

ANNUAL ALLIANCE REPORT

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) And the Texas State Technical College West Texas, Sweetwater, TX

March 25, 2015

I. Alliance Background

A. Date Signed:

January 20, 2010 and resigned June of 2012

B. Evaluation Period:

January 27, 2014 - June 25, 2014

C. Overview:

This alliance between the United States Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and The Texas State Technical College-West Texas campus was established as a collaborative relationship to foster a safer and more healthful workplace for Americans working in the wind energy industry. The goal of the Alliance is to save lives, particularly in reducing and preventing exposure to hazards such as falls from elevations, struck-by and caught-in-between objects, and electrocution.

D. Team Members:

OSHA

Joann J. Figueroa, Area Director, OSHA El Paso Area Office
Abraham Arzola, CAS, OSHA El Paso Area Office

Texas State Technical College West Texas

Texas Ray Fried, Vice President Administrative Services, TSTC
Mike Haigood, Director, School of Applied Engineering Technology, TSTC

E. Contributors:

Dennis Owens, Upwind Solutions
Greg Wortham, Texas Wind Energy Clearinghouse

Bill Jacks, Gemini Energy Services, Carlsbad, NM
Paul Smith, LM Wind Power, Abilene, TX
Myron Hizak, Wood Group Power Plant Services, Houston, TX
Ken Becker, SEED, Sweetwater, TX
Chris Williams, Group CBS, Arlington, TX
Earl Walker, Siemens Energy, Houston, TX
Bill Henson, Noble Environmental Power, Gruver, TX
Chase Bennett, Mitsubishi Power Systems, Fluvanna, TX
Mark Skeen, Broadwind Energy Services

II. **Implementation Team Meeting:**

This meeting was congruent with the industry advisory committee which helps the college document the need for a workforce education program and, to ensure that the program has both adequate resources and a well-designed curriculum to provide students with the skills, knowledge, and behaviors necessary to successfully meet the needs of business and industry.

This advisory committee is one of the principal means of ensuring meaningful business and industry participation in program creation and revision.

III. **Events and Products**

- The college has agreed to give the CSHOS from the El Paso and Lubbock offices some “awareness” training (no climbing) to familiarize them in the terminology, equipment and types of training that is required for employees to work in the Wind Industry.
- *This has not been finalized and discussions are still pending with the school and the El Paso Area Director.*

Training and Education

The Texas State Technical College provides several options to achieve Understanding and Essential Function Standards for Wind Energy and Turbine Technology (WET) The following awards are given depending on the number of hours being studied:

- Associate of Applied Science in Wind Energy and Turbine Technology;
- Certificate II – Wind Energy and Turbine Technology;
- Certificate I – Wind Energy and Turbine Technology;
- TSMC Principles of Wind Energy Technology

The College was recognized by the Texas Skill Standards Board on May 17, 2010 and this recognition is still in effect.

Outreach and Communication

- The college continues to play a large part in the community of Sweetwater as well as the wind energy as a whole. Additionally, our facilities are leveraged by industry to use in lieu of site training.
- Through a Skills Development grant supplied by the Texas Workforce Commission, TSTC West Texas has purchased a Mobile Climb and Rescue unit which aids industry in our delivery of on-site training. The unit is designed to travel to various sites within Texas and can be used for initial certification or refresher ENSA training

Promoting the National Dialogue on Workplace Safety and Health

- The college communicates safety through its curriculum and its goal is to graduate the most knowledgeable individuals in the wind energy industry.
- TSTC West Texas is an integral member on AWEA's Safety Committee and has participated in the creation of wind specific slides for OSHA 10 hr Construction and General Industry training.

IV. Results

Using the table below, list each activity and the number of individuals reached or trained during the reporting period.

Semester	Number Graduated	Training Received
Spring 2014	232	OSHA 10 hr-General Industry, CPR/First Aid/AED, ENSA Safe Access and Rescue, Basic Rigging, Qualified Signalperson
Summer 2014	133	OSHA 10 hr-General Industry, CPR/First Aid/AED, ENSA Safe Access and Rescue, Basic Rigging, Qualified Signalperson

V. Safety Advancement

The college's Wind Energy Technology department and courses are devoted to promoting a safety culture within the wind energy industry. Detailed activity continues to include:

- An autonomous stand alone class dedicated to Safety with a focus in Wind Energy. Topics include HAZMAT, LOTO, Confined Space, Environmental Hazards, Electrical Safety (NFPA 70E, Arc Flash), working at heights, fall hazards, MSDS, PPE, etc.
- Additionally, safety is integrated into each and every class as part of the lecture or laboratory by use of safety briefings, emergency procedures, Hazard analysis, PPE and any other necessary device to ensure a safe working environment.

- Students have participated in safety audits of the buildings to help identify hazards identified in the CFR. As part of the audit, the student is also responsible for making recommendations to remedy a potential hazard situation.

VI. Upcoming Milestone

This Alliance will be closed out, with the intent of establishing a new Alliance with current TSTC membership and the Lubbock Area Office.