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11 March, 2019

## Teachers Needed for New Renewable Energy Educational Program in Oklahoma

A new educational program, Oklahoma Renewable Energy Education (OREEP) is now underway in Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Sierra Club is currently seeking teachers in grades 4-8 to participate in free workshops focused on using information about solar and wind energies to teach state standards.

Upcoming workshops will be held March 9 in Tulsa and March 30 in Weatherford. Details of these and future workshops, and registration information, may be found on the OREEP website: <https://www.oreep.org/>. There are \$50 stipends available for workshop participants. Advance reservations are required with a maximum of 25 teachers per workshop.

The program is utilizing a curriculum developed by Oklahoma science teachers using the National Energy Education Development Project resources. The curriculum is free, and participating teachers will receive solar, wind and generator kits for classroom use. The financial sponsor making this program possible is The Kirkpatrick Foundation.

Workshop presenters include Tara Barker, Jane Cronin and Doug Weirick, who started developing the program in 2017. Both Barker and Cronin are retired science teachers and Weirick teaches environmental health science at East Central University.

Barker said now the biggest challenge she and her counterparts face is finding volunteers to help coordinate the program. She estimates OREEP will reach over 2,000 students in 2019 and will need up to 20 volunteers to make it happen.

Anyone interested should email Cronin or Barker at [OREEPforteachers@gmail.com](mailto:OREEPforteachers@gmail.com).

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