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Agency: Energy, Labor & Economic Growth

**More Speakers and Breakout Session Topics Announced for
“Green Today, Jobs Tomorrow” Conference on May 11th
Deadline for Reduced Early Registration Rate of \$110 is Fast
Approaching!**

FEBRUARY 13, 2009 - Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth (DELEG) Director Stanley “Skip” Pruss announced today that several expert speakers and interesting breakout sessions have been added to the agenda for the “Green Today, Jobs Tomorrow” conference to be held on May 11, 2009 at the Lansing Center.

“We are very excited by the dynamic state and national experts on renewable energy, environmental, workforce, and economic development we’re bringing together to have a dialogue and build partnerships for Michigan’s green jobs of the future,” Pruss said. “Although this conference is not a job fair, we will be focusing on the jobs of the future and the training that is needed for Michigan’s workforce. This is an opportunity to be a part of history in Michigan’s future as a leader in the nation in the emerging green economy.”

Sponsorship opportunities are filling quickly with the two LEED Sponsors already reserved by *W.W. Grainger, Inc.* and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). Other sponsorship levels are available: Efficiency (\$10,000), Sustainable (\$5,000), Renewable (\$2,500), and Green (\$1,000). Exhibitor opportunities are also available at affordable rates. To participate as a sponsor or exhibitor, please contact the DELEG Media Office at 517-373-9280.

It was recently announced that keynote speaker is Van Jones, founder and president of Green for All and author of *The Green Collar Economy*. Other confirmed speakers include U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow and Kate Gordon, co-director of Apollo Alliance, of Washington, D.C. Rick Waclawek, Director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, will discuss the jobs of the future.

New speakers and break out session topics recently added to the day’s agenda include:

Breakout Session: Building a Greener Tomorrow

- Lawrence Hidalgo, Training Director, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 665
- Dave Jackson, Apprenticeship Representative, Office of Apprenticeship, USDOL
- John Reilly, United Association of Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 333
- Dirk Powell, Director of Construction Services for T.H. Eifert Mechanical Contractors
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Breakout Session: Growing Energy

- [Norma McDonald, Phase 3 Renewables](#)
- Dana Kirk, Michigan State University
- Dave Prouty, President, Heat Transfer International

Breakout Session: Green Training through Partnerships

- Ed Oberski, Director, Saginaw Midland Bay Michigan Works!
- Dave Herrala, Dow Chemical
- Pat Graves, Delta College

Breakout Session: The Possibilities with Brownfield Redevelopment

- Ms. Roshani Dantas, Program Manager, Environmental Technician Job Training Program, Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice

Breakout Session: Is Bio Mass the Future of Gas?

- Michael Harris, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs, Kettering University

Breakout Session: Green for your Advantage

- Ron Moffett, Regional Manager, Business Development, Michigan Economic Development Corporation
- Matt McCauley, Associate Director, Regional Planning and Community Development, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments

Breakout Session: Agriculture Impact on Green

- Dr. Steve Pueppke, Director, Office of Bio-based Technologies, Michigan State University

Breakout Session: Generating Wind and Jobs

- Kathy Johnson, Managing Director, Emerging Technology Center, Kalamazoo Valley Community College
- Jeff Metts, President, Dowding Industries

Breakout Session: Green Construction

- Larry Kaufman, DTE Energy
- Linda West, Director of Workforce Development, Henry Ford Community College
- Jacob Corvidae, WARM Training Center

Breakout Session: Southeast Michigan Leading the Way to New Green Economy

- Donele Wilkins, Build Up Detroit and Sustainability Center
- Bill Stough, Executive Director, Southeast Michigan Sustainable Business

Forum

Interested participants are urged to register as soon as possible. The deadline for the \$110 early registration fee (www.michigan.gov/greenjobsconference) is fast approaching as March 15th is the last day to take advantage of the reduced rate. The registration fee increases to \$135 for registrations submitted between March 16 and the May 4th cutoff date. Registration on the day of the event, if still available, will be \$185. A limited number of student registrations are available for only \$35 for college students.

To sign up for email updates and view an updated list of participating partners, please visit www.michigan.gov/greenjobsconference. Hotel accommodations are available at the Radisson Downtown Lansing through their website, <http://www.radisson.com/lansingmi>, or by calling (517) 482-0188. Use group code: **CSWF59** for the special conference rate