



## State Energy Workforce Consortia

---

### **Consortium Name:**

Mississippi Energy & Industrial Construction Consortium (MEICC.org)

### **Top 3 Accomplishments of Consortium:**

The MEICC has been successful in gaining a “seat at the table” in state level decision making related to energy policy and education.

In 2009 the Governor created the Mississippi Energy Policy Institute to develop and recommend an integrated state-wide energy policy. The MEPI includes an Energy Workforce sub-committee that includes the MEICC Chairman, and Co-Chair.

The MEICC has facilitated building partnerships that have applied for and been awarded state and federal grant funding to support energy workforce development.

### **Top 3 Activities or Plans in 2010:**

Continue our engagement in developing a cohesive integrated energy policy for Mississippi

Support the state’s high school curriculum redesign effort with the goal of including energy related topics and learning objectives.

Acquire funding for two workforce development efforts in central Mississippi: a lineman training program and an Energy Systems Technology A.S. program.

### **Best Practice to Share:**

Engagement with the Governor’s office and at high levels in state agencies (Mississippi Development Authority and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security).

Defined “Green Energy Jobs” in our state.

## **Issues We Struggle With:**

Consistent representation by key organizations at consortia meetings (people change roles frequently in their companies or agencies).

Keeping the torch burning during this economic down turn.

It is easy to loose momentum when few companies are hiring. We have to keep reminding partners that this down turn will end and the need for a skilled energy workforce will be higher than ever before.

Obtaining funding for some small but important initiatives has been difficult.

Contact:

John Wheeler  
Sr Mgr, Nuclear Workforce Planning  
Entergy Nuclear  
601-707-8856  
John.Wheeler@yahoo.com