

Radiation and Nuclear Technology Curricula Enhancement

Executive Summary

The Radiation and Nuclear Technology Curricula Enhancement project will revise the current Radiation Protection Technology program into a multi-track, two-year unified curriculum for individuals training for various careers in the nuclear power industry. This course revision project is being undertaken upon recommendations from Duke Energy, a Spartanburg Community College sustaining partner in nuclear power energy training, in an effort to standardize the curricular offerings and training of individuals who seek a career path in nuclear energy in the United States in keeping with the Nuclear Uniform Curriculum Program (NUCP).

Each course to be modified and revised is a permanent, required course for program completion for an Associate Degree in Applied Science. The five (5) courses that will be revised involve required courses for the two-year Radiation Protection Technology program. Courses to be revised and enhanced include:

- RPT 101 - "Introduction to Radiation Protection" (1 credit)
- RPT 206 - "Radiation Monitoring and Exposure Control" (4 credits)
- RPT 207 - "Contamination Control and Incident Prevention" (3 credits)
- RPT 212 - "Preparation for Task Qualification" (1 credit)
- RPT 213 - "Qualification to Standardized Tasks" (6 credits)

The objective is to broaden the scope of instruction within each course that will provide students with several career pathway opportunities upon graduation. The lead instructor for revisions will provide leadership, guidance, and revisions, for each of the five courses to be revised. He will be assisted in this effort with a team of instructors from Duke Energy and Spartanburg Community College.

The number of students that will be reached will be 30 students per year as there is a seating limit of 16 students per class. This is not a cohort program per se; however, students must take the courses in sequence and enrollment tends to follow a cohort pattern. Individual students do "stop-out" from time to time and new students come in to take those seats. The total of unduplicated students in the program each year may reach 40 individuals.

Benefits include: 1) completers will have several options for career employment in the nuclear energy industry; and 2) employers will have greater confidence in the quality of training prospective employees have had with a standardized program of study.

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