**NPC Industrial Maintenance and Operations Advisory Council**

**October 18th, 2018**

Attendees: Jeff LeFevre, TEP; David Krouse, TEP; Matt Weber, NAVIT; Royce Kincanon, NPC; Christopher Susag, APS; Nicole Ulibarri, NPC; Joshua Plicque, SRP; Von Straddling, SRP; Kevin Westfall, NPC; Peggy Belknap, NPC; Brian Martineau, APS; Robin Palmer, NOVO Bio Power; Scott Newby, TEP; Wade Stoddard, NPC/SRP; Lacy Greer, SRP; Michael Colwell, NPC; Kenny Keith, NPC; Shawntel Skousen, NPC

Welcome and Introductions – Kenny Keith.

Minutes from April 2018 were approved.

*Industry Updates*:

**Chris –** APS has hired an apprenticeship coordinator and plan to have 10 E&I apprentices APS wide with a slight possibility that 1 would be at Cholla. APS hired 5 entry level employees and possibly could hire 1 or 2 at Cholla next year. They are looking at CTED programs for new hires as their knowledge accelerates their training. Cholla is installing a reactor capacitor bank to stabilize the load coming from Page to the Valley.

**Brian –** (Adding to Chris’s update) Cholla has contracted out their coal handling, except for electrical. He also stated that Prop 127 will make an impact either way. Cholla is schedule to shut down in 2025 unless converted to gas.

**Matt –** As of Mid-August JTED is now CTED, the C stands for Career. He feels this gives a better description of what they do. He is also excited for the increased enrollment in the EIT program and appreciates the partnership and certifications provided.

**Von –** In the future SRP plans to keep running both units at the Coronado Generating Station. As per the EPA agreement, they will take Unit 1 offline between November and January every year. They are planning to do a large overhaul on Unit 1. They plan on running at least 15 years and are working on integrating training for gas plants for employees just in case.

**Lacy –** Gas class is going well. They have had 2 tours at the San Tan plant and plan for their next trip to be to the Gila Bend plant. He stated the CGS plant manager supports the class. He is not sure when SRP will hire as they are still working to place all the employees from the Navajo Generating Station. Von Straddling added SRP is promising to place all the employees from NGS. That move should be done by next summer. Lacy asked if there was a way to refer outstanding students to potential employers. It was discussed that he, and other instructors, could contact those employers directly. He is also working with 1st Solar to see what is needed for a Renewables Course.

**David –** Discussed the apprenticeship programs and stated that some of them are from this program.

**Jeff –** TEP is planning to hire 6-10 in the late winter. Piggybacking on Lacy’s question regarding outstanding students, Jeff stated that it is difficult to see soft skills on paper so they do want to hear about the students that have excellent skills in those areas.

**Robin –** Novopower is making all the power they can. They are generating 28 megawatts a day. They have put in for an APS proposal for Biomass energy and recently found out that they are a finalist. If awarded, that would mean an additional plant that they feel they can put on the current site. Everything they need to do so is basically there. It would add 15-20 new jobs. There is a Biomass plant in Texas that ran for 4 months before it was shut down that they would purchase and bring here. He also stated that they would be interested in short term classes in specific areas, close to home.

**Royce –** He works with businesses to create training for their specific needs.

**Nicole –** She would like to see more adjunct faculty for the Apache County sites and offered her assistance with the search.

**Mike –** He is excited to hear that TEP is going to hire soon and explained that news like that drives enrollment.

**Kevin –** He explained that he has a great class of NAVIT students and gave examples of things the first year students have done such as rebuilding a broken pump based on blue prints.

*A PowerPoint Presentation was presented on the following:*

**Enrollment –** There was a drop in enrollment from fall 2017 to spring 2018. He expressed that there is a need for maintenance instructors and there is a need for assistance in enrollment for the EIT program. Peggy added that NAVIT is at risk at the Apache County site and instructors are needed. She also added that we cannot run the program without qualified instructors.

**Class Standards –** We are updating tests and making improvements. Additionally, students are being held accountable more.

**Curriculum Mapping –** The slide will be sent to everyone so we can determine if the outcomes listed align with industry needs. This will be evaluated by CP as opposed to individual classes.

**Integrating Employability Skills –** Kevin explained what he does to help his students with this: They clock in and out, give a 1-2 minute commercial, give safety shares, show an industry current event, someone serves as the shop foreman for the week, they have worked on resume writing and will do a job search in the spring, and 20% of their grades are based on these soft skills. Kenny added that he does all of those same things but also has his students keep a log book. Kenny then gave a handout to everyone that asks what they feel are the important employability skills they look for. He asked that it be returned to him soon.

**Program Change –** The program change from IMO/MET to EIT is done and went into effect for the fall 2018 semester. The change mostly consisted of removing redundant courses and cleaning things up.

**Next Meeting –** Possibily TEP in April 2019