TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members  
From: Staff  
Date: March 21, 2014 Council Meeting  
Subject: Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership Designation

Introduction

In February, East Central Florida Regional Planning Council (ECFRPC) staff contacted Council staff to discuss the possibility of a joint partnership between ECFRPC, Energy Florida, and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC). Energy Florida is a non-profit association of businesses and community leaders focused on Florida’s energy sector and related industries. The purpose of the partnership is to seek designation as a manufacturing community for the ten-county region defined by the boundaries of the two regional planning councils (Exhibit 1) under a recently announced program, Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP).

ECFRPC, Energy Florida, and TCRPC are proposing to work in collaboration with industry and regional partners to develop the Florida Turbine Initiative as a proposal for regional designation under the U.S. Economic Development Administration’s (EDA) IMCP program (Exhibit 2). The proposal will outline development of a regional strategy to leverage and support the region’s existing industrial strengths in turbines, rotating machinery and related parts and materials. The IMCP designation will allow communities and institutions within the region to obtain preference in applications for funding from eighteen economic development programs across ten Federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture; U.S. Department of Commerce; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and U.S. Department of Transportation, among others.

Background

On December 10, 2013, the EDA announced the fiscal year 2014 IMCP competition. This competition is structured to designate up to 12 regions nationwide as “manufacturing communities.” The designated manufacturing communities will receive preferential consideration for up to $1.3 billion in federal dollars and assistance from ten federal agencies (Exhibit 3). The IMCP is designed to help accelerate the resurgence of manufacturing in regions across the county. The IMCP will reward communities that best highlight their strengths and demonstrate they can combine their efforts around workforce training, infrastructure, and research centers to implement an economic development plan that will attract, retain, and expand...
manufacturing investment. The designation application package is due for submission to EDA on April 14, 2014. Regions designated as manufacturing communities will receive:

1. preferential consideration for $1.3 billion in existing funding;
2. a federal point of contact to help access Federal economic development resources;
3. branding and promotion as a manufacturing community; and
4. potential consideration for federal financial assistance through challenge grant awards, subject to the availability of funds.

This item seeks Council support for the collaborative effort to be known as the Florida Turbine Initiative, support for Council’s participation in the consortium that is developing the application, and authorization to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between ECFRPC, Energy Florida, and TCRPC. Energy Florida (Exhibit 4) will lead the consortium. To date, letters of support for this initiative have been received from the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce, Palm Beach County Business Development Board, and Palm Beach State College (Exhibits 5-7).

**Recommendation**

Council should authorize the Executive Director to execute the attached Memorandum of Understanding regarding joint participation in the Florida Turbine Initiative and in support of the application for designation of Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership.

**Attachments**
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL,
ENERGY FLORIDA, INC.,
AND
TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL,
REGARDING JOINT PARTICIPATION IN THE
FLORIDA TURBINE INITIATIVE

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("Memorandum") is made and entered into by and between the EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, a Florida non-profit corporation hereinafter ("ECFRPC"), ENERGY FLORIDA, INC., a Florida non-profit corporation hereinafter ("EF") and the TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, a Florida non-profit corporation ("TCRPC").

IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEMORANDUM to provide a basic outline of the partnership between ECFRPC, EF, and TCRPC to support the development of the Florida Turbine Initiative under the auspices of the Investing in Manufacturing Community Partnership, and conduct programs and activities supportive of the growth of Florida’s turbine and rotating machinery industry with an emphasis on activities that will grow the manufacturing base for that industry within the region and across the state of Florida.

THEREFORE, IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT: ECFRPC, EF and TCRPC will work cooperatively to support the development of the Florida Turbine Initiative through a collaborative regional framework, which will be supportive of the growth of the turbine and rotating machinery industry and support targeted industry working groups as well as regional economic development strategies, community planning and infrastructure investments to support the growth and development of Florida’s manufacturing base associated with the turbine and rotating machinery sector. An overview of the Florida Turbine Initiative and the region is set forth in Attachment "A," which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

EF will provide support for programs related to cluster strategy and industry engagement, including coordination of working groups and industry forum(s) to support understanding of key industry needs, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and gaps related to the local turbine and rotating machinery industry supply chain, entrepreneurial ecosystem and operational environment for businesses in the sector of focus and related manufacturing activities.

ECFRPC and TCRPC will provide coordination with broader regional economic development strategies, community planning, local governments and other stakeholders involved in infrastructure investments, workforce training or other resources that can support the growth and development of the region’s turbine and rotating machinery industry and related manufacturing activities.

