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Lt. Governor Kleefisch, Secretary Newson Visit CleanPower, Highlight Success in Connecting Job Seekers to Jobs, Meet Customer Needs

APPLETON – During a visit at CleanPower's Appleton office today, Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch and Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson highlighted a successful partnership that helped the janitorial service provider fill over 50 support positions to meet expanding customer needs.

"With expanding customer needs, CleanPower had to move quickly to fill more than 50 positions to help maintain a safe, clean work conditions in the Bay Area region," Lt. Governor Kleefisch said. "They needed workers for full-time jobs, support positions in a manufacturing setting to assist other workers in the skilled trades and keep production running smoothly, efficiently and safely. We were pleased to assist CleanPower meet its customer needs, and equally important, connecting job seekers to jobs."

DWD Job Service and DWD's regional partner, the Bay Area Workforce Development Board, were able to help CleanPower fill the positions in roughly one month. Working together in the Marinette Job Center, the DWD and Bay Area staff screened job seekers, assisted applicants and provided CleanPower space for interviews and other steps in the hiring process. For those hired, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College made space available for orientation and training.

"From the first day Governor Walker took office, we have been working to create a business friendly climate and get Wisconsin working again," Secretary Newson said. "We want to empower individuals and connect them to jobs. These positions are good jobs, an opportunity to earn a pay check, gain experience, learn skills and work effectively as a team, all of which can lead to additional opportunities. As they work in a manufacturing setting, the new CleanPower hires might decide to they want to become welders, for example, and seek training for these family-supporting positions that remain in high demand."

Jeffrey Packee, CleanPower President and Chief Operating Officer, said CleanPower offers employment opportunities throughout the state as a leader in commercial, industrial, specialty, construction clean up and window cleaning. He described Wisconsin Job Centers as a great workforce resource, especially in this instance.

"Our expanding customer base was both exciting and challenging in that we had no office in Marinette," Packee said. "The Marinette Job Center opened its doors and its staff went above and beyond our expectations, accommodating us at every turn. This is great example of the necessary partnerships and teamwork that help us all succeed."