

RWFI E-NOTE MONTHLY

REGIONAL WORKFORCE INITIATIVE • SEPTEMBER 2017

I. Welcome

Greetings from the NETL Regional Workforce Initiative, or RWFI. The RWFI is connecting and creating a platform for regional efforts in energy and advanced manufacturing workforce training and economic development for the Appalachian Region. With this monthly email, we hope to connect you to workforce efforts occurring not only at NETL but the federal agencies. In this month's and following e-notes, you'll find useful information such as upcoming regional events, funding announcements, and information relevant to workforce and economic development. We hope you'll find this useful, and we look forward to communicating with you in the months ahead.

— Sincerely, The NETL Regional Workforce Initiative

II. Workforce Funding Announcements

Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Loans & Grants

Deadline: Open
Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture

This program provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or for energy efficiency improvements energy. Eligible entities include agricultural producers with at least 50% of gross income from agricultural operations and small businesses in *eligible rural areas*.

Training-based Workforce Development for Advanced Cyberinfrastructure

Deadline: October 09, 2017
Agency: National Science Foundation

The overarching goal of this program is to prepare, nurture, and grow the national scientific workforce for creating, utilizing, and supporting advanced cyberinfrastructure that enables cutting-edge science and engineering and contributes to the Nation's overall economic competitiveness and security.

III. NETL Meetings and Events

Regional Dialogue for Community Colleges—NETL is organizing site visits with the region's community colleges and academic institutes. The first is on October 20 at the NETL Morgantown, West Virginia site. Interested parties should register at: <https://www.netl.doe.gov/events/rwfi>

NETL RWFI Sessions at Meetings—NETL will be participating in a panel during the *Appalachian Regional Commission Summit Transforming Appalachia, October 17–19*, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh-Green Tree, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The RWFI will be discussing the nexus between NETL research and development and economic and workforce development in energy and advanced manufacturing topics in the region. The summit will feature plenary discussions, best-practice examples, and technical assistance workshops on maximizing Appalachia's economic potential. For more information feel free to email: Kirk.Gerdes@netl.doe.gov

TransTech Energy Business Development Conference: October 24–25 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Southpoint Canonsburg, PA - The annual conference links up researchers and investors to help move technology from the laboratory to the commercial market. NETL will host one-on-one conversations with organizations to assist innovators in achieving their goals through partnering in the energy sector. NETL's Technology Managers will join representatives from industry, academia, government, and small businesses to discuss collaboration opportunities and driving transitional technologies to commercial success. NETL's Director, Dr. Grace Bochenek, and Deputy Director/CRO, Dr. Randy Gentry, will each moderate panel sessions during the event. <http://transtechenergy.org/>

IV. Workforce Conferences, Meetings, and Summits—Regional and National

Appalachian Regional Commission Summit Transforming Appalachia, October 17–19, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania—Join the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and hundreds of Appalachia's leaders at ARC's 2017 summit Transforming Appalachia: Embracing Change to Drive Progress, to be held October 17–19 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh-Green Tree in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The summit will feature plenary discussions, best-practice examples, and technical assistance workshops on maximizing Appalachia's economic potential.

Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD) 2017 Annual Summit, November 8–10, Washington, D.C.—CEWD's 2017 annual summit will bring together experts from energy companies and their education and community partners to showcase successful examples of how utilities are building a diverse, qualified pipeline of talent for the future. The summit will focus on the resources and tools that have been developed by CEWD and how companies are using them to attract, educate, hire and retain youth, women, military and transitioning adults for successful careers in the energy industry.

V. News from NETL

DOE Announces \$50 Million for Large-Scale Pilot Fossil Fuel Projects—The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the availability of a \$50 million funding opportunity through the Office of Fossil Energy to design, construct, and operate two large-scale pilots for transformational coal technologies that improve coal-powered systems' performance, efficiency, emission reduction, and cost of electricity.

DOE Invests \$17.4 Million in Projects to Advance Recovery of Rare Earth Elements from Coal and Coal Byproducts—DOE selected four projects to move on to a second phase of research in their efforts to advance recovery of rare earth elements (REE) from coal and coal byproducts. DOE will invest \$17.4 million to develop and test REE recovery systems originally selected and designed under phase 1 of a prior funding opportunity announcement through DOE's Office of Fossil Energy.

VI. Regional National Manufacturing Initiative News

The Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation—IACMI is unveiling a compressed natural gas vessel prototype from its first compressed gas storage project.

America Makes' Five-Year Milestone—On Wednesday, August 16, 2017, America Makes proudly marked its five-year birthday with a celebration at its Innovation Factory in Youngstown.

VII. Workforce Focus

Appalachian Regional Commission Releases FY 2018 County Economic Status Data and Maps—The Commission's annual county economic status analysis designates Appalachian counties as economically distressed, at-risk, transitional, competitive, or attainment, based on their ranking in an index-based economic classification system. **Resources available** include county-level data on key indicators and an interactive map feature.

DSIRE Database—DSIRE is the most comprehensive source of information on incentives and policies that support renewable energy and energy efficiency in the United States. Established in 1995, DSIRE is operated by the **North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center** at N.C. State University and is funded by DOE.

ABOUT NETL



NETL, owned and operated by DOE, is one of the Department's 17 National Laboratories. NETL supports DOE's mission to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States.

1450 Queen Avenue SW
Albany, OR 97321-2198
541-967-5892

3610 Collins Ferry Road
P.O. Box 880
Morgantown, WV 26507-0880
304-285-4764

626 Cochran's Mill Road
P.O. Box 10940
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940
412-386-4687

Program staff are also located in Houston, Texas, and Anchorage, Alaska

WEBSITE: www.netl.doe.gov



CONTACTS

Matt Garcia
Regional Workforce Initiative
Coordinator
956-314-0645
matthewgarcia@gmail.com

Kirk Gerdes
Regional Workforce Initiative
Coordinator
304-285-4342
kirk.gerdes@netl.doe.gov

Walter Perry
Communications Team Lead
304-285-4263
walter.perry@netl.doe.gov

Mike Knaggs
Associate Director of Partnerships
304-285-4926
michael.knaggs@netl.doe.gov