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**GOVERNOR PATRICK ANNOUNCES \$500,000 IN RECOVERY FUNDING TO HELP PAINTERS GET BACK TO WORK****Spring construction season bolstered by nearly \$6 million in stimulus funds from U.S. Department of Labor**

ROSLINDALE - Friday, March 26, 2010 - Building on his continued efforts to foster job creation and economic growth in the Commonwealth, Governor Deval Patrick today announced that a \$500,000 State Energy Sector Partnership grant has been awarded to the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 35 in Roslindale. The \$500,000 grant will enable the organization to purchase vital equipment and train hundreds of underemployed and unemployed workers.

Today's grant comes from a \$5.9 million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act award Massachusetts recently received from the U.S. Department of Labor. These funds support training for unemployed, underemployed, and incumbent workers in energy efficient building, construction and retrofit, renewable electric power, biofuels, energy efficiency assessment, sustainable manufacturing, environmental protection and green construction. With these new resources, an estimated 1,400 people will receive training for high-demand jobs where state policies are driving job growth.

"In January, we announced that our State Energy Sector Partnership had received almost \$6 million in Recovery Act funds through the U.S. Department of Labor," said Governor Patrick. "As a result, we promised thousands of green jobs would be created and you would see new activity all around the state. And today, we are delivering on those jobs right here at District Council 35."

"As we continue to foster job creation across the state, today's announcement is great news for District Council 35," said Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray. "With federal support for training opportunities like this grant award, our administration can provide resources to assist workers in the construction of green, energy efficient, and sustainable buildings."

The Governor and Lieutenant Governor made the announcement following a cabinet meeting at the Painters Union in Roslindale. Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Joanne F. Goldstein and Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Ian Bowles joined the Governor and Lieutenant Governor at the recipient's training facility to celebrate the funding.

"Getting climate and energy reforms passed in the senate is the best possible thing we can do to stimulate the economy and create jobs. This investment will allow us to train our workforce so they can hit the ground running in clean energy jobs that pay well," said Senator John Kerry.

"As the co-author of the Green Jobs Act with now Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis, and after working to ensure that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provided the first allotment of funds for green jobs, I am pleased to see that the Commonwealth has been awarded a \$6 million grant," said Congressman John F. Tierney. "Such funds are expected to help Massachusetts workers get the skills and training they need to obtain jobs in high growth energy efficiency and renewable energy industries."

"As someone who graduated from a building trades apprenticeship program, I am pleased to see these funds will provide the investment and improved training necessary to help put people back to work," said Congressman Stephen F. Lynch.

"With these funds, the Obama Administration is giving the green light to green jobs here in the Commonwealth," said Congressman Ed Markey. "This grant will create hundreds of jobs in energy efficiency and biofuels, all while helping to build a pathway towards energy independence. Massachusetts was the birth of the first industrial revolution, and these Economic Recovery Act funds will help start the green jobs revolution right here in our community."

"As spring construction season gets underway, hundreds of your painters across the state will be back on the job," said Secretary Goldstein. "And, not just any job, but good jobs at fair wages, and with strong labor protections."

"This grant is a great addition to the Commonwealth's green job training initiatives already implemented by the Patrick-Murray Administration," Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Ian Bowles said. "Massachusetts is leading the nation in investment in energy efficiency and in adoption of renewable energy technologies like solar, and the result is jobs."

The Massachusetts Energy Sector Partnership was convened by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to implement a training strategy that focuses on industry sectors supported by the state's energy policy and occupations that businesses have identified as in demand and for which workers can be trained in less than three years. Additional partner organizations in the program include the Commonwealth Corporation, the Clean Energy Center (CEC) and a wide range of labor organizations, clean energy companies, and education and training providers.

"This grant is the result of the engagement of clean energy businesses, organized labor and state and regional clean energy and workforce partners to design a statewide approach that prepares Massachusetts residents for green jobs," said Nancy Snyder, President of Commonwealth Corporation, a quasi-public workforce agency that will be managing the grant.

"These grants will provide clean energy companies with the well-trained and skilled workforce they need to succeed, and help position Massachusetts as a leader in the national clean energy industry," said Pat Cloney, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, the quasi-public agency which serves as a clearinghouse and support center for the clean energy sector and co-facilitated the application for the grant.

For more information on this Partnership and the federal funding, visit our website at [www.mass.gov/governor](http://www.mass.gov/governor) or click [here](#).

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