

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Ben Ray Luján of New Mexico’s Third District announced today that Santa Fe Community College has received a \$300,000 job training grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant will fund the promotion of green jobs in Santa Fe by targeting unemployed veterans and Native Americans and teaching environmental job skills to prepare them for jobs revitalizing brownfields properties and redeveloping economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

“Santa Fe Community College has been doing innovative work to prepare students for careers in a green economy. This grant from the EPA will help build on those efforts and give people the skills they need to get ahead while contributing to the development of our community,” Congressman Luján said.

Santa Fe Community College will work with the Jaynes Corporation, New Mexico Veterans Administration, eight Northern Indian Pueblos, and local employers to facilitate job placement after providing 180 hours of training in solid waste management, energy efficiency technologies, and renewable energy preparation and installation. Training will also be offered in hazardous waste operations, emergency response and underground storage tank leak prevention, construction and demolition waste recycling, and renewable energy technology.

EPA’s Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Program helps train people for jobs in the assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields properties, including abandoned gas stations, old textile mills, closed smelters and other abandoned industrial and commercial properties.

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