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Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor
Stanley "Skip" Pruss, Director

Granholm Announces Michigan Organizations Awarded More Than \$5 Million for Green Job Training

Funds will be used to train 580 workers in Macomb, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties

January 6, 2010 - Governor Jennifer M. Granholm today announced that the U.S. Department of Labor has awarded SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc. and the International Training Institute for the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Industry approximately \$5.3 Million in Energy Training Partnership grants through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) to train 580 people in Macomb, Wayne and Washtenaw counties for green jobs.

"Michigan's growing alternative energy industry will require a highly trained workforce," said Granholm. "These Recovery Act dollars will provide hundreds of Michigan workers the cutting edge skills necessary to thrive in our burgeoning green economy."

The Regional Energy Efficiency Partnership Training Program (REEPTP) will use approximately \$4.3 million in grant funds awarded to SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc. to coordinate several partnerships to provide academic, occupational and on-the-job skills training plus employment or apprenticeship opportunities and support services to 340 people in Wayne County. The programs will partner with other organizations to create a pipeline of skilled workers for alternative energy opportunities in Southeast Michigan.

The International Training Institute for the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Industry will utilize about \$1 million of almost \$5 million it won nationally to prepare 240 unemployed and incumbent sheet metal workers for careers in energy efficient building construction, retrofitting, and manufacturing through a series of customized training courses that address the skills gap of the targeted workforce.

"Green jobs are becoming an increasingly important factor in Michigan's economy," said Andy Levin, Chief Workforce Officer for the State of Michigan and Deputy Director of the Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth. "This funding will continue Michigan's robust efforts to build a premiere green workforce."

The U.S. Department of Labor's Energy Training Partnership grant program will help train workers to enter the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, as well as green occupations within other industries. The grants invest in partnerships of diverse stakeholders including labor organizations, public or private employers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, and the workforce system. Bringing together the workforce expertise of these groups will allow grantees to develop programs that are responsive to the needs of both workers and employers, and that provide participants with the support needed to successfully complete training. The Energy Training Partnership grants represent \$100 million

of the \$500 million available nationally in Green Jobs training grant funding made available by the Recovery Act.

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