



Mid-America Labor/Management Conference

Jim Hunter
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We need a National Energy Policy



Energy & Infrastructure Program
Energy Project

America's Energy Resurgence: Sustaining Success, Confronting Challenges



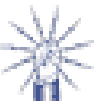
A Report from the Bipartisan Policy Center's Strategic Energy Policy Initiative | February 2013





America's Energy Resurgence

- Bipartisan Policy Center report out February 2013
- Trent Lott
- Byron Dorgan
- General James Jones
- William Reilly





Specifically, we, the Energy Board, believe U.S. energy policy should be designed to advance four core objectives:

- (1) pursue a diverse portfolio of energy resources;
- (2) improve the energy productivity of the U.S. economy;
- (3) accelerate innovation and technology improvements across the energy sector;
- (4) improve energy policy governance and accountability





Energy-Sector Workforce Needs

All key energy sectors and their stakeholders, including the oil and gas industry, the electric power sector, and the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries, require a highly skilled, well-trained workforce to deliver clean, reliable, and affordable energy to the U.S. economy. Many sectors will face significant workforce challenges due to a rapidly aging employee pool and high future demand for qualified workers. Congress, the executive branch, and stakeholders in industry and academia should cooperate to ensure that these workforce challenges are met and that the proper institutions and systems are put in place to achieve them.

We support several specific actions to help prepare for future workforce needs in the U.S. energy sector.



The board agrees that Congress should...

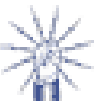
- Direct the Department of Energy and the Department of Labor to work with states to evaluate training needs and facilitate multi-stakeholder energy sector training programs.
- Appropriate funds and direct the Department of Energy, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Education to improve existing systems for collecting, managing, and disseminating workforce and educational data.
- Appropriate funds and direct the Department of Labor to identify training standards and best practices for energy-sector jobs.
- Provide support for individuals who seek relevant technical training and experience.
- Reauthorize the America COMPETES Act.22






Center for Energy Workforce Development

CEWD includes investor owned utilities both electric and gas as well as the electric coop's and the IBEW.





Gaps in the Energy Workforce Pipeline

2011 CEWD Survey Results

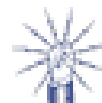
- **Key Findings**

- The size of the industry workforce has decreased by a little more than 11,000 jobs since 2009
- The average age of the workforce has increased to 46.1
- The number of employees age 53 and above has increased by 5% since 2006
- The number of employees with more than 30 years of service has increased by 5.2% since 2006





Job Category	Potential Replacements 2010 --- 2015		Potential Replacements 2015 --- 2020	
	Potential Attrition & Retirements	Estimated Number of Replacements	Potential Retirements	Estimated Number of Replacements
Lineworkers	32%	22,100	15%	10,300
Technicians	39%	28,500	19%	13,500
Plant Operators	37%	12,400	17%	5,800
Engineers	38%	10,600	15%	4,100
Total	36%	73,600	16%	33,700
<i>Totals exclude Nuclear</i>				



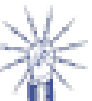
WIRES

(Working group for Investment in Reliable and Economic electric Systems)

In Conjunction with

The Brattle Group

The Brattle Group has performed an important service by summarizing a variety of sources of information on this issue and providing a nation-wide estimate of the direct, indirect, and induced economic benefits of transmission manufacturing and construction. Even given this limited focus on the employment impacts of constructing transmission facilities, the numbers are impressive. Assuming the elimination or reduction of certain barriers to the planning, permitting, and cost recovery associated with transmission development, the **study estimates that 150,000 to 200,000 full-time jobs could be created annually in the U.S. alone over the coming two decades by expanding and upgrading the grid.** Another 20,000 to 50,000 jobs would be created in Canada each year.



Utility Line Worker Cuts Hobble Emergency Storm Response

by Jim Polson
July 04, 2013

Four days before [Hurricane Sandy](#) struck in October, [Consolidated Edison Co. \(ED\)](#) sought **1,800 power-line-repair workers** from its fellow utilities to help respond to the massive storm brewing in the Atlantic Ocean. **It got just 32.** Three days later, the New York-based utility boosted **its request to 2,500. It got 171.**

Con Edison's difficulties getting help from the industry's mutual aid program, under which U.S. utilities send workers to other regions during emergencies, show how years of cost cuts and regulatory pressure to keep prices low has left them less prepared to restore power from the biggest natural disasters.

“Utilities do not have the required field personnel at hand to effectively respond to large storms,” the Moreland Commission, a panel convened by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo to investigate utility storm response and preparation, said in a [June 22 report](#). “National reforms are needed.”

Bigger storms hitting large cities has meant power failures have lingered, drawing the ire of customers, regulators and elected officials. Blackouts lasting more than five minutes cost U.S. power customers about \$29 billion annually, according to a 2004 study by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Sandy caused an estimated \$50 billion in damages, according to the National Hurricane Center. Con Edison is seeking to recover about \$593 million in costs from its customers, the federal government and insurance. It asked state regulators in January to approve rate increases to help fund \$1 billion of new infrastructure spending, including floodwalls to protect equipment.

U.S. utilities employed 61,000 line workers nationwide as of June 2012. That was 4.1 percent less than in 1999, according to the National Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment had slipped to as low as 54,070 in 2009.



Sandy

The unprecedented confluence of hurricane-force winds and record-high storm surges has also prompted a historically large response from the utility industry which at the peak of the repair operation was using 67,000 workers from as far away as Hawaii, California and Washington State to restore power to millions of people along the eastern seaboard.

