

Mt. Hood Community College, Troutdale Energy Center to Develop National Training Program

(Gresham, Ore., January 25, 2012) – Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) and Development Partners, the sponsor of the proposed Troutdale Energy Center, announced today they are drafting a partnership to develop a national training program to train qualified energy plant operators. The proposed agreement will also establish the Troutdale Energy Center as a training facility for the program.

“We are excited about the partnership with Troutdale Energy Center and the opportunity to give our students a pathway to a career in the growing energy sector,” said Michael Hay, president of Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC). “We have a great track record of working with local industries to create training programs that benefit students and companies.”

“Across the country there is a shortage of qualified energy plant operators, like control technicians, and this is a perfect opportunity to help meet that demand while creating opportunities for local residents,” said Bob Howard, Director of Development Partners, which develops power plants around the country.

In the draft partnership, Mt. Hood Community College will work with Troutdale Energy Center, Power Plant Management Services (PPMS) and NAES Corporation to develop the program curriculum and delivery. PPMS provides management and administrative services to Energy Investors Funds (EIF) portfolio of electric generation facilities. NAES provides operation and management services to energy plants across the country, including 16 facilities owned by EIF. Troutdale Energy Center would be a training facility for the program, and plans to offer internships for highly trained, technical operator jobs.

The program may take up to three years to develop, and may include training in disciplines including thermal dynamics, instrument technology and controls and energy regulatory compliance.

The Troutdale Energy Center proposal is a natural-gas-fired electric generation facility on the site of the former [Reynolds Aluminum plant](#) in Troutdale. The proposal is in preliminary stages, working with the Port of Portland and City of Troutdale, and is designed to meet the growing energy needs of Portland General Electric’s 800,000 customers.

About Mt. Hood Community College

Serving more than 32,000 students each year, Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) provides students the education needed for the career of their choice. MHCC offers more than 70 associate degrees, certificate programs and transfer options in a wide variety of disciplines. Students can also earn a bachelor's degree through partnerships with area universities and MHCC. Classes are offered at several locations – [The Bruning Center for Allied Health Education in Gresham](#), the [Gresham Campus](#) and the [Maywood Park Campus](#).

About Development Partners and EIF

Development Partners is a portfolio company of Energy Investors Fund (EIF), bringing both capital and development expertise to power and energy infrastructure projects in North America. Founded in 1987 as an independent investor dedicated exclusively to the independent power and electric utility industry, EIF currently owns and operates 31 power plants totaling over 3,150 MW.

Media Contacts

Maggie Huffman

Director of Communications

Mt. Hood Community College

503-491-7145

maggie.huffman@mhcc.edu<mailto:Sheri.mosher@mhcc.edu>

Development Partners

Shannon Berg

Gallatin Public Affairs

503-347-8822

shannonb@gallatinpa.com<mailto:shannonb@gallatinpa.com>

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