

VII.6 Montana Hydrogen Futures Project (New Project)*

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**Congressionally directed project*

Objectives

- To develop a college curriculum for energy technicians.
- To establish a hydrogen safety training center at the University of Montana-Missoula College of Technology.
- To develop a hydrogen futures information and education web site supporting the growth and development of a hydrogen economy.
- To work with consultants and faculty to develop a program and facilities plan for the Hydrogen Futures Park at the University of Montana.

Technical Barriers

This project addresses the following technical barriers from the Education section of the Hydrogen, Fuel Cells and Infrastructure Technologies Program Multi-Year Research, Development and Demonstration Plan:

- A. Lack of Awareness
- B. Lack of Demonstrations or Examples of Real World Use
- C. Institutional Barriers and Access to Audiences
- D. Regional Differences
- C. Institutional Barriers and Access to Audiences

Approach

Moving Montana and others into a hydrogen economy will necessitate the development of not only the technologies to realize a national energy independence goal but also an educational infrastructure for those that are going to install, use, maintain, and operate a whole new world of technology.

The University of Montana-Missoula College of Technology will provide leadership in the development of education and training that is needed by a wide spectrum of the public and professionals. This effort will include coursework, seminars, workshops, and web-based and hands-on experiential learning in ways that benefit the newly emerging workforce in alternative and hydrogen energy technology. Additionally, facility planning and program identification will be conducted. This work will support and build on infrastructure development and set the stage for expanded growth and opportunity for individuals, business and industry.