

CT Energy Workforce Development Consortium Meeting Notes

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 1:00 PM

CBIA, 350 Church Street, Hartford, CT

Attendees: Mary Ann Miller, co-chair (Iroquois), Joe Ryzewski, co-chair (UI), Kendall Ademu-John (PSEG) via telephone, Merilee Baker Roussat (Gateway Community College), Peter Callan (Lantern Energy), Craig Clark (Eversource), Leticia Colon (Energy Efficiencies Solutions), Casey Dilzer (GEW), Diane Duva (CT DEEP), Peggy Diaz (DEEP) via telephone, Eric Gribin (NCC), Theresa Lavoie (HPA of CT), Kate Lennon (CT Energy Marketers Assoc.), Richard LoPresti (UIL Holdings), Kathy Marioni (DOL Office of Workforce Competitiveness), Erika Lynch (Gateway Community College), Laura Miller (Institute for Sustainable Energy (ECSU), Laurie Shuckerow (Eversource), Therese Wallace (CBIA), Susan Winkel (UI)

Guests: Rosa Schmidt (CEWD), Harold Mackin (CT State Department of Education)

Welcome/Introductions

CEWD Demand Report – Energy Industry

Joe Ryzewski talked about the importance of assessing the current goals of the CT Energy Workforce Development Consortium (CT EWDC) and refining them going forward. He introduced Rosa Schmidt of Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD) who will help facilitate the strategic planning process. CEWD is a non-profit consortium of electric natural gas and nuclear utilities and their associations - Edison Electric Institute, American Gas Association, American Public Power Association, Nuclear Energy Institute, and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. CEWD is the first partnership between utilities, their associations, contractors and unions to focus on the need to build a skilled workforce that will meet future industry needs.

As part of the planning process, it is important for the CT EWDC to have data that is reflective of the industry's current and future workforce needs in the state. Tom Burns was unable to attend the meeting so he will present a summary of his workforce analysis to date at the next meeting. Rosa presented CEWD's estimates for utility worker demands in the next 10 years in Connecticut as a starting point for discussion. CEWD's estimates are based on surveys of their members, census data and job data based on NAICS codes. Members discussed CEWD's findings in comparison to other estimates of the state's energy workforce needs. **ACTION ITEM:** CT EWDC members from utility and gas companies will report workforce needs' estimates from their respective companies to Joe Ryzewski and Mary Ann Miller. Using this data, CEWD's findings and Tom Burns' Energy Workforce analysis (which includes non-utility workers as well), the CT EWDC will establish a demand data baseline for the strategic planning process going forward.

CT Governor's Climate Change Initiative

Mary Ann Miller reported on Connecticut's Comprehensive Energy Strategy which is updated every 3 years and due to be updated this year.

Education Update – State Dept. of Education

Harold Mackin, Associate Education Consultant from the Connecticut Department of Education, presented an overview of energy career education in Connecticut. Energy, Green Technology and Engineering fall under Technology Education in CTE. Though there isn't currently a dedicated pathway for entering an energy-focused career, some local level high schools offer courses/programs related to Energy and Green Technology. Other energy study programs are available through the Green Leaf Schools, the Connecticut Technical High School System and at community colleges.

Game Changers / Other Workforce Issues; SWOT Analysis

Rosa Schmidt led the group in a SWOT analysis of internal and external forces affecting the CT EWDC's work. The comments will be compiled and serve as a starting point to finishing the exercise at the next meeting. Based upon the analysis specific Goals and initiatives will be determined.

ACTION ITEM: Members to think about game changers in preparation for next meeting's discussions that will focus on identifying key strategies and objectives for CT EWDC.

Next Meeting – March 31, 2016, 1:00-3:00 PM, CBIA Conference Room