



Monday, June 28, 2010

Environment briefs

CHP gets \$1 million to expand worker training center

Community Housing Partners Corp. in Christiansburg will receive \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop and expand a weatherization training center.

The money will fund projects that will train local workers in energy efficiency retrofitting and weatherization services. Workers will receive training using a combination of classroom, online and hands-on learning.

A similar program in Hampton, the Green Jobs Alliance, will receive \$981,260.

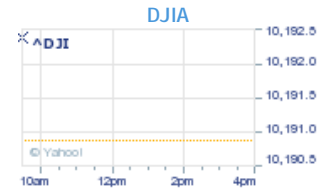
The U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program has funded the weatherization of nearly 200,000 homes since February 2009 using the recovery act and annual program funds.

Grant helps Chatham dairy go green

A \$150,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture will help a Chatham dairy support its alternative energy program. The money will help the VanDerHyde Dairy start the state's first anaerobic digester, which will use heat and microorganisms to convert cow manure into clean, sustainable fuel for energy production. The digester will power a 450-kilowatt generator when the system is brought online this fall. The resulting electricity will be able to power about 600 homes and can be sold to the electrical grid to generate income for the dairy.

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