



# Career Ladders in a Green Economy

Making Connections National Conference

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# Definition of Green-Collar Jobs

**“Blue-collar jobs done for a green purpose.”**

–Dave Foster, Executive Director, BlueGreen Alliance

*Living-wage, career track jobs  
that contribute directly to  
preserving or enhancing  
environmental quality.*



# Bureau of Labor Statistics Definition of Green Jobs

<http://www.bls.gov/green/>

Green jobs are either:

- 1) Jobs in businesses that produce goods or provide services that benefit the environment or conserve natural resources.
- 2) Jobs in which workers' duties involve making their establishment's production processes more environmentally friendly or use fewer natural resources."

A good start, but...

# O\*NET Definition of Green Economy

“The green economy encompasses the economic activity related to reducing the use of fossil fuels, decreasing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, increasing the efficiency of energy usage, recycling materials, and developing and adopting renewable sources of energy.”

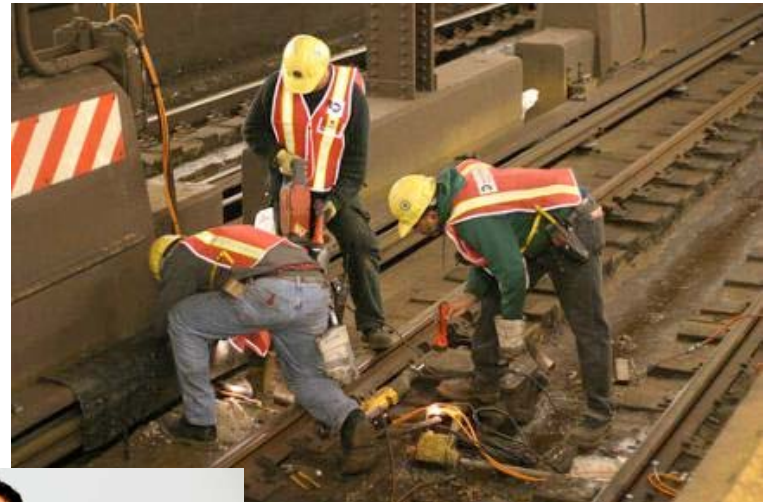
*-Greening of the World of Work, O\*NET (USDOL Occupational Information Network)*

Also from USDOL Budget Request:

**Green Jobs Innovation Fund (\$40M)** for workers to receive job training in green industry sectors and occupations

# Major Green Economy Sectors

- Renewable Energy Generation
- Energy Efficiency
- Energy Trading
- Research, Design & Consulting
- Recycling & Waste Reduction
- Transportation
- Energy & Carbon Capture
- Green Construction
- Agriculture & Forestry
- Environment Protection
- Manufacturing
- Governmental & Regulatory



**Transit, health care**, among others, can overlap or incorporate several of these...

# Creating Demand for Green Collar Workers

- Currently exists a patchwork of state policies and federal incentives to drive market development
- Redirect certain oil company subsidies to tax incentives for clean energy sectors
- Preserve EPA authority –  
“Clean Air Act benefits exceed costs by factor of 30:1”



# Connecting At-Risk Populations w/ Job Success

- Entry-Level Jobs
- Career Pathways
- Cool Factor of Green Economy
- Opportunity to Shape Green Economy
  - Workforce Development
  - Types of Jobs

