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## Job Training Incentive Program Funds High-Wage Position in Taos

SANTA FE - The New Mexico Economic Development Department's Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) Board approved \$8,680 in funds during its May meeting. The funds will help cover the cost of training one high-wage position in the rural community of Taos. The next JTIP Board meeting will be held on June 14, in Albuquerque.

"The Job Training Incentive Program is a great tool for new and existing business to utilize to help them create new jobs," said Economic Development Cabinet Secretary. "It is especially encouraging when those funds go towards the creation of high-wage positions in places like Taos that are outside the major metroplexes in the state."

Paradise Power Company (PPC Solar), this month's JTIP recipient, established its business of solar installation nearly four decades ago in rural Taos. The company got its start installing off-grid solar electric systems for those who lived far away from easy access to traditional power lines in Taos. PPC Solar serves northern New Mexico and southern Colorado and has 10 employees. The company focused almost entirely on residential until 13 years ago when it expanded its client base to businesses and utility companies.

**About JTIP** The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) reimburses qualified economic-based companies for a portion of training costs associated with job creation. The program provides for classroom or on-the-job training, reimbursing an expanding or relocating business for up to 75 percent of a trainee's wages for as long as six months. The amount of the award depends on the number and complexity of jobs, the wages paid, and the business location.

To qualify, new or expanding companies must either create a product in New Mexico, or provide a non-retail service with 50 percent of the company's customer and revenue base outside of the state. The eligible jobs must be full-time and year-round. The trainee must be a new hire to the company and have been a New Mexico resident for at least one year at any time prior to being hired. For more information on JTIP, visit [www.goNM.biz](http://www.goNM.biz).

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