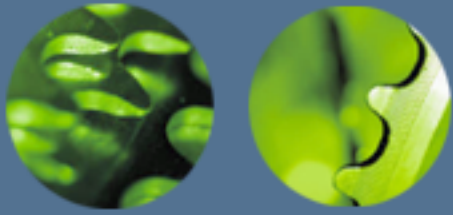




# Update: NGA Cluster Policy Academy

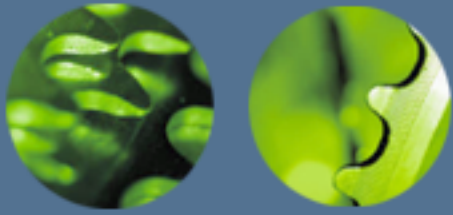
**Presented to the Northwest  
Energy Efficiency Task Force,  
Workforce Work Group**

**August 14, 2008**



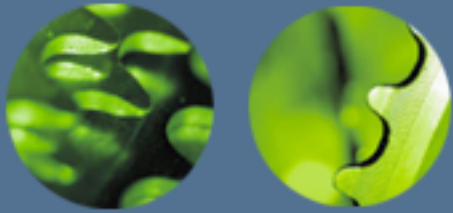
# Policy Academy Overview

Oregon was selected through a competitive process as one of seven states to participate in the National Governor's Association's Policy Academy on "State Strategies for Promoting Innovative Clusters and Regional Economies"



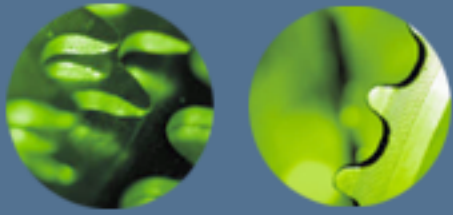
# NGA Academy Team

- **The Honorable David Edwards**  
State Representative
- **Tim McCabe**  
Director, Oregon Economic & Community Development Department
- **Laurie Warner**  
Director, Oregon Employment Department
- **Cam Preus**  
Commissioner, Department of Community Colleges & Workforce Development
- **Duncan Wyse**  
President, Oregon Business Council
- **Claire Berger**  
Governor's Workforce Policy Advisor
- **Nancy Hamilton**  
Governor's Economic Development Advisor
- **James Sager**  
Governor's Education Policy Advisor
- **Marian Hammond**  
Manager, Innovation & Economic Strategies Division, OECDD



## Value of participation

- ✓ Receive technical assistance from NGA experts
- ✓ Share best practices with other states
- ✓ Plan strategy to enhance the regional economy through a cluster-based approach



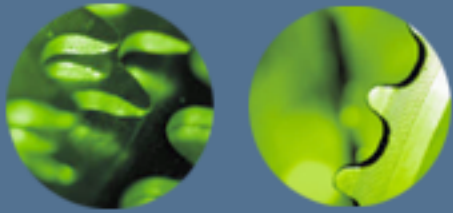
## Value of cluster-based strategies

- ✓ Aggregate business needs (instead of working with one business at a time, state addresses shared needs & helps larger industry to be more competitive)
- ✓ Maximize community assets for recruiting and retaining jobs
- ✓ Align state agencies and partners around shared economic development goals



# Goals for the Oregon project

1. Develop an integrated multi-agency strategy for economic development and prosperity that builds on the state's unique combination of human talent, natural resources, public infrastructure, and quality of life.
2. Develop a process prototype for future application to support additional industry clusters.



# Progress to Date

- ✓ Fall 2007: Oregon Business Council and OECDD partner to conduct focus groups with clusters around the state.
  - Identifies key shared needs
  - Identifies areas for potential state assistance
  
- ✓ November 27-28, 2007: First Academy meeting in Chicago
  
- ✓ January 2008: Academy group identifies focus area for first 1-2 years of effort:
  - ✓ Clean Technology sectors
  - ✓ Workforce, Policy, Regulatory and Infrastructure needs

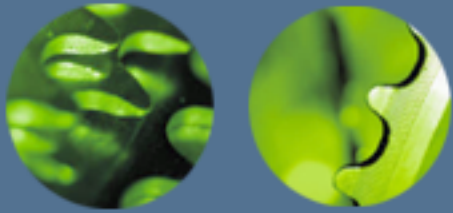


# Strategic Focus

## **Sustainable clean energy**

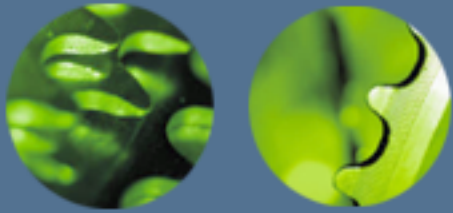
- energy efficiency
- wind
- solar
- green building
- biofuels & biomass
- geothermal
- wave





# Workforce Activities

1. **April 2008: Clean technology workshop brings together industry representatives and leadership from multiple state agencies to discuss workforce needs**
2. **Summer, 2008: Small group work sessions with individual industries and education and training partners**
  - ✓ **Energy Efficiency, July 1**
  - ✓ **Wind, July 2**
  - ✓ **Green Development - Portland, July 21**
  - ✓ **Green Development – Bend, early September**
  - ✓ **Solar – late August**
3. **Fall, 2008: Finalize Action Plan and begin implementation**
  - **Include cross-sector and sector-specific recommendations**
  - **Address immediate actions and longer-term projects**
4. **Early 2009: Evaluate project success and viability as a model process for addressing the needs of Oregon clusters**



# Energy Efficiency Workforce Research

- **Two research reports:**
  - “Oregon Future Workforce Needs Analysis,” commissioned by the Oregon Workforce Investment Board
  - “Sustainable Oregon Workforce,” commissioned by Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development
- **Needs articulated by industry:**
  - Engineers with energy efficiency backgrounds
  - General engineering and science education and training
  - Trade workers with energy efficiency expertise, including service and customer-facing
  - Project managers



# Actual and Possible Actions

- **Example actions already underway:**
  - **Employment Dept. Research Project – define “green” job categories**
  - **Educating industries about existing internship program, the Business Education Compact**
- **Possible actions to address specific industry needs:**
  - Engineers with energy efficiency backgrounds
    - Organize collective advocacy efforts for adequate funding of education
    - Connect CCWD and OUS with private-sector Career Connect program
    - Pursue use of private-sector lab space for education and training
  - Trade workers with energy efficiency expertise
    - Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee outreach to industry
    - Coordination of labor training programs with community college curricula
  - Project managers
    - CCWD and Trades to develop on-the-job training programs together
    - Capacity exists at OIT for more Operations Management/Energy Efficiency students



## Lessons Learned

- Agency coordination and collaboration
- Ongoing dialogue between industry and education and training partners
- More likely than not, the resources/solutions are already in place and filling the pipeline is a matter of:
  - Communication/awareness
  - Capacity of existing systems
  - Commitment from both public and private entities



# Questions?

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**OECD**

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