

Capacity Meeting Summary

March 20, 2009

Program Training Discussion

- Interim credentialing to conduct energy audits– potentially utilize Iowa Workforce Development (and U.S. Department of Labor) stimulus funds to help with workforce training
- Mentorship coupled with training – six week series of 3-day classes
 - Work with trade organization – determine if there is a program already in place
- Need to develop “refresher” courses for people already licensed
- Must keep in mind: Timeline

Potential Barriers

- Problem may occur that rural areas may not attract enough of a workforce to conduct the programs
- Who to target for short term training....
- Expectation to do it quickly, but apprentices can't work independently
- Asbestos removal issues – so many projects going on with demolitions that they may lack proper hazardous material identification or it could hold up the project to receive certification of proper removal
 - Professionals needed to identify/sample potentially hazardous materials
 - May need to back up to get the 40-hr training on lead/asbestos identification
 - Maybe making it part of interim certification for energy auditors...
- Building permits need to be applied for NOW otherwise the project will not be completed in the timeframe given by DOE
- Diversity requirements issues?

Next Steps

- Collaboration with Iowa Workforce Development and community colleges for training programs.
- Checking on existing smart grid projects to see types of jobs, in order to develop the proper training programs.