



July 2010

NTRPDC update



SERVING BRADFORD, SULLIVAN, SUSQUEHANNA, TIOGA, AND WYOMING COUNTIES

NTRPDC Now Accepting Memberships

Membership Levels

Platinum	\$1,000
Gold	\$500
Silver	\$250
Bronze	\$100
Friend	\$25

NTRPDC has been an Area Loan Organization, providing lending services offered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic

Development (DCED), for almost two decades. As part of recent DCED requirements, NTRPDC recently became a certified Industrial Development Agency. As required under that status, NTRPDC has incorporated as a Domestic Nonprofit Corporation known as "NTRPDC, Inc." and will now offer memberships.

The NTRPDC Board of Di-

rectors invites you to join its efforts in developing people, businesses, and communities for a globally competitive region.

For more information and to join NTRPDC, please contact Kevin Abrams, Executive Director, at 570-265-1500, toll free at 888-868-8800 ext. 500 or, by e-mail:

Abrams@northerntier.org.

Upcoming Meetings

NTRPDC Outreach Meetings

- Tioga County
July 23, 9:00 a.m.
- Bradford County
October 22, 9:00 a.m.

Local Loan Review Committee Meetings

- August 13, 9:00 a.m.
- September 10, 9:00 a.m.
NTRPDC Conference Room

NTRPDC Executive Board Meeting

- September 26, 10:30 a.m.,
NTRPDC Conference Room
(rescheduled from September 17)

Workforce Investment Board Meeting

- September 22, 10:30 a.m.,
NTRPDC Conference Room

Rural Area Transportation Committee Meetings

- August 9, 10:00 a.m.
- September 13, 10:00 a.m.
NTRPDC Conference Room

Marcellus Shale Business Expo a Success

More than 5,000 people attended the event in Troy.



More than 5,000 people attended the Marcellus Shale Business-to-Business Expo on June 26, 2010, in Troy's Alparon Park. The first-ever expo in the Northern Tier was held to connect local businesses and service providers

with energy companies to learn about opportunities created by the exploration and development of the Marcellus Shale.

More than 250 exhibitors set up booths in every available space in the park to share their information or demonstrate their services. "The intense interest in this event demonstrated how important the development of this industry could be for our regional economy," said Kim Barnes, NTRPDC Deputy Di-

rector and vice-chair of the Expo.

For more information and to download a copy of the directory and view pictures of the event, please visit www.ntmarcellusexpo.com.



Workforce Online Learning Initiative Portal

Grant funding is available for certain online training.



The Northern Tier Workforce investment Board is one of three in the state selected to participate in a collaborative online workforce education and training portal grant.

The grant funds online courses and certifications in rural areas to ensure current and emerging workers are prepared for employment in high demand industries within their Workforce Investment Area.

To date, 10 employers have taken advantage of this opportunity to offset training costs. As a result, a total of 60 individuals have received training in areas such as Information Technology, Ad-

vanced & Precision Manufacturing, and Health Care. A list of Pennsylvania-approved courses can be found at <http://www.wolip.sreb.org>.

Interested employers should contact Melissa Fleming (fleming@northerntier.org or 570-265-1524) for a training application.

This grant is sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation through the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.



The Energy sector saw the strongest employment gain between 2007 and 2008—a trend that is expected to continue.

'Snapshot' of Local Industry Base Released

Data will help shape regional workforce development initiatives.

The Northern Tier Workforce Investment Board recently released an updated "Area Snapshot" report on local industry and employment.

"It is important to understand the range of businesses in the Northern Tier and employment and industry trends in order to define an effective workforce development strategy," said Frank Thompson,

NTRPDC Workforce Development Director.

The report compares Pennsylvania trends with national figures and includes a detailed profile on each Northern Tier county.

The report indicates that although the economic downturn resulted in job losses in the Northern Tier, the unemployment rate is lower here than statewide

and there are some positive signs for the Northern Tier economy.

"Four industry sectors have seen solid growth: Agriculture and Food Production, Education, Energy, and Health Care," said Thompson. "As expected, the Energy sector saw the strongest employment gain—a trend that is expected to continue over the next several years."

Forest City Borough Awarded ARC Grant

\$200,000 grant will help offset borrowing costs for a \$9.6 million sewer project.



Forest City Borough in Susquehanna County has been awarded a \$200,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Grant to assist with the replacement of its sanitary sewer system. The borough was under a federal court order to replace the

extremely outdated system, most of which was constructed prior to 1913. The ARC grant will help to offset the borrowing costs that have been assumed by the municipality through financing for a large portion of the \$9.6 million dollar project.

Each year ARC provides funding for several hundred projects in the Appalachian Region, in areas such as business development, education and job training, telecommunications, infrastructure, community development, housing, and transportation. These projects create thousands of new jobs, improve local water and sewer systems, increase school readiness, expand access to health care, assist local communities with strategic planning, and provide technical and managerial assistance to emerging businesses.



Most of Forest City's sewer system is more than 100 years old.

Region Selected for 'Stronger Economies Together'

USDA Rural Development program to provide strategic and technical assistance for local economic development.

The NTRPDC region was selected to participate in the "Stronger Economies Together" program, designed to help regional teams develop new approaches to strengthen and enhance regional economic development activities.

"This program is an opportunity for the Northern Tier to receive the latest tools, train-

ing, and technical assistance to help our region take advantage of positive growth opportunities," said NTRPDC Economic Development Program Manager Jill Koski.

The team from our five-county area will receive training in strategic planning for economic development, as well as database tools, technical assistance, and educa-

tional support.

The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development, the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development, the Governor's Advisory Council on Rural Affairs, Penn State Cooperative Extension, and other state and local partners.

Computers Available for Local Government

Contact Jeff Field at: 570-265-1541, toll-free 888-868-8800 ext. 541, or field@northerntier.org.

NTRPDC has about 10 used computers to donate to local governments. Each has the Windows XP operating system and Office 2003. Computers will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis.



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