

**National Dislocated Worker Grant
(DWG) Application Summary**

Project Type	POWER DWG
Applicant Name	Texas Workforce Commission
Applicant City and State	Austin, TX
Requested Amount	\$559,005
Planned Participants	85
Project Service Area	9 Northeast Texas Counties, including: Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus
Targeted Sectors	Manufacturing
Qualifying Event/Impact	<p>The closure of three mines operated by Luminant Mining Company LLC (Luminant) in Hopkins and Titus Counties. The company issued a WARN notice in February 2016, indicating that permanent layoffs would occur in April 2016. Administrative offices based in Titus County were also affected by the closure of these facilities. The effects of the coal industry layoffs will be magnified in this rural area. The State estimates that the 119 jobs lost from the mine closures will lead to loss of an additional 250 jobs within the community, given the ripple effect on service providers and retail merchants.</p> <p>Based on the information gleaned from Rapid Response surveys, this project proposes to serve 85 of the 119 affected.</p>
Alignment with Economic Development Strategies	<p>This proposed POWER initiative project directly aligns with the North East Texas Regional Talent Retention and Economic Growth Strategy, which is a long-term economic plan to retain skilled workers within the region and maximize industrial growth. This plan was developed in 2014, when concerns surfaced over sizeable workforce reductions at the Red River Army Depot, also located in the North East Texas WDA. The area has since focused on the expansion of existing employers and attracting new employers to the region. Consequently the proposed project operator, North East Texas WDB, has partnerships already in place as a result of this strategic plan, including the Paris, Sulphur Springs, and Mount Pleasant Economic Development Corporations (EDCs), three local community colleges, and the ArkTex Council of Governments (ATCOG). For this proposed project, the EDCs will ensure manufacturers are involved in</p>

	<p>the training provided for the participants to ensure it reflects the requirements of open positions, Community College leadership will ensure curriculum meets the employer and client needs in a timely and cost effective manner, and the ATCOG will provide the broader support and collaboration as required.</p>
<p>Proposed Project Summary</p>	<p>The State proposes to use POWER NDWG funding to provide the affected workers with career services and training to primarily prepare them for in-demand jobs in manufacturing, which is identified in the application as the largest industry in the North East Texas WDA, as well as one of the Target Industry Clusters for the State of Texas. A total of 52 individuals are already targeted to receive certified training in Pipe or Advanced Welding, Electro Mechanical Repair, and Computer Numerically Controlled Machine Operation. The remaining participants are expected to receive career services provided by the State Workforce Solutions Offices and other partners.</p>
<p>DWG-Funded Strategic Planning Activities</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>Other POWER Applications</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Applicant Contact</p>	<p>Sandra Williams Board and Special Initiatives Contracts Texas Workforce Commission 512-463-8359 sandra.williams@twc.state.tx.us</p>