EF will be responsible for coordination with turbine and rotating machinery industry representatives across the region encompassed by the Florida Turbine Initiative for the

EF-ECFRPC-TCRPC MOU
March 2014

Florida Turbine Initiative
purposes of strategic action plan development and engagement in industry-specific programs and activities related to the Florida Turbine Initiative.

ECF RPC will be responsible for coordination of the activities of the Florida Turbine Initiative with parties and activities within the East Central Florida region, namely the counties of Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia.

TCRPC will be responsible for coordination of the activities of the Florida Turbine Initiative with parties and activities within the Treasure Coast region, namely the counties of Indian River, Martin, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie.

**RESTRICTIONS**

This Memorandum shall not be construed to create any legal obligation on the part of any Party, nor shall it be construed to provide a private right or cause of action for or by any person or entity, unless such obligation is specifically agreed upon in a subsequent amendment or agreement regarding this partnership. The Memorandum in no way restricts any of the Parties from participating in any activity with other public or private agencies, organizations, businesses, or individuals.

**DISPUTES**

In the event that a dispute arises under this Memorandum, the dispute shall be resolved by a conflict resolution process determined to be appropriate by the parties involved.

**GOVERNANCE**

This Memorandum is entered into pursuant to and under the authority granted by the laws of the state of Florida and any applicable federal laws. The provisions of this Memorandum shall be construed to conform to those laws. In the event of an inconsistency in the terms of this Memorandum, or between its terms and any applicable statute or rule, the inconsistency shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order:

a. Applicable state and federal statutes and rules;
b. Statement of responsibilities; and
c. Any other provisions of the Memorandum, including materials incorporated by reference.

**AMENDMENT**

This Memorandum and the responsibilities therefor pertaining for each party may be amended or updated by mutual agreement, formalized in a written amendment (or amendments) to this Memorandum, and with the written assent of the relevant authority for each organization.

**TERMINATION**

Any party may terminate its participation under this Memorandum upon 30-days prior written notification to the other parties.

By our hands and with enthusiasm to formally acknowledge a convergence of will, a common line of action, and shared viewpoints, the following persons of authority enter into this Memorandum of Understanding for their respective organizations.

**EF-ECFPRC-TCPRC MOU**

March 2014

2 Florida Turbine Initiative
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENERGY FLORIDA, INC. (EF)</th>
<th>EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, (ECFRPC)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signature</td>
<td>Signature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Aller, Executive Director</td>
<td>Hugh Harling, Executive Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name, Title</td>
<td>Name, Title</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, (TCRPC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Bushe, Executive Director</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name, Title</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Attachment A

The Florida Turbine Initiative

*Turbo-charging Florida Manufacturing*

In collaboration with industry and regional partners across the Central Florida region, Energy Florida, the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council propose to develop the Florida Turbine Initiative as a response to the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership designation opportunity led by the US Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration. The objective of the Florida Turbine Initiative is to support the development of a robust cluster strategy focused on turbines, rotating machinery, and related processes and materials. Accelerating and exploiting the region’s existing strengths in this industry sector, the Florida Turbine Initiative aims to solidify Florida’s position as a world-class turbine developer, manufacturer and exporter.

**The Region:**
Florida’s “Turbine Blade” encompasses a broad swath of the state from Palm Beach County north through Melbourne and Daytona and west through metro Orlando.

**The Plan:**
Florida Turbine Initiative will establish a strategic plan and scorecard to allow individual communities to tailor investments, strategic planning, and future grant requests with a broader strategy to support a key industrial sector within the state. By tying together existing investments in strategic infrastructure such as the All-Aboard Florida higher-speed rail project, and major investments in cargo capacity at Port Canaveral, Orlando International and the region’s airports with an integrated strategy to address the needs of a major manufacturing industry in the state of Florida, the Initiative will turbocharge the growth of Florida’s turbine industry.

**Florida Turbine Scorecard:**
Florida Turbine Initiative partners will coordinate and engage with existing leaders in Florida’s turbine industry in order to establish milestones and metrics to be tracked using the Florida Turbine Scorecard. One key goal of the Initiative will be to write a strategic implementation action plan outlining Florida’s key strengths and weaknesses, and outline gaps with regard to Florida’s turbine and rotating machinery industry. Gaps identified by the industry so far include a limited number of bearings suppliers, under-development of cargo infrastructure, and lack of testing facilities, among others.

