



**ONtility and Cedar Valley Community College Offer
NABCEP Entry Level Solar PV System Training Course**

January 25–29, 2010

LANCASTER, TX – North Texans interested in building their solar panel installation skills can enroll in “Solar Installation Training: Solar Electric Systems,” a course being offered by **ONtility** and **Cedar Valley Community College** (CVC) from January 25-29. Students will learn North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) Entry Level Photovoltaic learning objectives, which includes 40 hours of professional training presented in five days of sessions, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Tuition for the training is \$1,395. Training is being held at the Cedar Valley College Center at Cedar Hill, located at 207 North Cannady Drive in Cedar Hill, TX. For more information, call 972-860-8208.

In its *2008 Annual Outlook*, The U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration projected grid-connected solar power to experience a 73-fold increase by 2030, nationwide. Similarly, Angelou Economics, a Texas-based economic development consulting company, reported in its publication, *Growing the New Energy Economy in Texas, December 2008*, that the solar energy industry will grow from \$20 billion in 2007, to \$74 billion by 2017.

Demand for well trained, highly-skilled workers will naturally accompany market growth. Solar industry jobs will range from high school graduates to those with master's degrees and will carry average annual salaries from \$23,000 to \$87,000.

ONtility's *EcoWorkforce* and *ONTraining* programs are designed to accelerate the development of the Texas Solar Energy Industry and college level renewable energy programs by training college faculty members in solar photovoltaic and thermal applications.

About the Solar Installation Training – Solar Electric Systems Course

The course is a combination of lecture; hands on training; real world solar applications; solar installation contractor training; National Electrical Code (NEC) information; explanations of solar rebates offered in Texas and Federal tax credit incentives; and Texas solar installation contractor requirements.

The classes are very interactive – student participation is emphasized. The "hands-on-training" includes the complete installation of a Solar Electric system, from installing the solar panels on the roof, to the complete wiring of the balance of systems. There is a total of two days of hands-on installation and lab training that includes all materials and tools to do the job right.

This course teaches the NABCEP Photovoltaic (PV) Entry Level Certificate of Knowledge learning objectives. Students that complete the class will qualify to take the NABCEP Entry Level PV exam. The certificate of training, which all course graduates receive, will satisfy one of the requirements needed to be a solar system installation service provider in some Texas solar rebate programs, and satisfies the educational requirement to apply to sit for the NABCEP PV Installer National Certification exam.

Anyone interested in learning about or working in the solar industry or starting a solar energy company may attend this class. No particular skills are needed. A construction background and/or electrical experience are helpful.

About ONtily

ONTILITY provides integrated, value-added solutions, training and support services, and product distribution for the renewable and sustainable energy and energy efficiency/building science markets throughout North America. ONTILITY clients and partners represent a wide range of market segments including residential, commercial and industrial, community, educational, governmental, as well as electric utilities, real estate developers and home builders. Our key emphasis is the development, improvement and implementation of clean technology solutions to further the achievement of eco-sustainability. To support that emphasis, From its headquarters in Houston, Texas, ONTILTY is launching project EcoAppleseed©, a full service public-private eco-community enablement program. Our goal is to have 500 EcoAppleseed© communities by 2015.