



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Energy Programs Office

Agriculture Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

Small Business Compliance Advisory Committee
October 27, 2021

Tom Wolf, Governor

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

Ag Energy Rebate Program-Who Is Eligible?

- Applicants must meet the definition of **normal farming operation** under PA's Right to Farm Law.
- A **normal farming operation** must meet one of the following:
 - The farm has to be (1) not less than ten contiguous acres in area; OR (2) less than ten contiguous acres in area but has anticipated yearly gross income of at least \$10,000

Ag Energy Rebate Program-Eligible Projects

- LED Lighting (both interior and exterior)
- Variable frequency drives for ventilation
- Variable frequency drives for milk vacuum pumps
- Equipment installed in a building not associated with the farming operation is ineligible.
- Projects funded under the DEP Small Business Advantage Grant are ineligible.



Photo courtesy Penn State Extension

Ag Energy Rebate Amounts

Variable frequency drives for vacuum pumps	Pump horsepower 5 HP or greater	Up to 50% of VFD equipment purchase cost \$2000 max.
Variable frequency drives for ventilation fans	Fan motor horsepower 5 HP or greater	Up to 50% of VFD equipment purchase cost \$2000 max.
LED lighting-interior or exterior		Up to 50% of lighting fixture purchase cost \$2000 max.

How to Apply

- ALL applications need to be submitted online using the Commonwealth's eGrants system: Electronic Single Application
 - First time users must create a Keystone Login Account (username and password)
 - Search for the rebate using keyword "agriculture"
 - Fill in all required fields marked with a **red** diamond
 - Refer to step-by-step instructions



Electronic Single Application Access

- You can access the application at:

<https://www.esa.dced.state.pa.us/login.aspx>

OR

Link to it from our agriculture energy webpage:

www.dep.pa.gov/agricultureenergy



2021 PENNSYLVANIA CLEAN ENERGY INDUSTRY Workforce Development Reports

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EPO Workforce Development Interest

- EPO has been supporting workforce training for the existing workforce for several years
 - Building Operator Certification Training
 - Building Retuning Training
 - Building Energy Codes Training
- Growth in Clean Energy Sector indicates need for new entrants into the workforce

2020-21 PA Energy Employment Reports



- Reports completed by BW Research
- BW has completed the US Energy Employment Report for USDOE and NASEO for several years
- Completed a 2020 PA Energy Employment Report and 2020 PA Clean Energy Employment Report
- 2021 versions were released in September
- 2020 PAEER: ~269,000 energy jobs at end of 2019 in Pennsylvania
- 2021 PAEER: just under 250,000 PA energy jobs at end of 2020

