

Energy Sub-Group Meeting Notes

March 14, 2014 at SMUD, 10-11AM

- Not meant to be a transcript but to hit the high notes of the discussion related to the action items.

The overall discussion was very good and I believe we have the opportunity to focus on 2-3 deliverables that would be greatly beneficial to local workforce development pathways for vocational students in the energy sector. We realized as a group we will soon have to narrow the focus to specific occupational titles but believe that the effort can produce some clarity of communication to students, employers and educational institutions. We also hope to identify and pair particular training programs/job pathways to particular institutions and trainings. It was brought up that Jim Caldwell with the Chancellor's office is working on a similar effort and that may lend us both support and a way to get the results of our work out to a broader audience.

1. Determine who needs to be in the group

The group identified several folks we'd like to have at the next meeting who are not already on the list. Representatives from Roseville Electric, City of Sacramento, and the Dept. of Water Resources – Susan Wheeler will work on those contacts. We also would like to include some relevant high school representation and connect with WECA (there's been some difficulty connecting with them) – Michael Kane will work on contacting those folks.

This should give the core group a good representation of large public employers and educational institutions. As we work further toward a regional advisory board we will broaden the reach to greater number of public and private employers.

2. Define what we want the group to do, we have a couple of potential directions so far:

a. Convening a regional advisory board

The group agreed this would be a priority, very tentatively to occur sometime in the fall.

b. Developing a list of common skills for employers. & c. Creating clearer communication about what skills students possess in regard to their degrees and certifications

The group discussed the idea that there is a process, pipeline that needs to exist from high school through higher education to employers. Some work is already being done on this and we will bring in these efforts as starting points, including what the Center for Energy Workforce Development (<http://www.cewd.org/>) folks are doing, as well as some work by PG&E and SMUD. The goal is to provide a clarity of skill set needs from employers and match these to appropriate education and training so that both students and employers are both well educated in the process.

3. Meeting frequency, timing for next meeting

The group hopes to meet again in about 3 weeks, likely early to mid-April and an announcement of date/time etc will be sent out soon.