

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Clean Energy Works Portland Designates Carpenters Weatherization Training Program

Portland, OR (February 11, 2010) – The Weatherization Training Program of the Pacific Northwest Carpenters Institute has been designated as a training provider meeting the requirements of the Community Workforce Agreement for Clean Energy Works Portland.

Clean Energy Works Portland is an innovative public-private partnership that offers homeowners low-interest, long-term financing and streamlined service delivery for energy efficiency upgrades like new insulation, a furnace or heat pump, or a hot water system. Clean Energy Works is currently in a 500-home pilot seeded by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act dollars. Collaborating entities include City of Portland, ShoreBank Enterprise Cascadia, Energy Trust of Oregon, Multnomah County, NW Natural, Pacific Power, Portland General Electric, Home Performance Contractors Guild of Oregon, Worksystems, Inc., and Green For All.

The Clean Energy Works Portland Community Workforce Agreement calls for creating contracting, subcontracting, training and employment policies that will ensure high-quality work, safe conditions for workers and building residents, and articulated strategies for establishing career pathways as well as on-ramps to jobs and economic opportunities for low-income and other historically underserved populations. The Community Workforce Agreement requires all weatherization workers hired by contractors or subcontractors to be trained by designated training providers until 50% of contractor's total non-supervisory worker/installer weatherization employee monthly work hours on covered projects are performed by graduates of a designated training program.

To be eligible for designation, a training provider must do at least the following:

- ~ have at least three defined partnerships with state recognized pre-apprenticeship programs or signatory community organizations that serve historically disadvantaged or underrepresented populations, including people of color and women;
- ~ ensure that a majority of its trainees are women, people of color, residents of low-income communities or other disadvantaged or underrepresented people;
- ~ offer mentoring, follow-up monitoring and other support to assure retention of participants in the program and in weatherization careers; and;

~ demonstrate a track record of graduating and placing trainees from underrepresented communities in construction careers.

"Clean Energy Works Portland stands for quality energy retrofit work as well as career pathways and economic opportunity for all," said Portland Mayor Sam Adams. "We're thrilled to be partnering with the Carpenters to deliver a job training emphasis that aligns these critically important elements as we march toward scaling up a thriving clean economy."

"The Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters is excited to be able to partner with Clean Energy Works Portland to provide outstanding training for this important program," said Doug Tweedy, Executive Secretary-Treasurer. "By providing reliable and professional service to partner contractors through this training program, we will continue to meet the growing needs of the northwest construction industry while promoting job opportunities to those who most need them."