

N E W S R E L E A S E

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**\$1.1 million grant will help 140 laid-off Solyndra workers
in the East Bay move into high-demand jobs**

SACRAMENTO – A \$1,135,000 grant from the state Employment Development Department (EDD) is helping 140 former Solyndra workers in the East Bay get the training they need to move off the unemployment rolls and into well-paid jobs in growing industries.

“About 1,100 employees lost their jobs when Solyndra shut down its solar panel plant in Fremont last August 31,” said Pam Harris, EDD Director. “This unexpected closure has thrown skilled workers, most of them just breaking into the emerging green industry, off their career paths. With this funding, EDD is helping them get the services they need to get back on the track to jobs in high-demand occupations.”

One-Stop Career Centers in Alameda County, in collaboration with Ohlone College in Newark, are offering the workers advanced job development and placement services targeted to their high-skill level. The laid-off employees worked in engineering, marketing, assembly, administration and customer support. Most of them need additional training or certification to reenter the labor market.

Funding for the program is drawn from the Governor’s 25 percent portion of Dislocated Worker Funds from Title I of the federal Workforce Investment Act and is under the administrative authority of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency’s EDD.

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