

January 7-8, 2009

ITEM 142-1003-R0109

Permanent approval for the Energy Technology A.A.S. degree

THAT:

In accordance with Montana University System Policy, the Board of Regents of Higher Education authorizes The University of Montana – Missoula to approve for permanent status the experimentally offered Energy Technology A.A.S. degree.

EXPLANATION:

The University of Montana-Missoula COT currently offers an Associate of Applied Science in Energy Technology on an experimental basis. Rapid growth and expansion in the energy sector, and particularly in renewable energy, has created an unmet demand for skilled technicians and professionals across the nation and the globe. The Energy Technology program is one of the few established programs in the country, and one of the only programs in the state of Montana, that offers any kind of degree—2-year, 4-year or graduate—in energy. The success of the experimental offering indicates there is both an interest and a need for this kind of training. Permanent approval of this program will allow the University of Montana College of Technology as well as the state of Montana to retain the lead it now enjoys in providing a unique educational opportunity that is responsive to growing concerns over energy independence, national security, and environmental quality.

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendices A, B, C