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Embargoed for noon on Wednesday June 15

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Report at: <http://www.policymattersohio.org/GreenMAPBriefing2009PW.htm>

Policy Matters report illustrates merits of manufacturing retooling legislation; Senator Brown's bill to provide \$30 billion to retool for clean energy jobs

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As Congress weighs sweeping energy and climate legislation, U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) will join Phil Angelides of the Apollo Alliance and other clean energy, business and labor leaders on Wednesday to announce a new initiative that would address immediate challenges faced by America's manufacturing industry and support development of domestic clean energy manufacturing and production. Brown's bill would provide \$30 billion in bridge loans to help auto suppliers and other manufacturers retool for the clean energy industry.

A new briefing paper released by Policy Matters Ohio provides a county-by-county interactive map, which illustrates firms that currently produce in sectors that serve new energy markets. Using current Dun & Bradstreet data, Policy Matters Ohio found over 3,000 Ohio facilities employing 250,000 workers currently producing in markets that could serve green energy component manufacture.

An interactive map demonstrates where these firms are located in Ohio.

<http://www.policymattersohio.org/ohiogreenindustry/GreenIndustryMap.htm>

“This legislation is precisely what Ohio manufacturers need to capture new markets and reinvest in Ohio firms,” said Wendy Patton, Senior Associate at Policy Matters Ohio, which convenes the Ohio Apollo Alliance. “We see robust growth of green jobs in Ohio, which demonstrates this is a growing market. We need to ensure this growth is available to strengthen existing jobs within existing firms. Senator Brown's bill does that, by providing access to capital and technical assistance for retooling and energy efficiency.”

The map provides a county-by-county list of small and medium sized firms in sectors that could produce components, materials or feedstock for equipment used in generation of wind, solar, geothermal and/or biomass. This might include, for instance, a mill that could provide cold rolled steel for wind turbine blades, a silica plant that might upgrade its product to supply solar panel manufacturers, or an iron forge that produces a casting for the body of a wind turbine, a rendering plant that contemplates moving into cellulosic biomass production, or a sawmill that transforms a waste stream (sawdust) into biomass feedstock.

“We don't know if these firms will chose to enter new markets, but if they want to, support must be in place to help them ramp up quickly to meet the requirements of climate change legislation.” Patton said.



“Many employers would welcome funding and audits to help them develop energy efficiency strategies. This bill is an incentive for reinvestment in Ohio’s industrial base.”

A second interactive map highlights energy intensive firms that might be vulnerable to price shock as greenhouse gases are priced. Senator Brown’s legislation would provide financial and technical assistance to allow them to install new processes, protocol and equipment for energy efficiency. Although the interactive map highlights the most energy intensive firms, all manufacturers of small and medium size would be eligible for assistance under the provisions of the proposed bill. This second map can be found at <http://www.policymattersohio.org/EnergyIntensiveManufacturers2009/OhioMap.htm>.

“By adopting many of the key provisions of the Apollo Alliance’s GreenMAP proposal, Senator Brown has taken a big step toward incentivizing reinvestment in Ohio’s plants, workers and communities,” said Shanelle Smith, organizer of the Ohio’ Apollo Alliance. “Senator Brown’s leadership will help Ohio firms adapt to the new energy economy.”

To access the briefing before the embargo date, go to:

<http://www.policymattersohio.org/GreenMAPBriefing2009PW.htm>

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