



Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, & Economic Growth

Michigan Electric Power Workforce Training Strategy

Project Description

In response to critical skills shortages facing the electric utility industry, the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth (DELEG) established the Michigan Utility Workforce Development Consortium, a Michigan Skills Alliance. The Consortium brings together over 25 partners from industry, labor, associations, and academia to develop customizable, collaborative solutions to the industry's workforce needs. Each partner has a key role in making the most efficient use of established training curriculums, facilities, laboratories, and equipment to provide the utility industry with the talent necessary to succeed. High-tech training in the power sector is offered through various community colleges and utility/union training trusts, including pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, and incumbent worker training in the areas of line technician, cable splicer, substation operations/maintenance, substation/engineering technician, underground line technician, advanced metering infrastructure technician, and electrical maintenance. Michigan Works! partners, who oversee workforce development services in their local area and are governed by the state's 25 workforce development boards, provide assessment and screening to identify eligible participants and refer them toward the appropriate training pathway.

Goals/Objectives

- 588 Michigan workers trained for jobs in the electric power sector
- Create career pathways to in-demand jobs in the electric power sector
- Improve worker preparedness in migrating systems to the Smart Grid

Benefits

- 186 trainees hired
- Displaced workers retrained
- High-tech training in cutting-edge power technologies including Smart Grid
- Active participation in power energy education from various sectors



CONTACTS

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PARTNERS

Consumers Energy
Detroit Edison Energy
Michigan Works! Agencies

PROJECT DURATION

07/30/2010–07/30/2013

COST

Total Project Value
\$21,178,965

DOE/Non-DOE Share
\$4,388,025/\$16,790,940

PROJECT LOCATION

Michigan

CID: OE0000443

Managed by the National Energy Technology Laboratory for the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

