

College of Eastern Utah – Western Energy Training Center Training Equipment Priority List

Executive Summary

Authentic Learning, Hands-on Simulators & Training Equipment

Southeastern Utah’s energy industry demands a talent pool of skilled workers who can master the complexities and responsibilities of multi-function job demands. The energy industry is not just coal mining and power plant operation – it’s trucking, welding, electrical, machining and heavy equipment operation. With seventy percent of southeastern Utah’s most highly qualified energy workers preparing for retirement, both labor and industry see the need to quickly train the next generation of workers to ensure that safe, affordable power will remain available for Utah and the Intermountain West.

Mission of CEU-WETC

The College of Eastern Utah’s Western Energy Training Center (CEU-WETC) is quickly becoming known as *the* place where workers go to get hands-on training. “Training by Doing” maximizes retention and adds the greatest value back to industry and the learner – learning in a working laboratory increases retention and builds critical thinking skills. “Training by Doing” accelerates talent development and maximizes value for both worker and employer. CEU-WETC’s carefully crafted training strategy enables participating sponsors and stakeholders to apply best practices and actively incorporate the outcomes into work environments.

Programs at The College of Eastern Utah’s Western Energy Training Center

The College of Eastern Utah - Western Energy Training Center is already to expanding its “Training by Doing” program throughout our service region. CEU-WETC’s educational programs establish the College and the Training Center as the best-choice provider of workplace training in Central and Southeastern Utah. CEU’s traditional programs already offer expansive training in heavy equipment, electronics, welding, construction and other industrial trades. CEU-WETC is in the process of leveraging the assets already available on campus (excellent faculty along with valuable equipment such as bulldozers, road graders, electronic training equipment, welding stations) to provide focused, industry-driven training to Utah’s workforce. The programs at CEU-WETC are evolving into a curriculum program focused on collaborative measurable outcomes, hands-on, “doing” curriculum and authentic, simulated learning activities.

We propose to the board that situation-based, project-focused, and team-oriented training is the answer to achieving maximum results for Utah’s energy industry. We have and will continue to institute rigorous adult-learning processes to elevate the safety and performance levels of Utah’s energy industry. Creating a “Doing” philosophy for quantifiable training with measurable outcomes will attract, develop, advance, and retain talent for Utah’s energy industry.

CEU-WETC believes its efforts in acquiring authentic learning simulators to enhance our learning environment will make Utah a regional and national leader in hands-on training. WETC recently accepted delivery of a portable power plant control simulator that will provide introductory training for the region’s smaller power plants. Acquisition of additional simulators will connect high schools, trade schools, and higher education institutions to workplace opportunities in our region. Subject to funding levels, CEU-WETC is prepared to quickly put into service additional simulators, including the following:

- a) state-of-the art underground mock mine for safety and emergency rescue training,
- b) roof bolter operator,
- c) mechanical and electrical panels for equipment,
- d) dozer/loader operators,
- e) continuous miner operator,
- f) longwall shear operator, and,
- g) shuttle car operator.

Equipment Proposal

The basic purchase of simulators and training equipment will cost up to \$1,300,000 in one-time funds with the total rising to \$3.55 million if the mine rescue module is added. The recommendation below is listed in priority order as suggested by the College’s experts, but there is no “magical” formula. Further, while a group purchase creates synergy among programs, each piece of equipment stands alone and could be purchased independently of the others. This equipment will show an immediate return to the state as workers are trained to take on more complex jobs that bring with them increased pay and opportunity.

College of Eastern Utah - WETC Equipment Request	
1 Mine Monitoring/Communication Equipment	\$140,000
2 Mine Rescue Apparatus	70,000
3 Roof Bolter Simulator	90,000
4 Welding Stations	30,000
5 Electrical Safety Training/Troubleshooting Panels	60,000
6 Longwall Shear Simulator	90,000
7 Continuous Miner Simulator	90,000
8 Shuttle Car Simulator	90,000
9 Fire Tunnel-Fire Tree	180,000
10 Hydraulic Safety Training/Troubleshooting Panels	60,000
11 Heavy Equipment: New/Replacement	400,000
12 Simulated Underground Mine-Mine Rescue	2,250,000
Total	\$3,550,000

We are honored to be a part of this process and look forward to continuing our leadership in the training of energy industry workers.