

April 27, 2011

Notes from Brownfields Professional Learning Community (PLC) Session #40 (First session of PLC Cycle 4)

Session Leader: Mike Senew

Topics: Introduction to the Brownfields Professional Learning Community / Announcements

### **NOTES FROM SESSION 40**

This session was the first PLC session in this series (cycle 4). PLC sessions are held every two weeks on Wednesdays at 2:00pm EDT.

#### **PLC Objective**

The Brownfields PLC allows stakeholders and interested participants access to informal discussions held every two weeks. The discussions are limited to 30 minutes, and are guided by the interests of the group. Guest mentors and experts may host some of the sessions, and others may be open discussions on various topics. Each session is recorded, and post-session notes are provided for those not able to attend. The post-session notes and the audio recordings will be available on the *Brownfields Toolbox* Web site at [www.brownfields-toolbox.org](http://www.brownfields-toolbox.org). Email contributions between PLC meetings are encouraged and will be shared with the group.

The objective of the PLC is to promote and share innovative strategies among Brownfields job training communities, and provide assistance to new communities interested in developing environmental job training programs.

#### **Status of the current EPA grant review process**

Over 100 submissions were received. The first cut will eliminate programs which did not meet qualifying criteria. Remaining proposals will be evaluated based on the ranking criteria with a final determination made by EPA staff. Anticipated date of award announcement is June, 2011.

#### **Post-Brownfields 2011 conference**

The pre-registration attendee list and all Powerpoint presentations used at Brownfields 2011 conference held April 3-5 in Philadelphia have been posted at the conference Homepage at <http://www.brownfields2011.org/en/home>. You can also fill out a conference evaluation survey at the site.

#### **Brownfields Job Placement Strategies**

Thanks to Michael Goldstein for his briefing on the job placement effort being planned by the Florida Brownfields Association (FBA). The FBA is a non-profit, volunteer, service organization dedicated to advancing the cleanup and redevelopment of Brownfields in Florida (<http://www.floridabrownfields.org/>). Members of this organization consist of stakeholders associated with Brownfields projects in Florida. Such an organization can provide enormous benefits for surrounding environmental training programs. Opportunities from leveraging resources to advisory boards to potential employers lay within this organization.

Michael and his associates are investigating the possibility of establishing an environmental job bank to assist in matching trained workers with potential employers. Such a strategy will not only help Florida's job training programs with placement, but can also contribute to a statewide labor market assessment

and assist in guiding curriculum and certification offerings.

**Note from PLC member – for more information contact:**

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I've contacted you because I'd like you to know about our upcoming summer intern program that we've designed to aid federal and state agencies, Tribal agencies, non-profit organizations, and community improvement groups working on water issues and environmental revitalization throughout the country. The Appalachian Coal Country Team, the Western Hardrock Watershed Team, and the Southwest Conservation Corps are proud to offer summer interns that can help with water monitoring, outreach and education, grant writing, historical research, program development GIS mapping, organizing volunteer projects, developing/updating websites, trail maintenance and building, interpretive services, and more. If you'd like to apply for an intern or have questions, please contact our Summer Programs Coordinator, Erica Calderis, at [summerprograms@accwt.org](mailto:summerprograms@accwt.org). Please pass this along to anyone you know of that may be interested.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Next PLC Session:        Wednesday, May 11, 2011  
   2:00pm EDT

Topic:                        Job Placement Strategies, Job Banks, and Needs Assessments

Feel free to invite a guest! Send your contact information to Mike Senew at [msenew@aol.com](mailto:msenew@aol.com).

Visit our *Brownfields Toolbox* Web site at <http://www.brownfields-toolbox.org> for more information on Brownfields Job Training programs.