

ENR Cluster Adoption Letter of Support Template

[Month DD, Year]

[Full Name and Honorific of Recipient]

[Title]

[Address]

RE: Support for the Adoption of the Energy & Natural Resources CTE Career Cluster in [State]

Dear [Name],

On behalf of my office, I write to express strong support for the inclusion of the newly established Energy & Natural Resources (ENR) Career Cluster within [State]'s Career and Technical Education (CTE) framework. I urge your support in advancing this vital addition through [specific action such as curriculum approval, state board endorsement, program development and upgrades].

Originally developed in 2002, the National Career Cluster Framework has been modernized to reflect shifts in the U.S. workforce. This modernization, led by Advance CTE and informed by industry validation and national survey research, has established ENR as a standalone cluster. This move recognizes the transformative growth of the energy sector and natural resource fields over the last two decades.

[State] now has the opportunity to align with a national movement focused on preparing students for the next generation of high demand, high-skill careers. The U.S. will very shortly be facing an unprecedented talent vacuum (more than half of the utility sector's employees are projected to retire within the next ten years), creating the urgent need to build talent pipelines through hands-on, career-connected learning. These jobs, many of which require boots on the ground, need talent that is highly skilled, credentialed, and ready to work straight out of school. CTE curriculum is well positioned to fill the national talent gap as 42% of high paying energy jobs don't require a bachelor's degree or higher. Importantly, many of these roles offer strong wages and upward mobility without requiring a four-year degree.

The ENR Career Cluster, along with its six sub-clusters, can be tailored to meet [State]'s unique workforce priorities and integrated through existing [insert relevant initiatives, e.g., Perkins V plans, green jobs strategies, dual enrollment programs, etc.]. CTE programs are uniquely positioned to equip students with the skills, credentials, and work-based experiences they need to thrive in these industries.

Cross-sector collaboration will be key. State-level adoption of ENR requires coordination between educational leaders, employers, and policymakers to ensure local relevance and long-term success. I encourage you, [Name], to publicly support this initiative and help bring the Energy & Natural Resources Career Cluster to [State]'s classrooms. Your leadership will be instrumental in building a future-ready workforce and ensuring our students have access to pathways that lead to purpose-driven, in-demand careers.

Thank you for your consideration of this important initiative. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact me at [email].

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title]

