



## Update on the Green Economy

This year, the Governor requested, and the Washington State Legislature passed, the Climate Change Framework/Green-Collar Jobs act, HB 2815.

- Washington is the fourth state to adopt responsible limits on global warming pollution.
- We're the *first* to make work-force training a key feature of our climate policy.
- There will be demand for new skills for old jobs, and new skills for new jobs.

### Overview

The legislation directs certain state agencies to stimulate a cleaner, greener economy.

The five elements of the green economy jobs initiative, outlined in Section 9 of HB 2815 are:

- **Definitions** – *What is a green economy? What is a green collar job?*

Community, Trade, and Economic Development is working on a definitional list, a green glossary, for common terms like “clean tech,” and “renewable energy.” We expect these products to be ready this summer.

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- **Labor market survey** – *What's out there already? Who's investing?*

Employment Security Department (ESD) and Washington State University, will conduct a survey of employers to establish a baseline and projections for green economy jobs. The report will also identify “high demand” jobs. Their report is expected by January 2009.

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- **Workforce development planning** – *How can we train people to succeed in a greener economy? Who needs training? How can we provide it, or support those who do?*

Workforce Training Education and Coordinating Board will use the ESD labor market report to plan recruitment and training strategies for specific green industry and small businesses.

### ***Workforce development planning, continued***

State Board of Community and Technical Colleges will also build on the ESD labor market report. They will create a *Green Industries Job Training Account* in the State Treasury, and will distribute grants for things like curriculum development; retraining dislocated workers for high-wage green industry jobs; workforce education for target populations; and adult basic/remedial education tied to occupational skills training. They will also identify job-specific training programs offered by qualified post-secondary institutions leading to credentials or degrees in high demand occupations.

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- ***Strategic plan for growing a green economy*** – *Identify best method(s) and practice(s) to stimulate green industries and new technologies.*

CTED will identify emerging technologies and innovations likely to contribute to advancements in the green economy, and stimulate research and development. It will include activities in designated Innovation Partnership Zones (IPZs). CTED will also make recommendations for new or expanded financial incentives and strategies to recruit, retain, and expand green economy industries and small businesses.

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- ***Minority/women owned business enterprises*** – *How can we best help all Washingtonians make a good life for themselves, their communities, our state? What barriers exist that may prevent minorities and women from participating in the Green Economy?*

University of Washington's Business and Economic Development Center will analyze current opportunities and develop strategies with specific policy recommendations to improve their successful participation in the green economy. Their report is due December 2008.

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### **Follow green economy and climate change efforts online:**

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/index.htm>.

- Read regular updates, as available, on the green economy jobs initiative (HB 2815, Section 9).
- Read the Climate Change and Jobs fact sheet: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0801007.pdf>
- Sign up for the climate change listserv to receive updated news and information, including work of the WCI, CAT, The Climate Registry and the implementation of HB 2815.
- Find details on the Climate Action Team's charge and its membership as well as the various Implementation Working Groups and their members.
- Learn more about what the state is doing to address climate change on the regional, national and international levels.

### **Watch a video about clean technology, produced by the Clean Tech Alliance**

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=sgR3NUf4PyA>