



Centralia Community College Northwest Center of Excellence for Clean Energy: SMART Grid Workforce Development

Project Description

The project establishes the Pacific Northwest Regional Center of Excellence for Clean Energy within Washington State's Centralia College. A collaboration of consumer-and investor-owned utilities, the Bonneville Power Administration, the Pacific Northwest National Lab, community colleges and universities will design and deliver educational programs for: instrument control and relay specialists; generation, load and substation operators; line workers, substation wiremen and mechanics; meter technicians, and, secondarily, energy conservation program administrators and resource conservation managers. Training will be provided through satellite centers in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. In addition, the Utah-based WestCAMP will develop safety and hazard prevention guidelines and training programs for all line workers, manufacturing and construction personnel or technicians who will be working with Smart Grid technologies.

Goals/Objectives

- Deliver Smart Grid training for utility workers in a four state region of the Pacific Northwest
- Create an online Smart Grid training and information portal for utilities, businesses, and consumers through the Regional Education and Training Center
- Share best practices on Smart Grid training using a regional approach

Benefits

- Offers training opportunities through partner satellite programs with simulator laboratories on Smart Grid technology across five states
- Non-targeted occupations such as system designers, energy planners, dispatchers, and construction engineers may also benefit from collaboration
- Re-trained displaced workers and prepare them for careers in the high-tech electric power industry
- Active industrial participation in power energy education
- A highly skilled, electric power workforce trained in cutting-edge Smart Grid technologies
- Job retention and employee growth



CONTACTS

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PARTNERS

Northwest Energy Efficiency Taskforce
Bonneville Power Administration
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Avista Utilities
Puget Sound Energy
Seattle City Light
Idaho Power
IBEW
AFL-CIO
Veterans Conservation Corps
Community Colleges and 4 year
Universities

PROJECT DURATION

07/15/2010–07/15/2013

COST

Total Project Value
\$11,831,977

DOE/Non-DOE Share
\$4,998,859/\$6,833,118

PROJECT LOCATION

Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon
Utah

CID: OE0000398

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