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Best,
The PG&E PowerPathway Team

Learn more about PG&E PowerPathway, a White House recognized best practice model for workforce development.

**Aligning Community Colleges with Smart Grid and Energy Efficiency Training Needs**

PG&E convened members of its PowerPathway Energy Efficiency and Renewables Training Network in the continuing pursuit of linking industry workforce to the classroom and developing a pool of professionals who can deliver on the state's aggressive energy efficiency goals.

"Forums like these enable us to connect with our colleagues in industry and education and start looking at how we can work better together," said Dr. Ingrid Thompson, associate director at Workforce Institute. "With budgets tightening all around, it's essential we leverage all our resources, provide the industry training needed, and get people into available jobs with sustainable wages and emerging career pathways."

Community college partners from Skyline College, Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, Kern Community College District, Modesto Junior College, Cosumnes River College, The Workforce Institute, and several PG&E representatives took part in a range of discussions at PG&E's Stockton Energy Training Center. From sharing curriculum and establishing articulation agreements with PG&E, to smart grid evolution and its impact on community colleges, the convening represented another step forward in realigning California's Community Colleges educational and training programs with the real-time economic and workforce development needs of the energy industry.

To learn more, contact Lisa Shell, program manager, PG&E PowerPathway.

**New Bridge to Utility Worker Program Opens for Enrollment in San Jose**

Applications are now being accepted to the PowerPathway Bridge to Utility Worker program to be held on the San Jose City College campus. The eight-week career prep course is customized to prepare candidates to compete for entry-level field jobs in the energy and utilities industry.

Classes will be held at the Workforce Institute, a division of San Jose/Evergreen Community College District. Applications are due November 11. Classes begin early 2012. Learn more and apply, today.

**State of the Energy Workforce**

In the Center for Energy Workforce Development's latest report on the current state of the energy workforce, despite the current economic crisis the energy industry stands poised for expansion as the need for power continues to increase.

While almost half of the utility workforce may need to be replaced by 2015 due to retirement or attrition, workers can't simply step into energy jobs without appropriate education and skills-focused training.

The need remains for a qualified, diverse workforce to build America's clean-
New Course Fills Gap in Energy Conservation Education

PG&E PowerPathway teamed up with partners in San Jose in September to launch a pilot course in Energy Efficiency Business Development.

"The course is filling a gap in the energy conservation industry," said Adam Selvin, PG&E manager for Energy Solutions and Service. "This program will provide students with the tools needed to move energy saving opportunities forward, and provide high quality people to meet California's growing energy management workforce needs."

The new course, in session now through December at the Workforce Institute, a division of San Jose/Evergreen Community College District, was created for sales and marketing professionals who want to advance their skills in the growing field of energy efficiency sales, service and design. The students, mostly unemployed or underemployed Bay Area technology workers and a few PG&E employees, will learn to analyze costs, incentives, investment tradeoffs and customer benefits to create compelling business cases for energy efficiency system upgrades and retrofits in commercial and industrial building environments.

The energy efficiency course is funded by a $2,000,000 California Labor and Workforce Development Agency Green Innovation Challenge Grant awarded last year to the Workforce Institute and California State University, East Bay (CSU East Bay). The objective of the Challenge grant is to encourage the development of new workforce training strategies to prepare workers for jobs in clean technologies. PG&E employees who enrolled for the class were eligible for tuition reimbursement through PG&E's tuition assistance program. Tuition for all other students was paid for by the grant.

The PowerPathway Energy Efficiency Business Development course marks the second training program PG&E and its educational partners have launched in 2010 with Challenge grant funds. In March, PG&E and CSU East Bay collaborated on a four-course Certificate in Integrated Energy Solutions to advance the skills of engineers and technical professionals seeking new careers with architectural, engineering and design firms leading the next wave of energy efficiency in commercial and industrial systems and processes.

The Workforce Institute and CSU East Bay are members of the PG&E PowerPathway Training Network.

News and Highlights

Read about PG&E's PowerPathway program in the August 25 issue of The Economist, Workers (and business) unite! Can training programs reshape America's workforce?, and in the September 26 issue of Transport Topics, Transportation Officials Urge National Effort to Attract Next Generation of Industry Talent. Visit our Newsroom for these and other stories.

Watch a new PowerPathway video featuring Rafael Barajas, a military veteran and PowerPathway graduate who successfully transitioned from combat greens into a career at PG&E. Learn more about our work as featured in PG&E's recently released 2010 Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Report.
If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, or if this email was forwarded to you and you’d like to join our mailing list, email Dimitria Jackson at drje@pge.com.