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## **Labor Department awards Rural Learning Center nearly \$100,000 for green jobs training**

**PIERRE, S.D.** – The South Dakota Department of Labor (DOL) has awarded \$99,900 to Rural Learning Center of Howard as part of a green jobs training grant.

The approved Rural Learning Center proposal will integrate specific technology enhancements for renewable energy partners and develop educational technology systems for renewable energy applications. About 325 people will be served.

“The purpose of the grant is to teach workers the skills required in emerging energy efficiency and renewable energy industries,” said State Labor Secretary Pam Roberts. “Rural Learning Center will focus on entry level wind turbine technicians.”

All activities must lead to employment and teach competencies demanded by the target sector while supporting participants’ long-term career growth.

“The green jobs training grant will increase the opportunities for unemployed and dislocated workers to move into high-wage and high-growth occupations,” said Secretary Roberts.

South Dakota received \$2.5 million for the State Energy Sector Partnerships and Training Grant authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. To learn more about job training opportunities available through DOL, visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).