

## **AABE Supplier Diversity Principles**

The American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) recognizes the need for increased participation in the discussion on supplier diversity policy by historically underserved communities. To that end, AABE supports the following supplier diversity policy principles.<sup>1</sup>

- AABE supports policies that promote fairness, inclusion, and increased opportunities for historically underserved, minority-owned businesses to participate in all facets of the capital and procurement supply chain.
- AABE supports increased opportunities for diverse suppliers through public/private partnerships that encourage greater economic opportunity for women, minority, and disabled veteran business enterprises (WMDVBE).
- AABE supports procurement and supply chain subcontracting language that promotes teaming between prime contractors and diverse suppliers in all products and services contracts.
- AABE supports integration or alignment of supplier diversity programs with the procurement department for corporations and government agencies.
- AABE supports policies that facilitate diverse suppliers meeting federal, state and private (e.g., NMSDC) criteria to be certified as a minority business enterprise (MBE).
- AABE encourages corporations and governments to develop a written supplier diversity plan and policy that clearly defines executive management commitment and measures success.
- AABE supports strategic implementation of supplier diversity policies as a "business imperative" to promote brand enhancement, strengthen public policy, and increase revenue generation.
- AABE supports enhanced business opportunities for diverse suppliers, which are
  predominantly small businesses that create jobs for underserved individuals and
  communities.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Approved by the AABE Board of Directors (November 2012)



- AABE supports strengthening workforce development programs in the energy sector by facilitating access to training, education and career counseling for underserved individuals.
- AABE supports elements of the Utility Marketplace Access Partnership (UMAP) Strategy resolution to promote supplier diversity policy in the United States, where it harmonizes with AABE goals and objectives.