**INDUSTRY LEADERS** 

RENEWABLE ENERGY

**INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS** 

# CLUSTER PROFILE FORT COLLINS, CO

What sets Fort Collins apart from other clean energy-focused communities? The ability for the private sector to test energy technology, products and services on the municipally owned Fort Collins Utilities grid system. Sample projects include solar panels on private and public buildings, electric vehicle plug-in stations and generator upgrades at select public building sites.

The City of Fort Collins and its residents value the renewable and clean energy companies and agencies that make their home here.



# CLEAN ENERGY

## **CLIMATE WISE**

Climate Wise is a voluntary program sponsored by the City to help businesses lower green house gas emissions and provide a vibrant network of like-minded businesses in their quest to help the environment. The program has had great success—in 2010 business partners saved \$13 million in energy costs and reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 136,000 tons, smashing a goal of 127,000 tons. That's the equivalent of removing 21,000 cars from city streets.

#### **Climate Wise fast facts:**

- Free, voluntary business program
- 275+ business partners
- Various levels of achievement: Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze

## **STRENGTHS**

- Progressive public policies
- Municipally-owned, Progressive Utility
- Smart Grid technology developed in Fort Collins
- Innovative, award-winning companies
- Abundant sun and wind resources
- Residents who value energy conservation and sustainability

# **INCUBATION**

- Colorado State University's Clean Energy Supercluster-Cenergy
- Engines and Energy Conversion Laboratory, Colorado State University
- InteGrid Lab
- Rocky Mountain Innosphere

# **SAMPLE COMPANIES**

- Abound Solar
- Advanced Energy
- Brendle Group
- CPP Wind Engineering
- CZero, Inc. Carbon Neutral Solutions
- Ice Energy
- Spirae
- Wirsol
- Woodward

## ENRICHING THE ECONOMY

- 6 patents issued in the first six months of 2011 to Clean Energy Cluster companies
- FortZED (Zero Energy District) is projected to create 200-300 high-paying primary jobs in the New Energy Economy and hundreds of spin-off jobs.
- Colorado State University recognized internationally for pioneering many clean and renewable energy technologies
- A collaborative working environment, attracts quality researchers and business people to the area

# COLLABORATION & RESOURCES

**Colorado State University**, founding member of the Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory

- Includes CU-Boulder, Colorado School of Mines, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- Purpose: research and commercialize clean energy technologies

**Engines and Energy Conversion Laboratory** *eecl.colostate.edu* 

City of Fort Collins fcgov.com

Colorado Clean Energy Cluster coloradocleanenergy.com

FortZED fortzed.com

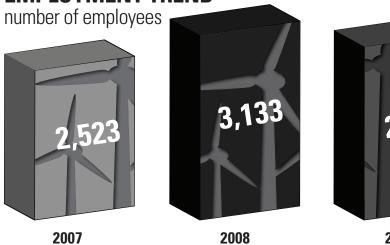
Center for Smart Grid Advancement

# **GRANTS AND RESEARCH FUNDING**

Colorado State University Clean Energy Supercluster	Department of Energy Federal Recovery Act,
Seed Grants	Smart Grid Technology Implementation
National Science Foundation	Colorado New Energy Economic Development Grants

# CLEAN ENERGY

# **EMPLOYMENT TREND**







2010 Q4 EMPLOYMENT COMPOSITION

82%

Total Manufacturing

8%

Utilities

9.8%

Professional, Scientific
& Technical Services

Specialty Trade Contractors

# **2010 Q4 EARNINGS**









\$186 K Specialty Trade Contractors

# CLEAN ENERGY

## WHAT'S HOT

- 1. Gov. John Hickenlooper signed The Innovation Reinvestment Act, or Senate Bill 47, providing up to \$2 million annually for a new Clean Technology Discovery Evaluation Grant program. Early stage funding such as SB47 can assist Colorado State University spin off companies with much needed capital.
- 2. A recent report by the Solar Foundation states Colorado leads the nation in solar jobs per capita. More than 6,100 people are employed in the solar industry, an increase of 16 percent from 2010. With a higher trained and educated workforce, abundant sunshine and entrepreneurial spirit, Coloradoans are making a difference in alternative energy production and storage.
- 3. The City of Fort Collins installed EV charging stations for its fleet of electric vehicles. The three stations are from Schneider Electric. Ten more outdoor stations are expected to be installed in the coming months in locations across Fort Collins.

## **COMMUNITY AWARDS**

Following your passions and pursuing your career don't have to be mutually exclusive.

- One of America's 20 Most Economically Vibrant College Towns: The Atlantic Cities.com - September 2011
- Ranked First, Safest Drivers in America: Allstate Insurance Company - 2011
- Ranked 3rd on the Best Bicycle Cities list: League of American Bicyclists and TheStreet.com - August 2011
- Ranked 5th Best Places for Business and Careers: Forbes June 2011
- Fort Collins, One of the Top 10 Cities Adopting Smart Grid Technology: U.S.News and World Report May 2011
- Top Colorado City for Job Growth, Fort Collins-Loveland: 2011 Best Cities for Job Growth, newgeography.com May 2011
- Third Happiest Metro Region, Fort Collins-Loveland, CO: Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index 2011
- 2011 Governor's Arts Award: Colorado Creative Industries and the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade March 2011
- 6th Best Place to Live in the Nation: Money Magazine - July 2010

# **CONTACTS**

For more information on Clean Energy in Fort Collins

**Judy Dorsey**, Executive Director of the Colorado Clean Energy Cluster, 970.207.0058 *jdorsey@brendlegroup.com* 

Josh Birks, City of Fort Collins, Economic Advisor 970.221.6324, jbirks@fcgov.com

Colorado Clean Energy Cluster coloradocleanenergy.com

Doing business in Fort Collins fcgov.com/business

Fort Collins Cluster Performance Report available on fcgov.com/business

