Invest in Energy Efficiency to Create Local Jobs & Restart the Economy
Building a Skilled Green Workforce, Supporting Small Businesses, Improving America’s Buildings

_EESI Workforce Wednesday Briefing_{

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Energy Efficiency Jobs in America: Prior to the Pandemic

• **2.3 million** Americans worked in energy efficiency in 2018.

• **Largest and fastest growing jobs sector in the energy industry**, representing ¼ of all U.S. energy jobs. 7.8% growth was projected for 2019.

• **Small businesses**: 79% of companies had fewer than 20 employees.

• **Local jobs** across the country – in virtually every county in the U.S.

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**BEYOND THE BIG CITIES**

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<th><strong>317,890</strong></th>
<th><strong>308,375</strong></th>
<th><strong>1 Million+</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Americans living in rural areas work in energy efficiency</td>
<td>U.S. energy efficiency jobs are in counties with fewer than 100,000 residents</td>
<td>Energy efficiency jobs are outside America’s top 50 metro areas</td>
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COVID-19 Impacts on Jobs

• Cumulative **345,000 energy efficiency jobs lost** since pre-COVID (nearly 15% of workforce)

• Job recovery stalled despite state reopenings (0.4% growth in August)

• Over 40 states have double digit unemployment in the energy efficiency sector

Energy Efficiency = Job Creator, Economic Stimulus

• New report: energy efficiency stimulus can jump-start America’s economic recovery
• If Congress appropriated $60.7 billion for the energy efficiency sector, it would:
  • add $254.7 billion to U.S. economy
  • create 737,200 full-time jobs

EES is a SMWOB, employs 22 people who were unemployed or underemployed. We have trained over 120 people for local EE workforce and plan to train more. Long term career paths, from entry level jobs to office jobs, planners, COO, and CEO roles. As we grow EE in our nation, we grow EE jobs. If your town has buildings with a B then you can develop EE jobs. We have jobs for everyone.

What we need to grow:

- DOL codes = ensure EE jobs are recognized for the benefits they offer the economy and workforce development
- Create funding resources to train a growing workforce.
- Lack of trained workforce
- Lack of knowledge of this growing industry
HOPE for HOMES Act of 2020


- **Home Online Performance-Based Energy-Efficiency (HOPE) Training - $500 Million**
  - Immediate support for small businesses; equitable access to training
  - Grants for provider organizations to develop online training curriculums
  - Provide up to $10,000 to contracting companies to cover training costs for rehired/retained employees
  - $1,000 stipend for contractors who complete HOPE Training

- **HOMES Rebate Program - $6 Billion**
  - Rebates to homeowners who invest in energy efficiency upgrades (up to $4,000 based on energy savings)
Workforce Grants for Small Businesses

- **Blue Collar to Green Collar Jobs Development Act of 2019** (H.R. 1315) – Would establish an *Energy Workforce Grant Program* to assist businesses seeking to educate and train new hires and existing employees in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

  *Similar legislation:*

- **Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019** (S. 2393) – Grant program to support on-the-job training in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

- **American Energy and Innovation Act** (S.2657) – includes a similar energy workforce grant program in the Workforce Title.

- **Green Neighborhoods Act of 2020** (H.R. 8021) – grants for training via registered apprenticeship programs
Other Policy Opportunities to Expand EE

• Weatherization Enhancement and Local Energy Efficiency Investment and Accountability Act - S. 983/H.R. 2041
  • Reauthorizes DOE Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and uses TnTA monies to support workforce training.

• Robust appropriations for important DOE efficiency programs
  • WAP
  • State Energy Program
  • Building Technologies Office
Thank you!

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