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## Duke Energy continues powerful support of community colleges

RALEIGH -- Five North Carolina community colleges will share more than \$1.17 million dollars in manufacturing enhancement grants from the Duke Energy Community College Grant Program.

Forsyth Technical Community College in Winston-Salem will receive \$249,439 to fund an analytical training center. McDowell Technical Community College in Marion will receive \$250,000 to enhance machining programs and to recruit more students to this manufacturing field. Mitchell Community College in Statesville will receive \$177,500 to fund an advanced integrated manufacturing system lab. Rowan-Cabarrus Community College in Salisbury will receive \$250,000 to purchase equipment for an aseptic bioprocessing suite on the North Carolina Research Campus. Wilkes Community College in Wilkesboro will receive \$250,000 to support an applied technology center.

"We are especially grateful for this vital support from one of our most important funding partners," said Dr. Scott Ralls, president of the North Carolina Community Colleges. "This generous investment will help to enhance essential manufacturing programs in the respective communities. This is so important, especially in these tough economic times."

Ralls serves on the Duke Community College Grant Program advisory committee, which awards the grants. Jim Fain, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, and Ronnie Taylor, Regional Director of Business & Community Relations, Duke Energy Carolinas and a leader on Duke Energy's business relations and economic development team, are also on the committee.

Duke Energy began its Community and Technical College Grant Program in 2004. This month's awards bring the number of grants to 39, with a total investment of more than \$8.5 million and more than \$5 million available for future grants. Committee members say the most important outcome for measuring the program's success is the number of manufacturing jobs created, retained or enhanced by funded projects.

"We believe the North Carolina community college system is an essential partner in addressing the critical workforce needs in our region," said Ellen Ruff, President, Duke Energy Carolinas. "We're proud that this grant program has brought dramatic benefits to employers, better paying jobs for workers, and enhanced economic development across our region."



*Left to right: Dr. Gordon Burns, Wilkes CC, Dr. Carol Spalding, Rowan-Cabarrus CC, Ronnie Taylor, Duke Energy Carolinas, and Dr. Arnold Hence Forsyth Technical CC.*

Three recipient college administrators had the chance to personally thank Duke Energy for the support. Dr. Carol Spaulding, president at Rowan-Cabarrus CC, Dr. Gordon Burns, president at Wilkes CC, and Dr. Arnold Hence, executive vice president at Forsyth Technical CC met Ronnie G. Taylor, and conveyed their appreciation for the funding that will make such a difference for their respective colleges. The four were attending a community college awards luncheon last week.

Projects funded through the grant, which has a maximum individual award of \$250,000, must address training, retraining and other efforts to strengthen manufacturing. Also, they must fall within Duke Energy's service area, which is concentrated in the Piedmont manufacturing corridor and in the mountains. Twenty-nine community colleges are located in the Duke service area.

With this latest round, 23 North Carolina community colleges (full list below) have received Duke Power grants.

According to Foundation for the Carolinas reports, a conservative estimate of the number of manufacturing jobs created by employers participating in the funded projects is approximately a thousand, with at least 3800 retained, thanks to improved productivity.

For details on the Duke Energy Community College Grant Program, visit the Website at <http://www.duke-energy.com/community/education/community-technical-college-grants.asp>

### November 2008

McDowell TCC	\$250,000	Machining Recruitment and Enhancement Project
Rowan-Cabarrus CC	\$250,000	NC Research Center Aseptic Bioprocessing Suite Project
Forsyth Technical CC	\$249,439	Analytical Training Center
Wilkes CC	\$250,000	Applied Technology Center
Mitchell CC	\$177,500	Advanced Integrated Manufacturing Systems (AIMS) Lab

### August 2008

Guilford TCC	\$243,958	Avionics Technician Training
Central Piedmont CC	\$250,000	Advanced Manufacturing/Integrated Systems Technology
South Piedmont CC	\$247,750	Integrated Systems Technology - Workforce
Blue Ridge CC	\$250,000	Manufacturing and Machining Enhancement
Cleveland CC	\$250,000	Welding Program Upgrade and Expansion
Forsyth CC	\$197,372	Advanced Manufacturing through Supply Chain Management
McDowell Tech CC	\$219,464	Welding Enhancement and Expansion

### 2007

Tri-County CC	\$237,500	Customized Workforce Development Training
Asheville-Buncombe TCC	\$238,046	Resurgent Manufacturing Initiative
Caldwell CC and TI	\$250,000	Information Technology Institute
South Piedmont CC	\$229,060	21st Century Machinist Training
Alamance CC	\$246,194	State of the Art Integrated Systems Technology Training
Davidson County CC	\$250,000	Automation Technology Lab Expansion
Gaston College	\$249,789	CNC Milling & Turning Training
Isothermal CC	\$250,000	Welding Program Enhancement
Guilford TCC	\$193,150	CNC Milling and Turning Training

### 2006

Alamance CC	\$235,512	State of the Art Machinist Technology Training
Guilford TCC	\$125,350	Sustaining Manufacturing Workforce through Workkeys
Isothermal CC	\$250,000	Training and Development for Manufacturing Industries
Forsyth TCC	\$ 46,288	Skills Upgrade for Manufacturing Maintenance Employees
Isothermal CC	\$180,000	Building Construction Trades
Randolph CC	\$244,200	State of the Art CNC Training

### 2005

Davidson County CC	\$250,000	Employee Recruitment and Training
Vance-Granville CC	\$108,376	Soletron Creedmoor Job Retention
Blue Ridge CC	\$ 60,000	BioWorks for Gaia Herbs
Isothermal CC	\$216,500	Training and Development for Manufacturing Technologies

and Certifications

Cleveland CC	\$250,000	Multi-Craft Maintenance Training
Gaston College	\$173,626	Biotechnology Capacity-Building
Catawba Valley CC	\$239,881	Putting the Catawba Valley to Work
Central Piedmont CC	\$124,442	Solectron Job Retention and Training
Western Piedmont CC	\$175,067	Henredon Furniture Industries Job Retention

**2004**

Forsyth TCC	\$248,600	Industrial Systems Technology Training
Tri-County CC	\$136,030	Machinist Journeyman Training
Central Piedmont CC	\$240,821	Advanced Manufacturing/Integrated Systems Technology

North Carolina's community colleges open the door to high-quality, accessible educational opportunities that minimize barriers to post-secondary education. The colleges offer associate degrees, college transfer programs, job training, literacy, and adult education. The colleges maximize student success, prepare a competitive workforce that can succeed on a global stage, and offer services that improve the lives and well-being of individuals in their communities.

Duke Energy, headquartered in Charlotte, is one of the largest electric power companies in the United States. The company delivers energy to approximately 4 million U.S. customers. Duke Energy has approximately 35,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity in the Midwest and the Carolinas, and natural gas distribution services in Ohio and Kentucky. The Duke Energy Foundation improves the quality of life in communities through volunteerism, leadership and financial support through grants to charitable organizations.