



American Electric Power
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Carl L. English
Vice Chairman

August 23, 2011

Steve Nowlan, President
Center for America
250 Willow Springs Drive
Roswell, GA 30075

Dear Steve:

I am pleased to inform you that American Electric Power enthusiastically endorses the 10 By 20 Pledge for America Campaign that the Center for America is launching to generate support for training 10 million new skilled workers in our nation by the year 2020.

Our company has approximately 19,000 employees and provides electric service to portions of 11 states. The success of our enterprise depends upon the skilled workers we have in a multitude of critical positions - line mechanics, power plant operators and the crews on board our fleet of towboats, to name just a few.

In addition, workers in the skilled trades - - such as pipefitters, welders and machinists - - play a vital role when we hire contractors to build new facilities, add emission-control equipment to existing facilities, or do extensive maintenance work on our generating units.

We are keenly aware of the need to develop a new generation of skilled workers, because several thousand of our employees have either retired within the past few years or will become eligible to retire within the near future.

AEP welcomes your efforts to build greater awareness of this situation because it will doubtlessly help our own initiatives to develop skilled workers for future employment.

One of my colleagues, Bob Powers, the president of AEP Utilities, is currently serving as chairman of the Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD). CEWD recently selected eight states to participate in the launch of a national program to train low-income, young adults for skilled jobs in the energy industry. CEWD has formed partnerships with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Utility Workers of America, and we are optimistic about its prospects.

Our company has also established partnerships with a number of four-year and two-year colleges in or near our service territory to develop programs that prepare students for occupations in power plants and as line mechanics.

Too many Americans - - particularly young people - - are simply unaware of the well-paying jobs that currently are or will become available for skilled workers in the energy industry, in manufacturing and in other fields. We applaud your organization's campaign to ramp up training opportunities so that people can

become qualified for these positions. We will be publishing a news story about AEP's support for the 10 By 20 Pledge for America Campaign on our employee intranet, which will give our employees a convenient opportunity to sign the pledge and join this initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. English", is centered below the word "Sincerely,". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Carl English
Vice Chairman
American Electric Power