**Florida’s Turbine Supply Chain:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supply Chain Segment</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Workforce Needs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Enabler</td>
<td>High-End STEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>High Value Add</td>
<td>High-End STEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component Manufacturing</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Job Creator</td>
<td>Training Need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>Lacking (GAP)</td>
<td>Job Creator</td>
<td>Training Need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test &amp; Demonstration</td>
<td>Lacking (GAP)</td>
<td>Enabler</td>
<td>Training Need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance, Repair &amp; Overhaul</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Job Creator</td>
<td>Training Need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Replace Retirements</td>
<td>Training Need</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EF-ECFPRC-TCPRC MOU
March 2014
The Initiative partners will establish a baseline scorecard, update the scorecard as individual programs and investments are made that close the state's existing "gaps", and track the growth and development of the industry. A core element of this strategy is the ability to be nimble, and able to pivot and take advantage of opportunities for the region as they arise.

**Florida’s “Turbine Blade”**

*The Turbine and Rotating Machinery Manufacturing Community in Florida*

Florida has a thriving turbine and rotating machinery manufacturing community that is more than half a century old. This cluster is based on Florida’s aviation and aerospace heritage which has now expanded into energy production. Major companies such as Siemens, Mitsubishi and Pratt & Whitney, as well as sector-leading firms including Florida Turbine Technologies, Paradigm Precision and Chromalloy demonstrate the depth of the regional supply chain.

The region forms a blade on its side across central and eastern Florida. The region’s focal point, the pivot point of the blade, is the NASA John F. Kennedy Space Center. The region extends from the Daytona Beach to the north to Palm Beach and Boca Raton to the south. The region spans central Florida from Port Canaveral to metro Orlando.

The “Turbine Blade” consists of 10 counties with a population of over 5 million people. There are four cities with a population greater than 100,000. There are five international airports and three deep water cargo ports. The region has a unique feature of having the world’s premiere launch site which consists of NASA’s John F. Kennedy Space Center and the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. The region is served by two state-chartered regional planning councils, the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

The “Turbine Blade” has an outstanding university system of both private and public institutions. One focal point of the region is the University of Central Florida, now the second largest institution of higher learning in the nation. At the other focal point, Florida Atlantic University is playing a key role in developing under water turbines. Those turbines will be tested just offshore in the Gulf Stream. Two of the world’s leading aeronautical and engineering universities are also in the region: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach and the Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne. The region also has very strong vocational programs in support of the industry at Daytona State College, Seminole State College, Valencia College, Eastern Florida State College, Indian River State College and Palm Beach State College.

The region with its strong turbine industry and supply chain, outstanding educational institutions, infrastructure and workforce can be a leader in two national goals. The first is the reemergence of US manufacturing and the second is the development of clean energy technology. The region can take advantage of the expansion of the Panama Canal and its proximity to Central and South America. The Florida Turbine Blade is at the cutting edge, a community worth investing in and optimizing in order to *Turbocharge Florida Manufacturing.*
Exhibit 3

**Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership Designation for Manufacturing Communities**

Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) is a national competition to designate “manufacturing communities” issued by the Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration (EDA). The designation offers up to 12 selected communities preferential consideration for up to $1.3 billion in federal dollars and assistance from 10 federal agencies.

The IMCP will reward communities that best highlight their strengths and demonstrate they can combine their efforts around workforce training, infrastructure and research centers to implement an economic development plan that will attract, retain and expand manufacturing investment.

By combining many of the elements companies seek when deciding where to locate their firms, this approach will help communities capitalize on the industrial growth taking place nationwide due to the United States’ competitive advantages in areas like energy, worker productivity, and intellectual property protection. Through IMCP, thirteen agencies are working together to coordinate how the federal government supports manufacturing regions. The participating agencies are:

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce, EDA
- Department of Commerce, NIST/MEP
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education
- Department of Energy
- Department of Housing & Urban Development
- Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration
- Department of Transportation
- Appalachian Regional Commission
- Delta Regional Authority
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Science Foundation
- Small Business Administration

Any community may compete for designation as a consortium that includes at least one or more of these eligible organizations: regional economic development district organization, Indian tribe, state, county, city or local government engaged in economic infrastructure development activities, institutions of higher education and public or private non-profit organizations or associations acting in cooperation with local government officials.

In order to earn the designation, communities must present strategies that identify technologies or industries in which they would be competitive in the future as well as having an existing manufacturing community and in which would make investments in the following areas:

- workforce and training
- advanced research
- infrastructure and site development
- supply chain support
- trade and international investment
- operational improvement and capital access

The selected manufacturing communities will receive:

- Preferential consideration in federal competitions and assistance across 10 agencies, totaling $1.3 billion.
- A dedicated federal liaison at each of these agencies that will help the designated manufacturing communities navigate available federal resources
- Recognition on a government website, accessible to prospective private foreign and domestic investors, looking for information on communities’ competitive attributes.
- Subject to funding availability, challenge grants may become available to some awardees from the pool of designated manufacturing communities from EDA and other agencies.

