About California's Green Workforce Coalition

California's Green Workforce Coalition (**Coalition**) is an eclectic voluntary partnership. Its Mission is to: Serve as an alliance for the development of a skilled green workforce and a sustainable future. The **Coalition** achieves this mission by gathering and discussing market intelligence on the emerging green economy, connecting members with information on sustainability, climate change legislation, and green jobs, and helping inform State of California green workforce policy. Our goal is to: Prepare a green workforce that responds to industry demands and supports economic development and growth in our communities, in our region and in our state.

Objectives:

- Identify new and emerging *green* occupations and corresponding training and education providers;
- Further define the characteristics of *green jobs* both in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency along with the current and projected labor market demand for such jobs in California and Los Angeles County;
- Identify North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sectors that correspond to *green* activity;
- Develop a plan to bolster middle/intermediate and secondary school student interest and participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in Los Angeles County, with throughputs to sustainability-related jobs and careers.

Open to any individual or organization in California with an interest in sustainability, the *green* economy, and a *green* workforce, the *Coalition* was formed in February 2008, in a spirit of cooperation and inclusiveness and was originally conceived as a funding-oriented group. It soon evolved into a larger learning community, based on the belief that shared information and insights, cross-fertilization of ideas, and the power of networking would provide a lasting foundation on which to build a sustainable future because, together we are smarter.

As a networking and learning community, *Coalition* meetings provide a forum for discussion on sustainability and *green jobs* issues. On specific projects, the *Coalition* catalyzes and facilitates partnerships in which members can blend or align resources to address specific local issues concerning worker preparation for *green jobs*. The *Coalition* also serves as a strategic action group that enables members to mobilize and jointly solve specific *green* workforce challenges.

The *Coalition's* membership includes utilities and public authorities, consultants, and concerned individuals. In addition to organized labor, sustainable businesses, economic development, economic research, and community-based organizations, the *Coalition's*

members represent many of California's key workforce preparation and development systems including the California Employment Development Department (EDD), the California Community Colleges, the K-12 public education system, the local Workforce Investment Act (WIA) system, and the California State University system.

To learn more about the *Coalition*, contact Jan Vogel, Executive Director of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board at 310/970-7700 or jvogel@sbwib.org. You may also contact Robert T. Mejia, *Coalition* Manager at 310/970-7747 or <u>rmejia@sbwib.org</u>