



Pennsylvania State University GridSTAR Center: Smart Grid Training and Application Resource Center

Project Description

The GridSTAR Center will provide education and training of a workforce needed to design, construct, and operate a reliable, secure, economical, energy efficient, and safe Smart Grid. Operations will begin at University Park and will include two satellite locations: the Philadelphia Navy Yard and the Pittsburgh Green Innovators facility at the former Pittsburgh Public Vocational-Technical High School. The GridSTAR Center is coordinating with a diverse team of utility, energy management, manufacturing, and training partners to provide systems-based continuing education and train-the-trainer programs in advanced power systems design, energy economics, cyber security, distributed energy generation, and building-vehicle-grid systems.

Goals/Objectives

- Form a network of industry leaders to identify Smart Grid workforce development needs
- Support the alignment of workforce demand with existing training infrastructure utilizing two GridSTAR center hubs
- Implement workforce development programs in partnership with utilities, community colleges, universities, unions, and various industry sectors
- Assess placement and economic impact metrics to refine programs and disseminate results

Benefits

- Job retention and employee growth
- Workforce trained in technical and professional skills that can provide leadership in transforming existing power systems to a Smart Grid
- Active industrial participation in energy systems education
- Highly skilled, electric power workforce trained in cutting-edge Smart Grid technologies



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PARTNERS

PECO Energy Co, PJM Interconnection, General Electric, Lockheed Martin, Philadelphia Industrial Development Authority, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, National Electrical Contractor Association, International Union of Operating Engineers, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Pennsylvania Commission of Community Colleges, Community College of Allegheny County, BPL Global, CJL Engineering, The Heinz Endowments, Veridity, Platinum Energy, PennFuture Center for Energy, Enterprise and the Environment, Exergy Partners Corp, Electri Intl, Delaware Valley Green Building Council, Ben Franklin Tech Partners, Green Building Alliance, Pittsburgh Tech Council

PROJECT DURATION

04/01/2010–04/03/2013

COST

Total Project Value
\$10,000,000

DOE/Non-DOE Share
\$5,000,000/\$5,000,000

Project Location

Pennsylvania

CID: OE0000506

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

