Iowa Energy Workforce Workshop Breakouts

“We can continue to compete for a talent puddle or work to create a talent pool.”
-Quoted by Andra Cornelius, Workforce Florida, in Nov 6, 2007 Testimony before the Committee On Energy And Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, on the Domestic Energy Industry Workforce

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Iowa Energy Workforce Workshop
Iowa State University, Nov 26, 2007
Please Fill Before You Leave

1. **Today**: What are Iowa’s energy-related workforce problems today? How do we obtain data to characterize them? What will it take to solve them?

2. **Vision**: What is your own vision of Iowa’s energy future? Where do you want it to go?

3. **Future**: What educational/training infrastructure, partnerships, programs, and curricula need to be created to enable this vision?

4. **Action**: What is the composition of groups necessary to address each need, and what are next steps?
A Comment

We are focused on the electric energy industry, current and future needs.

Future needs, if we are to build an “energy capital of the world” will require consideration of how the industry is likely to change, and in so changing, what new skills and knowledge will be required of the technicians and engineers planning, designing, building, operating, and maintaining the infrastructure.
1. What are best ways to share the IA-energy-vision with K-6, middle-, high-school?
2. How to recruit a larger % of tech-inclined college-students into energy?
3. To what extent can we provide energy-ed/training to students in nontech fields?
4. How to retain IA students studying energy-fields to energy-employment, in IA?
5. Can we use the IA-energy vision to recruit students from other states?
6. Should we/can we increase recruitment of intrntnl stdnts? At which degree levels?
7. To what extent can we recruit professionals already employed outside IA?
Breakout Group#2, Training, retraining technicians, linemen, operators
Facilitator: Bill McAnally, Iowa Central Community College
Room 204 Scheman


2. What skills/knowledge needed now/future that are not addressed by IA institutions?

3. Where can ed-institutions and industry most effectively work together?

4. Are there satisfactory re-training options in terms of content/delivery/credentials?
Breakout Group#3, Energizing engineering education  
Facilitator: Mike Nickeson, Alliant Energy  
Room 208 Scheman

1. What energy-programs exist in IA today? Are they satisfying IA’s needs? Will they satisfy future needs? Should they be modified/expanded/strengthened? Create new ones? Create partnerships between universities? Between CCs and universities?

2. What skills/knowledge needed now/future that are not addressed by IA institutions?

3. Where can ed-institutions and industry most effectively work together?

4. Are there satisfactory learning options in terms of content/delivery/credentials?

5. Do we need to modify/expand/strengthen graduate education in energy? Can IA’s future energy industry absorb more MS, PhD students? Will they pay them enough? To what extent will we need IA-focused energy-research, and where will it be done?