

STATE OF MICHIGAN



CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN,
I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

October 14 - October 18, 2019
as
CAREERS IN ENERGY WEEK

WHEREAS, access to affordable and reliable energy is fundamental to the lives of all Michigan residents and crucial to businesses; and,

WHEREAS, since energy-efficiency and clean energy sources have become a priority for Michigan residents, businesses, and governments, our energy industry is transforming energy generation to cleaner, greener generation technologies and infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan's energy industry currently boasts 111,000 jobs, with this total demand projected to increase by six percent through 2026, which underscores a vital need to increase Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) and skilled trades training to increase the number of Michigan citizens ready to fill the growing gap in the workforce pipeline; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan's economy continues to grow and become more competitive, and Michigan energy utilities have collectively hired more than 3,200 employees since January 2018; and,

WHEREAS, our energy industry is transforming energy generation to cleaner, greener generation technologies, and infrastructure as older facilities are retired over the next ten years; and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Energy Workforce Development Consortium (MEWDC) is a coalition of more than 50 representatives of industry, education, workforce, labor, government, and Veterans celebrating ten years of dedication to identifying and acting on current and future workforce issues crucial to building and sustaining Michigan's energy industry; and,

WHEREAS, the MEWDC has aligned with energy-related associations including the Michigan Energy Efficiency Contractor Association, the Michigan Municipal Electric Association, the Michigan Energy Co-operative Association, the Michigan Electric and Gas Association and the American Petroleum Institute; and,

WHEREAS, MEWDC has partnered with the U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and the Center for Energy Workforce Development to implement talent development strategies for employment opportunities in Michigan's energy industry; and,

WHEREAS, MEWDC has been awarded a Michigan Industry Cluster Approach 2.0 grant to advance the work of the consortium, further increasing industry involvement and opportunities for students and residents of Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, MEWDC has collaborated with the Michigan Department of Education to create Michigan's 17th "career cluster," which provides a roadmap for high school, career and technical education, and community college students to pursue jobs in the often less visible energy sector; and,

WHEREAS, MEWDC members now have an enhanced, year-round presence in schools and on college and university campuses with a focus on hiring Michigan students, in addition to offering over 900 industry internship and co-op opportunities annually for students; and,

WHEREAS, during the week of October 14-18, MEWDC will focus on energy career awareness through student tours, energy fairs, and other events to raise awareness about the many benefits of energy careers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim October 14-18, 2019, as Careers in Energy Week in Michigan.



Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