2020-21 PA Clean Energy Employment Reports

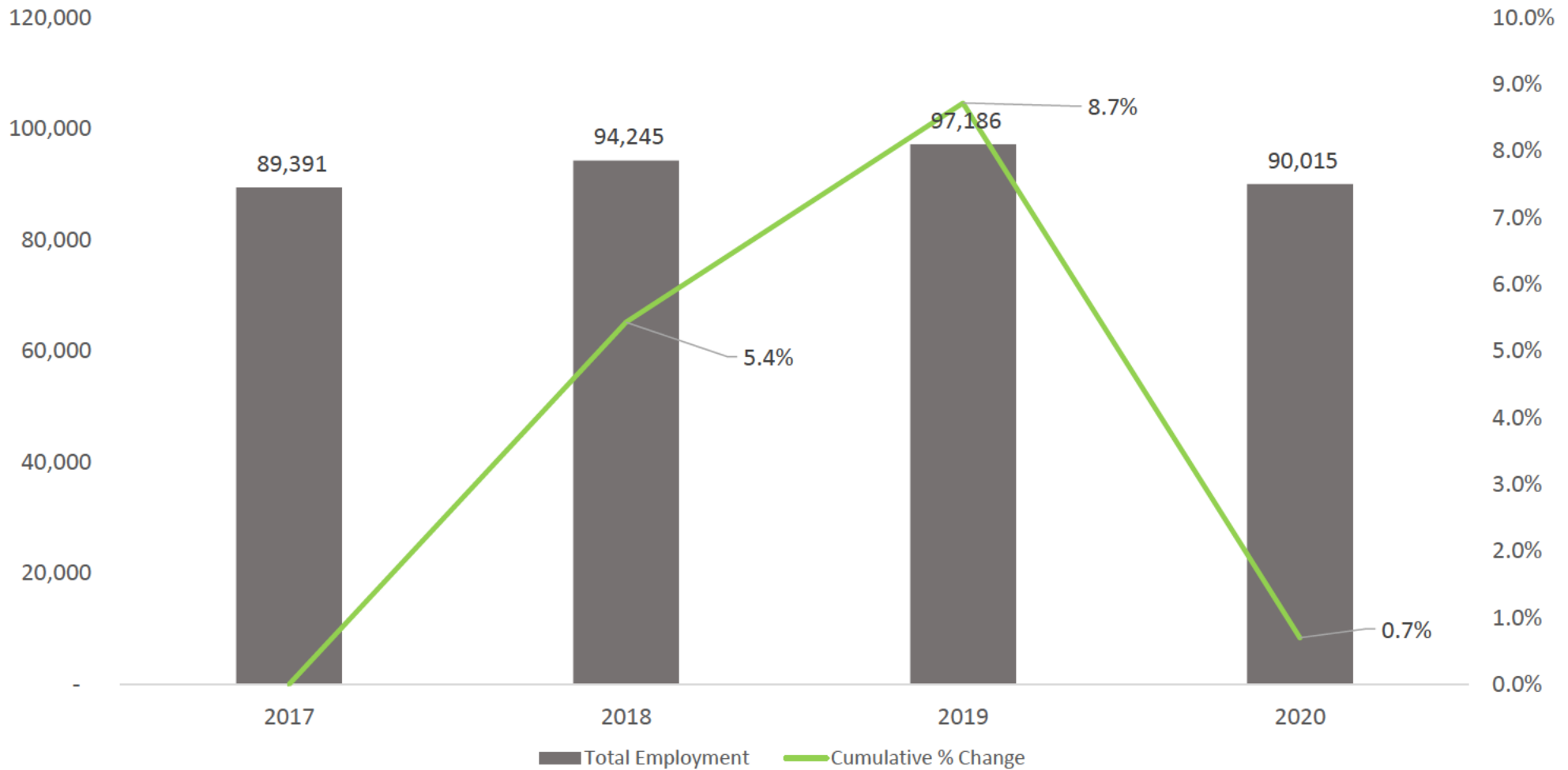


PRODUCED FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ENERGY PROGRAMS OFFICE

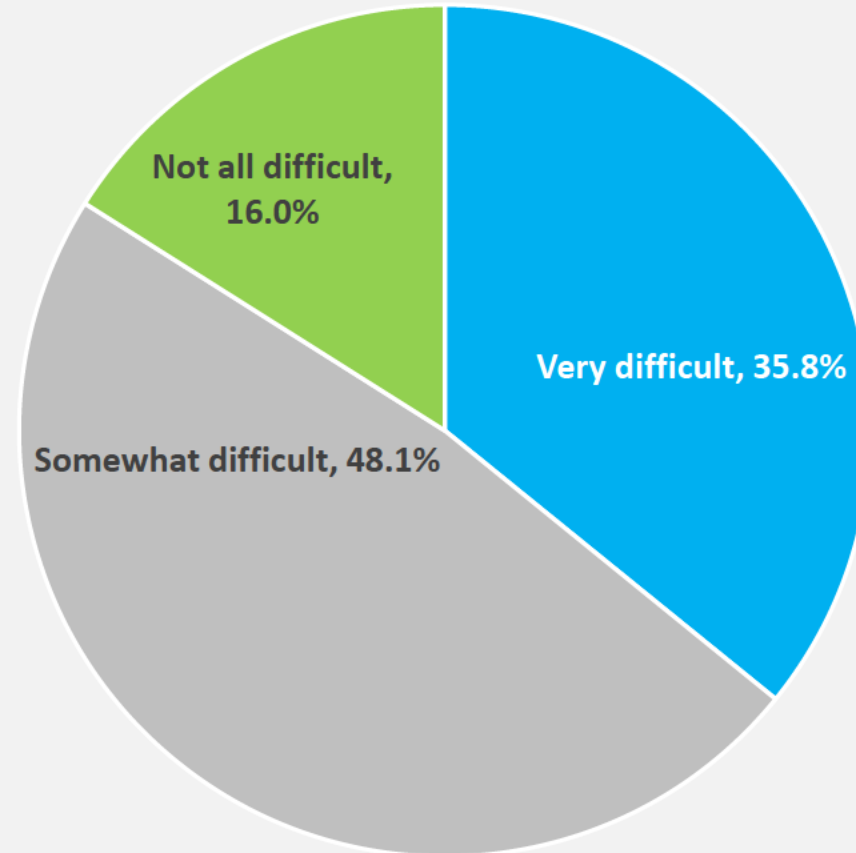
[bw] RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP

