

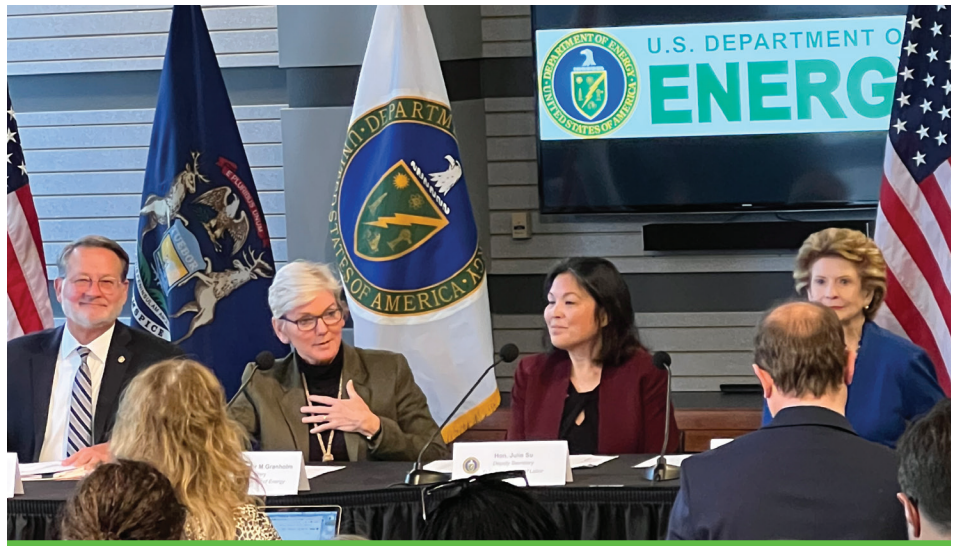
Battery Workforce Initiative



Overview

The Battery Workforce Initiative (BWI) is convening a broad group of industry leaders and collaborators to develop nationally accepted training guidelines to support the rapid development of a globally competitive U.S. advanced manufacturing industry. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is sponsoring this initiative, in coordination with the U.S. Department of Labor, Working for America Institute, Li-Bridge alliance, and other organizations. The BWI is designed to strengthen the domestic economy and clean energy supply chains by helping employers meet the increasing demand for skilled workers that has been spurred by private investment in this emerging domestic industry.

BWI stakeholders include industry, technology, and workforce members in the expanding U.S. advanced battery supply chain who are helping guide the initiative by sharing their understanding of current industry workforce trends and employer needs. BWI listening sessions have included more than 22 employers who shared their analysis of industry trends, human resource needs, plans for production, and recruitment goals applying diversity, equity, and inclusion principles. The BWI has also held dozens of one-on-one and small group engagements with industry representatives and participated in numerous international conferences and seminars.



Since its official kickoff event in Detroit, Michigan, in December 2022, the initiative has engaged employers and unions, conducted site visits, gathered data on skill needs in the cell manufacturing and battery assembly industry, and communicated the role of the initiative in moving toward a clean energy future and revitalizing manufacturing. The BWI seeks to center the voices of America's workers and industry as clean energy investments reinvigorate the U.S. manufacturing industry.



* Photo Courtesy of LG Energy.

The purpose of the BWI is as follows:

- Develop national training program guidelines for key occupations in the industry.
- Adopt and implement a work-based learning approach that is responsive to the needs of employers and workers.
- Establish a work-based learning approach that combines on-the-job training and classroom instruction in a job training model that resembles apprenticeship.
- Support training pilots to grow jobs in the domestic battery supply chain.
- Increase worker retention and create career pathways to attract new and diverse workers to the nation's rapidly growing battery manufacturing industry. ■