Grantee: Central Wyoming College

Industry Focus: Energy

Key Partners: Wyoming Workforce Services; One-Stop Centers; EnCana Oil & Gas; Devon Energy; Conoco-Phillips; Thunder Basin Coal Company; National Oilwell; ITC Electrical Technologies; McCumber Well Service; Triple L, Inc; Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality; K-12 schools in central Wyoming; Wyoming Department of Vocational Rehabilitation; Riverton Ministerial Alliance; Central Wyoming ABE/GED Center; and University of Wyoming.

Grant Amount: $1,379,895

Leveraged Amount: $1,231,320

Location of Grant Activities: Wyoming

Challenge: Central Wyoming College is surrounded by 38,000 oil and gas wells operated by a variety of entities ranging from multi-national corporations to small local companies. Operation of these wells is regulated by strict rules and standards in the areas of environment, safety, and health. There is a severe shortage of qualified technical workers in these areas.

Addressing the Challenge: Responding to industry demand, Central Wyoming College and its industry partners are developing training opportunities for incumbent workers as well as competency-based Associate Degree programs for Environmental Technicians and Health and Safety Technicians. These new programs include a mixture of classroom instruction, on-site industrial practical training, and on-line distance learning. The program will be promoted among Native Americans on the Wind River Indian Reservation. Cultural diversity and sensitivity workshops will be offered as part of the curriculum.

Projected Outcomes:

- 75 youth and 440 adults will receive training.
- 45 adults will be trained in the Environmental Technician and Health and Safety Technician programs.
- 90 percent of adults and 60 percent of youth who receive certifications will obtain employment within three months or continue on the Energy career ladder for advanced training.
- 70 percent of incumbent workers trained will achieve a 10 percent wage increase.