO classes – with support from DEEP the ISE is offering GPRO courses (Green Professional Operations & Management Certification) courses to state and municipal building operation employees and supervisors. The course provides critical tools to help those interested or involved with building maintenance transition from conventional to more sustainable operations
2. CT Technical High School System – ISE created energy benchmarks for the technical high schools and conducted building walkthroughs looking for opportunities for energy savings. They are now looking to implement some of the recommendations for improvements in addition to providing GPRO training for the building maintenance supervisors
3. ISE is re-engaged in Governor Malloy's 2050 Gas Reduction target: 80 percent below 2001 levels by 2050. This initiative will have a big impact on workforce. The CT Roundtable on Climate and Jobs is tasked with trying to quantify what the likely impact on jobs and workforce will be in an effort to reach this goal.

### **CBIA's E<sup>2</sup> (Energy and Environmental Policies Council) and the CT Energy Efficiency Board (EEB) - Eric Brown**

CBIA's E<sup>2</sup> is a membership organization for energy and environmental issues. The lobbying component follows laws and regulations in the fields of energy and the environment, while having the opportunity to actually help shape them. The Connecticut Energy Efficiency Board (EEB) is an appointed group whose members utilize their experience with energy issues to assist the state's utility companies in developing comprehensive, cost-effective energy plans. Eric sees both of these organizations as a 'sounding boards' for the CEWDC as it develops workforce training initiatives.

### **Events/Announcements**

- October 12 – 18<sup>th</sup> is designated as "Careers in Energy" week. The Center for Workforce Development (CEWD) website (<http://www.cewd.org/>) has more information and resources.
- The Center for Workforce Development's annual summit is Nov. 4 – 6 in Arlington, VA

- The CTEWD Consortium is looking to build a database of speakers (maintained and listed on our [getintoenergyCT.com](http://getintoenergyCT.com) website) who can talk about a number of topics related to energy. Contact Jennifer Duggan @ [jennifer.duggan@cbia.com](mailto:jennifer.duggan@cbia.com) if you would like be included in that list.
- Mary deManbey of CBIA Education Foundation is managing (on behalf of the CT College of Technology's Regional Center for Next Generation of Manufacturing – the main sponsor) the 1<sup>st</sup> Greater Hartford Maker Faire on Saturday, October 3,2015 at Tunxis Community College. If you would like to be a maker or attend please visit the website: [greaterhartfordmakerfaire.com](http://greaterhartfordmakerfaire.com)

**Next Meeting** – October 13, 2015, 1:00-3:00 PM, CBIA Conference Room