

# Community-Based Job Training Grants

## *Mitchell Technical Institute*

**Grantee:** Mitchell Technical Institute

**Industry Focus:** Energy

**Key Partners:** South Dakota Workforce Investment Board; South Dakota Department of Labor; Rosebud Economic Development Corporation; South Dakota Rural Electric Association; Black Hills Corporation; High Plains Technical School; and South Dakota Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education.

**Grant Amount:** \$1,993,723

**Leveraged Amount:** \$5,553,000

**Location of Grant Activities:** South Dakota

**Challenge:** The nation is currently faced with a shortage of workers in the energy fields, particularly in the renewable energy field. Wind energy alone is expected to generate demand for nearly 100,000 new jobs without the commensurate training facilities or resources in place. South Dakota's geographic location, natural resources, and climate make it an ideal location to exploit wind and domestic energy generation. Unfortunately, the lack of adequate training and educational resources are compounded by the impending retirement of approximately 25% of South Dakota's electrical distribution and utility workers. Grant funds will allow the Mitchell Technical Institute (MTI) to begin addressing the state's training and education needs.

**Addressing the Challenge:** MTI plans to use the grant and leveraged funds to expand existing and proven programs in Power Line Construction and Maintenance, and Propane and Natural Gas production. This initiative will also add a new program to address the needs of the wind generation sector. Investments will be made in new training equipment, educational facilities, and additional faculty to implement this plan. Further, MTI and its partners will initiate an outreach program aimed at disadvantaged and Native American populations as well as the K-12 education system to raise awareness of energy-related careers.

**Projected Outcomes:**

- 2,165 participants will be served.
- 515 participants will enroll in MTI energy-related programs.
- 1,600 incumbent workers will participate in short-term industry training.
- 50 high school students will enroll in training.
- 2,115 participants will complete education and training activities.
- 465 degrees and certificates will be awarded.
- 50 high school students will complete training.
- 2,042 participants will enter employment.

