

Texas Foundation for Innovative Communities & Good Company Associates

Green Jobs Initiative

Background

There has been a lot of well-meaning enthusiasm around 'green jobs' and 'sustainable development' recently, but that interest has not always translated into substantive information and/or analysis about the underlying technologies and industries that could fundamentally impact our economy in the near future.

In 2009, the Texas Foundation for Innovative Communities (TFIC), together with Good Company Associates (GCA), launched a Green Jobs Initiative to leverage our combined expertise to help ensure that the Texas workforce will be ready to adequately and efficiently respond to evolving demands as advanced technologies that promote sustainable communities are developed and integrated into homes, buildings, and the infrastructure that connects them (i.e., the built environment).

The initiative is specifically focused on the energy efficiency, renewable energy, 'smart' energy, and sustainable construction industries and receives the majority of its funding from a Wagner-Peyser grant from the Texas Governor's Office, through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

Our ultimate goal is to serve as a common link and resource for business interests (employers), educators, workforce agencies, economic development leadership, policymakers, and other stakeholders interested in these industries.

What is the Green Jobs Business Council?

As part of the Green Jobs Initiative, a "Green Jobs Business Council" has been assembled, composed of leaders in the renewable energy, energy efficiency, 'smart' energy, and sustainable construction industries in Texas. The Council serves as a useful resource for those seeking industry-driven analysis and feedback.

What is the Green Corridor Collaborative (I-35 Green Corridor Consortium)?

The Green Jobs Business Council was initially assembled to advise the "Green Corridor Collaborative", a partnership of Central Texas community colleges, workforce boards, and other organizations interested in developing a thriving "green" economy in the region between San Antonio and the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex. Members include Alamo Colleges, Austin Community College District, Central Texas College, Dallas County Community College District, McLennan Community College District, Temple College, the Texas State Technical College System, and their associated workforce investment boards.

Who is TFIC?

The Texas Foundation for Innovative Communities is a nonprofit organization founded in 2006 that promotes sustainable communities by facilitating the adoption of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and smart energy technologies, as well as sustainable construction practices, into the built environment.

Who is Good Company Associates?

Good Company Associates is an Austin-based consulting firm founded in 1991 that specializes in the energy efficiency, renewable energy, and smart energy industries. Service offerings include technical consulting, government & regulatory affairs, business development consulting, project management, and economic analysis.

Green Jobs Business Council participants include:

- Austin Energy
- Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA)
- Beck Group
- Bradco Supply
- Cisco
- Cpower
- CPS Energy
- Dell
- DirectEnergy
- Dow
- Goetting & Associates
- GridPoint / Standard Renewable Energy
- HeliVolt
- Hunt Power
- Image Engineering Group
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)
- Iron Workers Union
- Meridian Solar
- National Instruments
- Oncor
- Pedernales Electric Cooperative
- Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors (PHCC)
- Prudent Energy
- Sheet Metal Workers International Union
- Siemens
- Strand Brothers
- TDIndustries
- Techsun Solar
- Texas Association of Builders
- Texas Building & Construction Trades Council
- Texas Energy Service Companies (TESCO)
- Texas Home Energy Rating Organization (TX HERO)
- Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association (TREIA)
- Texas Solar Power
- Trane
- Wal-Mart
- YPS

For additional information, please contact:

Chris Winland, 512-279-0756
cwinland@goodcompanyassociates.com

Doug Lewin, 512-279-0753
dlewin@goodcompanyassociates.com