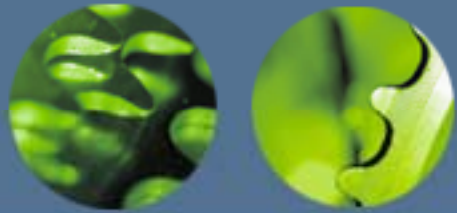




# Update: NGA Cluster Policy Academy

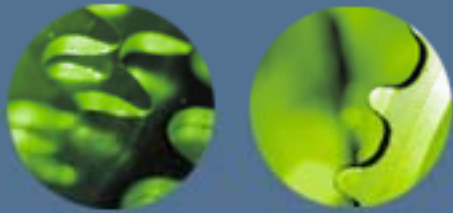
**Presented to the House  
Committee on Workforce and  
Economic Development**

**February 15, 2008**



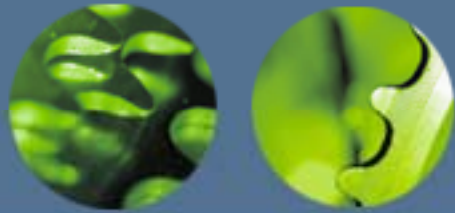
# Policy Academy Overview

Oregon was selected through a competitive process as one of seven states to participate in the National Governor's Association's Policy Academy on "State Strategies for Promoting Innovative Clusters and Regional Economies"



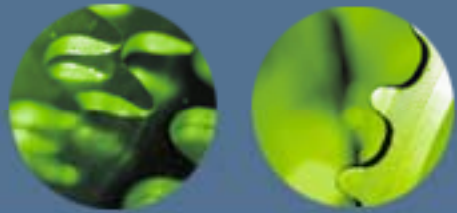
# NGA Academy Team

- **The Honorable David Edwards**  
State Representative
- **Bob Repine**  
Director, Oregon Economic &  
Community Development Department
- **Laurie Warner**  
Director, Oregon Employment  
Department
- **Cam Preus**  
Commissioner, Department of  
Community Colleges & Workforce  
Development
- **Duncan Wyse**  
President, Oregon Business Council
- **Claire Berger**  
Governor's Workforce Policy Advisor
- **Tim McCabe**  
Governor's Economic Development  
Policy Advisor
- **Nancy Hamilton**  
Governor's Director of Strategic  
Development
- **Marian Hammond**  
Manager, Innovation & Economic  
Strategies Division, OECDD



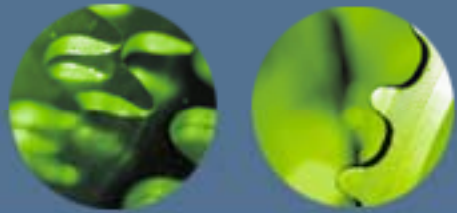
## Value of participation

- ✓ Receive technical assistance from NGA experts
- ✓ Share best practices with other states
- ✓ Plan strategy to enhance the regional economy through a cluster-based approach



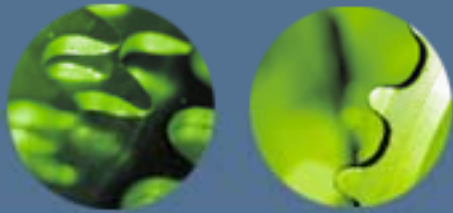
## Value of cluster-based strategies

- ✓ Aggregate business needs (instead of working with one business at a time, state addresses shared needs & helps larger industry to be more competitive)
- ✓ Maximize community assets for recruiting and retaining jobs
- ✓ Align state agencies and partners around shared economic development goals



## Goal for the Oregon project

Develop an integrated multi-agency strategy for economic development and prosperity that sustainably builds on the state's unique combination of human talent, natural resources, public infrastructure, and quality of life.



## Progress to Date

- ✓ Fall 2007: Oregon Business Council and OECDD partnered to conduct focus groups with clusters around the state.
  - Identified key shared needs
  - Identified areas for potential state assistance
- ✓ November 27-28, 2007: First Academy meeting held in Chicago
- ✓ January 2008: Academy group identified focus area for first one to two years of effort



# Strategic Focus

## **Sustainable clean energy**

- wind
- solar
- geothermal
- wave
- energy efficiency
- green building
- biomass



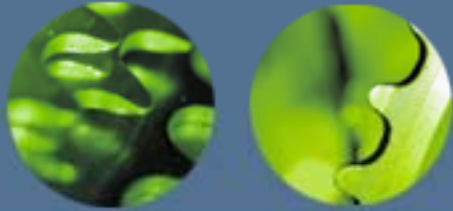
## Next Steps

1. Planning underway for a sustainable clean energy cluster forum
  - ✓ Mid-April
  - ✓ Attendees:
    - cluster representatives
    - leadership from multiple state agencies (DEQ, Forestry, Agriculture, Energy, CCWD, OECDD, Employment, etc.)
  - ✓ Goals:
    - to build on the OECDD/OBC focus groups to connect clusters with each other and with state agencies
    - identify specific action items
    - map out strategy for implementation



## Next Steps

2. Developing a multi-agency policy option package to support cluster strategy (including competitive grants and technical support for local business clusters to address cluster-identified challenges)
3. Hosting next full policy academy meeting in Portland on April 23-24



## Workforce Implications

- Access to a skilled talent pool is a high priority shared by all OECDD/OBC sustainable clean energy clusters
- Will use recommendations from the Future Workforce Needs Report relevant to the sustainable clean energy industry to prepare and increase the number of workers going through the talent pipeline



# Questions?

**Please contact:**

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503-986-0106

Marian Hammond, OECDD  
503-229-5226

Claire Berger, Governor's Office  
503-986-6542