

An Initiative of the California Workforce Development Board

Kern County already has a solid footprint of clean energy production with 17k MW of solar and wind energy, a clean transportation charging infrastructure build-out currently in process, and municipal and industrial adoption of microgrids and energy storage facilities is also ramping up. These shifts have resulted in increased need for worker upskilling and new worker training.

The Energy Innovation Workforce Coalition, a Kern Community College District (KCCD)-led work group of community-based organizations, trainers, labor / union representatives, industry, and educators will develop and support work-based learning, internships, pre-apprenticeship, and apprenticeship in new and emerging energy industries. Over the next three years, this project will provide training to align with current and future increases in demand for workers as each sector scales up and projects become operational. This project is informed by H RTP training strategies, and community and worker priorities. Project design will ensure career pathways for new entrants as well as advancement for incumbent workers and supporting Kern County's economic and climate resilience.

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### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- The project's target populations include: Climate Impacted Communities, English Language Learners, Homeless and Housing Insecure, Justice-Involved individuals, and Veterans, and Youth.
- It is estimated that of the 192 participants, 178 will complete and earn a certificate, 163 will achieve positive post training outcomes, 30 will move to post-secondary education, 48 will move to state-approved apprenticeship, 7 will receive career advancement promotions, and 78 will be new hire employees.
- This project will achieve these benefits by providing transportation so that members of under-resourced communities in Arvin, Delano, Shafter, and Wasco can participate in embedded hands-on work-based learning.

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### KEY PARTNERS

- Kern Community College District 21<sup>st</sup> Century Energy Center
- IBEW Local No. 428
- The Kern-Inyo-Mono Central Labor Council (KIM CLC/BTC)
- The Dolores Huerta Foundation (DHF)
- Building Healthy Communities-South Kern (BHC)
- San Joaquin Valley Electric Vehicle Partnership (SJVEVP)