Deadline: April 14, 2014
About Energy Florida:

Energy Florida is a 501c(3) non-profit organization comprised of businesses and community leaders working to build Florida’s energy economy.

Energy Florida provides a bridge between funding agencies, researchers and private sector companies, building “value chains” in key segments of the energy sector and related industries in Florida, including:

- Bio-agriculture, Bio-based products and waste-to-energy opportunities,
- Energy efficiency financing solutions,
- Energy-related manufacturing, especially turbines, generators and related materials and processes,
- Natural gas infrastructure and technologies, and
- Next-generation transportation technologies.

Through focus and expertise on these core strengths of Florida’s energy economy, Energy Florida is helping to bring new opportunities and high-skill jobs to the region and the state.

More information about Energy Florida and its programs is available at the website:

www.EnergyFlorida.org
March 10, 2014

The Honorable Matt S. Erskine
Assistant Secretary of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 7325
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership

Dear Assistant Secretary Erskine:

The Indian River County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Division supports Energy Florida’s proposal as a “manufacturing community” for Florida’s turbine and rotating machinery manufacturing region through the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership.

The proposal highlights the region’s many strengths and demonstrates our combined efforts to improve and advance our manufacturing community. Our region is home to a world class industry cluster in design and engineering of turbines and rotating machinery, including major conglomerates and smaller innovative engineering firms and component suppliers.

Our ten-county region supports and encourages the growth of manufacturing associated with this cluster. We offer an extensive infrastructure, including three deep water ports, five international airports, a strong network of general aviation airports, and major rail links with CSX and Florida East Coast Railway.

The region has outstanding research centers in the University of Central Florida and Florida Atlantic University. We also boast two top-rated private institutions: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and The Florida Institute of Technology. Our many state colleges offer strong technical training programs to individuals and local businesses. Along with numerous other partners, we can collectively develop and implement an economic development strategy to attract, retain and expand manufacturing investment in our region.

Our Chamber’s Economic Development Division believes this initiative provides an opportunity to leverage existing regional infrastructure, transportation corridors and technology strengths to advance the important goal of reshoring and expanding our manufacturing base in Florida and throughout the U.S.
The Honorable Matt S. Erskine  
Page two  
March 10, 2014

Our Chamber is designated by the Board of County Commissioners as the primary economic development organization for Indian River County, FL. We are a founding partner in Florida’s Research Coast Economic Development Coalition, a multi-county initiative to promote the region for targeted industry and job creation.

Organizations such as ours play an important role in the reemergence of manufacturing in America. Through our Business Retention program, we call on local manufacturers, providing information on relevant programs that help their “bottom line.” We also schedule Manufacturers’ Tours open to the general public offering residents an inside look at today’s manufacturing environment, while emphasizing the importance of this industry in diversifying our local economy. Our local manufacturers welcome this collaboration.

The Economic Development Division of the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce looks forward to working with Energy Florida, the Regional Planning Councils and the other regional partners on this project.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call or email me, 772-567-3491 or directorpc@indianriverchamber.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Helene Caseltine, CECO  
Economic Development Director

c: Greg Vaday, Economic Development Coordinator  
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
March 4, 2014

The Honorable Matt S. Erskine
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 7325
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Letter of Support for the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership proposal by Energy Florida

Dear Assistant Secretary Erskine:

On behalf of Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, Inc. (BDB) I am pleased to support Energy Florida’s proposal to the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration for the designation as a “manufacturing community” for Florida’s turbine and rotating machinery manufacturing region through the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (ICMP). As required by the proposal, we are proud to be an economic development organization partner.

The proposal highlights the region’s strengths and demonstrates our combined efforts to improve and advance our manufacturing community. The region is home to a world class industry cluster in design and engineering of turbines and rotating machinery, including major conglomerates and smaller innovative engineering firms and component suppliers. The region can support the growth of manufacturing associated with this cluster through its extensive infrastructure, including three deepwater ports, five premier international airports and a strong network of general aviation airports, and major rail links including CSX and Florida East Coast Railroad as well as the All-Abord Florida higher-speed rail project. The region has outstanding research centers from the second largest university in the United States, the University of Central Florida and Florida Atlantic University to our fine private institutions such as Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and Florida Institute of Technology. We also have strong technical training programs at our state colleges. These and the numerous other partners collectively can develop and implement an economic development strategy that will attract, retain and expand manufacturing investment in our region.

