
Issue Brief – Petroleum Technology Program (UBATC)

NUMBER UCAT-08

SUMMARY

The oil and gas industry is enjoying a resurgence in the Uintah Basin. The Uintah Basin ATC works closely with the oil and gas industry to provide skilled workers to fill new job openings. The Analyst recommends funding for the expansion of the Petroleum Technology program at the UBATC in the amount of \$175,500 for FY 2007.

OBJECTIVE

Additional funding to expand the Petroleum Technology program at the UBATC will allow the program to provide more training for the thriving oil and gas industry in the Uintah Basin.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As the oil and gas industry thrives in the Uintah Basin, more trained, skilled workers are needed. Experts have indicated that the reserves in the area are vast and employers could hire additional workers to explore and extract the reserves if there were more trained individuals. The UBATC is in a key position to provide the training needed for this industry. The positions include some high-wage jobs, but the Petroleum Technology program at the UBATC would need to be expanded, including hiring additional faculty for the training. It is expected that such an increase in training and trained employees would attract additional employers from outside the service region. The Analyst recommends the expansion of the Petroleum Technology program at the UBATC to provide training which in turn will enhance the economy in that area. The recommendation is for \$175,500 in FY 2007.

Recently, the College of Eastern Utah announced that it was the recipient of a \$2.7 million federal grant for a new energy training center. The Southeast Applied Technology Center will be one of several partners with CEU that will provide continuing education courses for people in the oil, gas and coal industries. (Deseret News, Dec. 24, 2005)