

Possible Projects for Uintah Basin Regional Council

Develop a Workforce Strategic Plan in Energy for Uintah Basin Counties and Employers

In 2007, the State Council and Regional Councils began developing a Utah Strategic Workforce Plan for traditionally high-growth employment sectors. The activity will be very important as the Basin prepares for the baby boomers to begin retiring, sustained activity in the oil and gas fields, and to revitalize tourism. To address this issue, the Council and staff could do the following:

***Possible Project:** Determine annual training capacity by UBATC, USU and other training institutions for those skills that are in demand. Collect and compile the number of workers needed to meet this demand over the next 10 years. Review annually the data and develop recommendations on what should be done to meet the demand for skilled workers.*

***Possible Activity:** Invite major employers to present to Council on current and future employment plans. Staff could possibly provide quarterly report showing where new hires are (by industry) and where downsizing is occurring.*

In 2007 and 2008, the Council has had a major focus on assessing and meeting the workforce needs of the energy sector.

***Possible Project:** Engage industry representatives to identify skills and certifications important to the industry. Develop and implement, in collaboration with UBATC and USU, the certifications and skills courses that meet the requirements as spelled out by industry.*

The State of Utah was recently awarded a \$4.6 million grant for training programs in green energy skills and occupations.

***Possible Project:** Organize a Regional Energy Grant Team, under the Uintah Basin Regional Council, to oversee the implementation/management of the Southeastern Region portion of the State Energy Grant. Include industry, education and agencies that are involved in sponsoring customers. Members would advise on skill gap and training solutions, provide technical training expertise, offer mentoring and job coaching to trainees, assist with curriculum development, and provide, when possible, employment opportunities for qualified trainees. The grant will last for 3 years.*

Other

***Possible Project:** Sponsor bus tour for 50+ science and/or applied technology teachers to various energy sites during the summer. (Last completed in 08. Very successful.)*

Possible Project: *Develop a marketing message that communicates the benefits of energy sector employment in Utah to potential workers and parents.*

Possible Project: *Hold an open house and invite local clergy to visit the employment centers and learn about employment and supportive services offered by DWS.*