Business Development Board believes this initiative provides an opportunity to leverage existing regional infrastructure, transportation corridors and technology strengths to advance the important goal of re-shoring and
March 4, 2014
The Honorable Matt S. Erskine
Page 2

expanding manufacturing in Florida as well as the United States. Organizations such as ours play an important role in the reemergence of manufacturing in America.

The BDB’s primary role is to assist business relocations and expansions in Palm Beach County. We work closely with Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI), our state economic development partner, and a number of local public and private partners including the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, local municipalities, Chambers of Commerce, CareerSource Palm Beach County (fka: Workforce Alliance), universities and colleges.

The BDB formed a Manufacturing Task Force in November 2012 to support and promote an economic ecosystem that will help the manufacturing sector flourish in Palm Beach County. The task force is working to promote the growth and well-being of the county’s manufacturing industry by acting as a unified force and by representing common interests regarding strategies to improve competitiveness.

BDB looks forward to working with Energy Florida, our Regional Planning Council and the other regional partners on this project.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (561) 835-1008 or ghines@bdb.org.

Sincerely,

Gary Hines
Senior Vice President, Administration
March 11, 2014

The Honorable Matt S. Erskine
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 7325
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Letter of Support for the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership Proposal by Energy Florida

Dear Assistant Secretary Erskine:

On behalf of Palm Beach State College, I am pleased to support Energy Florida’s proposal to the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration for the designation as a “manufacturing community” for Florida’s turbine and rotating machinery manufacturing region through the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (ICMP). As required by the proposal, we are proud to be a higher education institution.

The proposal highlights the region’s strengths and demonstrates our combined efforts to improve and advance our manufacturing community. The region is home to a world class industry cluster in design and engineering of turbines and rotating machinery, including major conglomerates and smaller innovative engineering firms and component suppliers. The region can support the growth of manufacturing associated with this cluster through its extensive infrastructure, including three deepwater ports, five premier international airports and a strong network of general aviation airports, and major rail links, including CSX and Florida East Coast Railroad, as well as the All-Abord Florida higher-speed rail project. The region has outstanding research centers from the second largest university in the United States, the University of Central Florida, and Florida Atlantic University, and our fine private institutions such as Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and Florida Institute of Technology. We also have strong technical training programs such as those at Palm Beach State College, as well as our other Florida State colleges. These and the numerous other partners can collectively develop and implement an economic development strategy that will attract, retain and expand manufacturing investment in our region.

Palm Beach State College believes this initiative provides an opportunity to leverage existing regional infrastructure, transportation corridors and technology strengths to advance the important goal of re-shoring and expanding manufacturing in Florida, as well as the United States. Organizations such as ours play an important role in the reemergence of manufacturing in America.
The Honorable Matt S. Erskine  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Administration  
Page 2

As the largest provider of undergraduate education in Palm Beach County, Florida and the seventh largest of the 28 colleges comprising the Florida College System, Palm Beach State College offers Bachelor of Applied Science degrees; Associate in Arts transfer degrees; Associate in Science career degrees; college credit certificates; job preparatory programs; corporate and continuing education; customized training and lifelong learning. According to the 2011-12 U.S. Department of Education database on college costs, Palm Beach State had the lowest tuition in Florida and the seventh lowest in the nation among four-year public schools.

Palm Beach State College offers a variety of programs relevant to the manufacturing and energy industries including:

- An Electrical Power Technology Associate in Science Degree program designed to prepare students for careers in the power technology field or instrumentation and control fields. It is also designed for employees in these fields who seek further education and career advancements.

- An Alternative Energy Engineering Technology College Credit Certificate program that prepares students for entry-level positions in alternative energy industries including biofuels, wind or solar industries. This program also provides supplemental education to technicians working in the electrical power industry.

- A Machining Technology Post-Secondary Adult Vocational program designed to prepare students for employment in the manufacturing industry as machinists. Students may find entry-level employment as machinists, machinist helpers, computer aided design/computer aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) operators or programmers and CAD/CAM machine operators or programmers.

- A Welding Technology Post-Secondary Adult Vocational program designed to prepare students for entry-level employment in the aerospace industry, construction iron worker field or in manufacturing.

Palm Beach State College looks forward to working with Energy Florida, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and the other regional partners on this project.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (561)888-3501 or gallonrd@palmbeachstate.edu.

Sincerely,

Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.  
President