

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 03/19/09

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Green Jobs

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information only.

DISCUSSION: During the Workforce Investment Board meeting on January 8, 2009, there was a request to provide some fundamental information regarding “Green Jobs.” Staff has done some initial research and would like to share the following:

While there is no commonly accepted definition for the term “green jobs,” the State of California’s definition is any activity or service that performs at least one of the following:

- **Generating and storing renewable energy**
- **Recycling existing materials**
- **Energy efficient product manufacturing, distribution, construction, installation, and maintenance**
- **Education, compliance and awareness**
- **Natural and sustainable product manufacturing**

Generating and storing renewable energy – includes alternative energy generated by, but not limited to:

- **Wind**
- **Solar**
- **Water**
- **Biofuels**
- **Biomass**
- **Hydrogen fuel cells**
- **Geothermal**

Recycling existing materials – Corporations involved in the collection and processing of recyclable materials, including firms running a recycling or wastewater plant. Includes environmental clean-up and remediation (does not include companies that provide bins for recyclable paper, glass, and cans).

Energy efficient product manufacturing, distribution, construction, installation, and maintenance which includes companies involved in the research, development, and manufacturing of products such as solar panels, energy efficient light bulbs, and vehicles. It also includes construction companies that install and repair these products in new or existing residential or commercial real estate, as well as real estate planning and land development.

Education, compliance, and awareness – This sector includes:

- **Training providers for curricula such as solar panel installation, energy auditing, sustainability management, and environmental careers.**
- **Environmental consulting**
- **Governmental/legislative compliance**
- **Conservation and wildlife programs**
- **Trading and offsets**
- **Social assistance**

Natural and sustainable product manufacturing – Includes companies that create products using natural materials. Also includes businesses that produce safe, nontoxic products; bamboo products; products out of previously-recycled materials, and agricultural firms that practice sustainable farming.

Assembly Bill 3018 was signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger on September 26, 2008 is now cited as the California Green Collar Jobs Act of 2008. The legislation establishes a special committee of the California Workforce Investment Board known as the Green Collar Job Council. The council will drive planning, research, and funding to meet California’s growing green workforce needs. Specifically, the council is tasked to:

- **Assist in identifying and linking green collar job opportunities with workforce development training opportunities in the various regions of the State.**
- **Create public, private, and nongovernmental partnerships to build and expand the State’s workforce development program, network, and infrastructure.**
- **Establish job-training programs in the clean and green technology sectors to assist and prepare specific populations, such as at-risk youth, displaced workers, veterans, formerly incarcerated individuals, and others facing barriers to employment.**
- **Develop statewide and regional labor market data on California’s new and emerging green industries workforce needs, trends, and job growth**

More detailed information can be found at www.edf.org/cagreenjobs

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A