

## NPC Energy and Industrial Technician Advisory Council

October 3, 2019

PDC-SKC300

12p-2p

Attendees: Kevin Westfall, Dr. Jessica Clark, Peggy Belknap, Chris Susag, Lacy Greer, Jeff Lefevre, Rudy Navarro, Scott Newby, Nicole Ulibarri, David Krouse, Clay Goodman, Michael Colwell, Christian Patterson, Matt Weber, Mike Craig, Jonathan Crookston

Note taker: Pamela Dominguez

Welcome, Safety, & Introductions – Kevin welcomed everyone and reviewed safety procedures. Introductions were made.

### Industry Updates:

NPC: The classroom has new computers. EIT is working to get their own individual server to download our logics. Students can put their logic on a thumb drive and take it to the machine to see if it works. EIT's new equipment in the lab: Portable AC/DC Electrical Systems Trainer, Electric Relay Trainer, Hydraulic Hose Press and Chop Saw, Hydraulic Trainer, two big toolboxes, and two welding machines. PLC troubleshooting systems is on the capital list. EIT has duplicated equipment and portable equipment to be able to offer classes at WMC in the future. DGB has lost a board member from the Show Low/Heber area. HLC will visit on November 18 & 19. HLC may contact industry.

APS: A lot of hiring of entry-level positions at Farmington including apprentices mostly E & I and electricians. APS is using Red Vector online training; they can track certifications and qualifications of their employees. APS has cloud-based generic combine cycle simulator that all their gas plants can use and operate remotely. Control operators will have opportunities to simulate startups and shut downs. APS is going to get a one-megawatt mini steam turbine generator for training. New hires have to be retaught print reading, basic electricity and understanding generic systems within the plant. Clay Goodman, raised topic of Fossil systems class that could be credited through NPC was discussed.

TEP: TEP graduated 12 trainees in to the field; some were NPC operational graduates. TEP is testing 10 more. Students should have a stronger understanding of physics and thermodynamics. Reinforcing hands on skills in the lab was discussed. TEP turned out six E & I techs from their apprenticeship program on their generation side. TEP has an outage through December; they need maintenance mechanics. Some employees have problem accepting even an Outlook meeting.

SRP: SRP is shutting down their Navajo station; they need to burn down the coal. SRP made a commitment to place the employees affected. Coal will be a part of Coronado and other plants. SRP has cloud-based hi fidelity simulators to use for training-SRP can control changes and verify the effect. Gas plants are starting to use simulators. SRP is teaching classes internally; would they want to get college credits. A discussion to formalize this would need to happen. HR wants employees to have a degree to move up to management. The leadership cannot all be engineers.

NAVIT: NAVIT appreciated the partnership with NPC. NAVIT is a CTE district and servicing 11 public school districts.

**Hiring Fulltime/Adjunct Faculty for PDC and STJ:** NPC has seven candidates for the fulltime position at STJ. EIT needs adjunct faculty. Lacy and Will are currently adjuncts; SRP is allowing them to teach our NAVIT students. TEP has an adjunct that can teach a class in the spring at STJ.

### Curriculum Changes

Current courses and CPs were reviewed. Kevin would like to realign some courses. Mechatronics or Amatrol courses lean toward E & I courses. There are two electrical course in the mechanics CP; Kevin would like to change that and put them in the electrical CP. Kevin would like to modify EIT120 and EIT150; add some trainers for hands on. EIT200 is a 4-credit course; it needs to add subject matter or reduce to a 2-credit course. There is no industry certification. If EIT201 is changed to a requirement and OSHA10 is added, students will have basic industry certifications. Students wanting to get an AAS need to take BUS103, 105, 144, and 231; which adds 7-11 credits more than other departments' AAS. Peggy stated BUS classes were selected 20 years ago. HR departments had concerns about the skill set of new hires. Students perspective is they are getting their CP not there AAS. Business courses were optional before. Is this the pathway industry wants? If you see that I need any equipment, I can put it on a two or three-year plan. Three-dimensional modeling or blueprint reading course are available; the course need to go through IC. Peggy stated it could be a 199 course and parallel it. HR departments like our students to have operation and maintenance. **TASK:** Pam to send business course outcomes to Kevin.

### Advisory Meeting date

Next advisory April 2, 2020 at SRP.

### Classroom/Lab Upgrades Tour

Kevin took industry on a tour of the lab and see EIT's new equipment.