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PRESS RELEASE

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Nevada Among Nine States to Invest in More Infrastructure Jobs

CARSON CITY, NV – Nevada is one of nine states awarded funding from the U.S. Department of Labor’s through the second round of the Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant Program to enable 13 public-private partnerships to prepare workers for good-paying infrastructure jobs.

DETR’s Office of Workforce Innovation (OWINN) will partner with Nevadaworks to use the grant totaling \$1,998,841 to empower Project CEJA (Clean Energy Jobs Academy) to reach 2,500 workers over the next five years for high-quality employment opportunities in the clean energy sector and lithium battery supply chain. Project CEJA focuses on Career Literacy, Employer Engagement, Job Training, and Assistance for Workers.

“This grant will give people access to develop skills and connect them to the jobs they want early,” said DETR Director Christopher Sewell. “This is an opportunity to help grow a skilled, diverse, and aligned workforce in Nevada by promoting collaboration and cooperation among entities focused on workforce development.”

OWINN and Nevadaworks will develop and implement a regional worker-centered sector strategy program focused on Nevada’s clean energy economy. OWINN and Nevadaworks will identify and expand the recruitment, training and education, and retention of workers in advanced manufacturing occupations in the Clean Energy and Transportation sectors. The project aims to strengthen the national supply chain of lithium, ensuring Nevada’s historically marginalized Native American and rural communities, which are geographically linked to many of Nevada’s vast lithium deposits, benefit from these efforts. “We are thrilled to receive this grant, which will significantly strengthen our infrastructure for workforce training in the clean energy sector. This support helps us to better prepare Nevada’s workforce for the growing opportunities in this industry,” said Milt Stewart, CEO of Nevadaworks.

In partnership with firms in the lithium supply chain, OWINN and Nevadaworks are committed to providing robust pathways in the advanced manufacturing sector that offer high-wage jobs with career advancement for workers, including adult learners, women, veterans, underemployed workers, justice impacted individuals, at-risk youth, and underserved populations, particularly in Nevada’s rural and tribal communities. The service area of this grant is all 17 counties of Nevada.

This project is building about the Nevada Lithium Batteries and Other EV Material Loop (Nevada Tech Hub), a statewide effort led by the University of Nevada, Reno to strengthen America's lithium batteries, critical elements and other electric vehicle materials industry sectors within the state.

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ABOUT DETR:

The Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation (DETR) is the state's lead workforce development agency. It consists of divisions that offer workforce related services, job placement and training, services for people with disabilities, investigation of claims of discrimination, unemployment insurance benefits, labor market data and more. Many of these services are provided through EmployNV Career and Business Hubs and in cooperation with its community partners.

ABOUT NEVADAWORKS:

Nevadaworks is the local workforce development board for Northern Nevada administering federal funds associated with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Nevadaworks supports workforce development in 13 counties (Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey, Washoe, and White Pine) with an area of more than 70,000 square miles, making it one of the single largest local workforce geographical areas in the country.

Nevadaworks delivers workforce services to these unique areas that over 700,000 people call home. The agency serves the community by assisting job seekers through creating programs that train, educate, and support the workforce to develop key and timely in-demand skills. Nevadaworks assists businesses to secure the talent they need to thrive.

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