

Veteran's Newsletter

APRIL 2009

Welcome to the April edition of the Jefferson County Workforce Center's Veteran's Newsletter. If you have a subject you would like to see covered here, please email Dave Alred at dalred@jeffco.us.

Colorado clean-green careers never looked healthier

By Marywyn Germaine

Dollars, companies and finally jobs are coming to Colorado in renewable energy. The Dow Jones Venture Source reported Colorado as nearing venture capital funding that might meet or exceed the \$1 billion collected during the tech boom of the early 2000's. New energy players, and jobs are here with additional dollars on the way from the economic stimulus bill. Denver and Boulder's Namaste Solar is practically a household name these days, since CEO Blake Jones led President Obama and Vice President Biden on a rooftop tour of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science's solar panels. Jones told them that the stimulus boost will help him grow his workforce by 20 percent this year and 40 percent through 2010. He had intended to downsize his solar installation company. Instead, he'll add solar installers, electricians, design engineers, and experienced sales and marketing specialists.

The green rush may be fueled by the satisfaction it brings, as well as by its benefits to the Earth, energy, finances, pollution, employment and other advantages.

How can you draw attention to your resume for the human resources manager?

Namaste's Jones offered this insight:

Do something to highlight your interest in the field you would like to enter. Attend a three day conference on solar energy, a week long course on the benefits of wind energy or a college course on green building standards.

Spend time volunteering in a new industry to discover if it is a goof fit for you. Highlight that experience on your resume.

And finally, spend some time developing knowledge about the industry. The following are just some of the education and training resources available: Colorado Energy Science Center, community colleges, Smart Energy living Alliance, Solar Energy International and International Center for Appropriate & Sustainable Technology, Colorado Sate University and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden.

This is a new frontier and if you're poised to change industries or find a more meaningful job, now is the time to get informed.

Item of Interest:

The Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, introduced the Veterans Rehabilitation and Training Improvements Act of 2009. The bill would allow the VA Vocational Rehabilitation program more flexibility in paying for rehabilitation related expenses, boost the living stipend for veterans undergoing rehabilitation, and remove the

annual cap on the number of veterans who may enroll in VA's independent living program.

We are here for you !

The U.S. Department of Labor and the Jefferson County Workforce Center place great emphasis on service to veterans. Especially to recently separated veterans and to those with a service connected disability or some other barrier to employment. If you feel you have a situation that is limiting your job readiness or hindering your job search or would just like some assistance with you job search, please call the Veteran Employment Representative at 303 271-4728 or email David Alred at dalred@jeffco.us. His is located at the Laramie Building, 3500 Illinois Street, Golden, Co.