

**TO: Workforce Investment Board (WIB)**

**DATE: 1/25/01**

**FROM: WIB Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**Meeting Notes**

**SUBJECT: Central Valley Regional Business Survey Project - Merced County**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): N/A**

**DISCUSSION:** At the Executive Committee meeting on 1-09-01 staff presented the concept of the Central Valley Regional Employer Survey Project offered by the ERISS Corporation. It is the intention of PITD to acquire this service from ERISS as an additional tool to be used in the One-Stop to better serve all One-Stop customers, both job seekers and employers. The Executive Committee asked WIB staff to provide more information on the project at the WIB meeting.

The project consists of the ERISS Workforce Intelligence survey, and ERISSWORKS, the interactive Web application. The ERISS Corp presents a business survey complete with contact information on employers, job availability, community-based services, as well as pertinent information about the respective areas' education and training providers. The ERISS package includes the following elements:

- Interview design and development
- Data collection
- Summary survey statistics and tables
- Design, programming, and deployment of the interactive Web application
- Integration of data with links to relevant local, state, and federal information
- Web hosting and maintenance for the one-year license
- An area breakdown of three subregional zones
- Staff training program includes six days (contiguous) on-site classroom instruction. This training is primarily directed at educating staff and other interested parties on the functionality of the ERISSWORKS system

The cost of this project is dependent on the number of employers to be surveyed. Due to the infrastructure already in place within the Central

**Valley Project, it is cost effective to become a partner in that continuing project rather than standing alone. The cost for Merced County to join the project is \$19,455.00 versus the estimated cost of \$60,000.00 plus if Merced County were to contract as a separate entity.**

**This will be a comprehensive project that will survey all companies in Merced County that have five or more employees. Each occupation within this population will be identified and surveyed.**

**While other surveys have been completed in the community, to include the annual survey of 20 occupations conducted by PITD in collaboration with the California Labor Market Information Division, it is anticipated that this survey will be integrated with others to produce an information base that will be beneficial to One-Stop customers, both job seekers and employers. PITD has committed to host a meeting with all the economic directors to discuss a strategy on how a common source database for this type of information could be developed.**

**The results from this comprehensive survey will augment any existing information being used by the local area. Additionally, as a sponsoring agency PITD will have an invaluable and insightful resource for strategic planning and decision-making efforts in building solid foundations for the local region.**

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS: Ms. Liesa Rasmussen, Regional Account Manager, ERISS Corp, will make a presentation on this project at the 1-25-01 meeting.**

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**