- Both PAEER and PACEER reports showed large and growing need for skilled workers in energy
- Between 2017 and 2019, nearly 8,000 jobs were created in the clean energy industry in Pennsylvania, a nearly 9% growth rate.
- 97,000 clean energy jobs end of 2019
- 90,000 end of 2020
- 71,000 energy efficiency jobs end of 2019
- 65,000 end of 2020

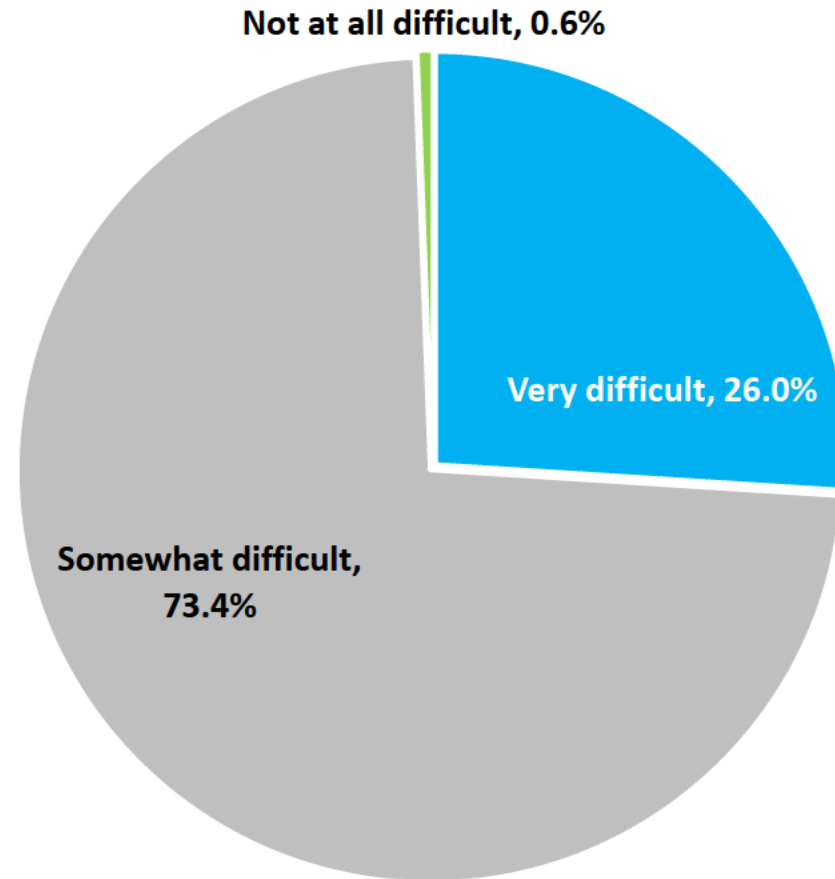
Clean Energy Employment, 2017 – 2020



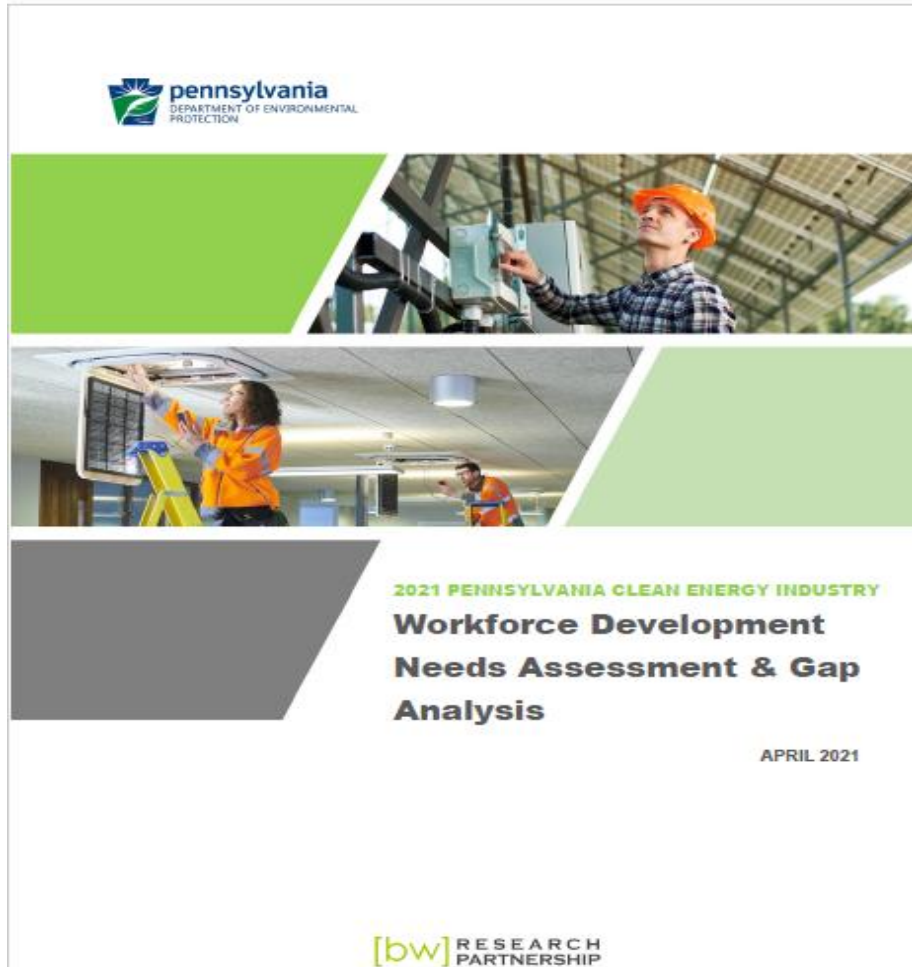
OVERALL HIRING DIFFICULTY (PRE-COVID-19)



OVERALL HIRING DIFFICULTY (POST-COVID-19)



Clean Energy Employment Gap Analysis



- Released May 2021
- Purpose: To identify the educational and training needs of Pennsylvanians to fully benefit from the expansion of a clean energy economy.
- High-growth occupations prior to the pandemic will likely remain in demand in the coming years
- The clean energy industry has the potential to contribute to Pennsylvania's economic recovery.

Gap Analysis Recommendations

- The report identifies a need for educators, training programs, unions, companies, and government programs to work together to fulfill growing employment demands, and recommends the following:
 - Facilitate on-the-job training opportunities and hands-on industry experience for workers.
 - Support curriculum sharing and procurement.
 - Create a pipeline for displaced workers to transition into the clean energy workforce.
 - Promote manufacturer-specific certifications for clean energy technologies.

Next Steps

- EPO is in discussions with L&I and DCED regarding how to work together to implement some of these recommendations.
- EPO is getting the word out about these reports and the findings – please share information.
- EPO Workforce Web page: [Workforce Development \(pa.gov\)](http://www.pa.gov/workforce-development)
(on DEP webpage, choose Businesses > Energy > Energy Programs Office > E4 Initiative > Workforce Development)



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Questions?

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