



Energy Transition Advisory Committee

City of Becker & Virtual - May 31, 2022

Impacted Community- Coal Plant

Agenda

- 1) Call to Order and Roll Call
- 2) Mayor Tracy Bertram, City of Becker
- 3) Approve April 29, 2022 minutes – Roll Call vote
- 4) Presentation - Cindy Winland, Community Transition Planning
- 5) PUC presentation – Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
- 6) Task Force Updates
 - 1) Community Engagement
 - 2) Economic Diversification
 - 3) Re-Use of Assets
 - 4) Tax Base
 - 5) Workforce
- 7) Executive Committee Report
- 8) Engagement Process Update - Commissioner Grove
- 9) Discussion
- 10) Next Meeting – June 28, 2022 at 11am
- 11) Adjourn – Roll call vote

Energy Transition Advisory Committee

Purpose

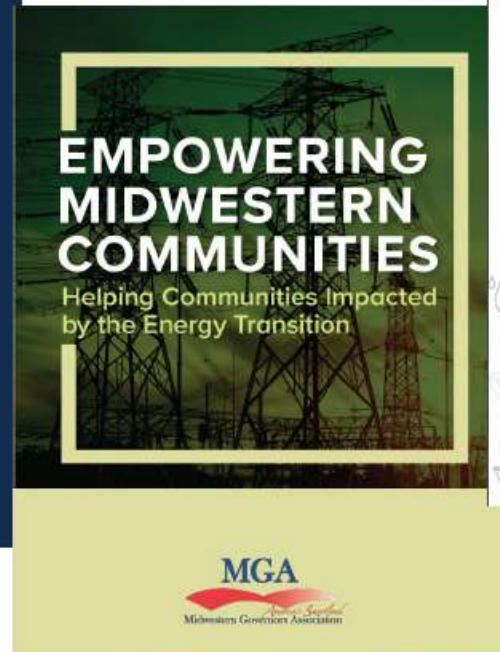
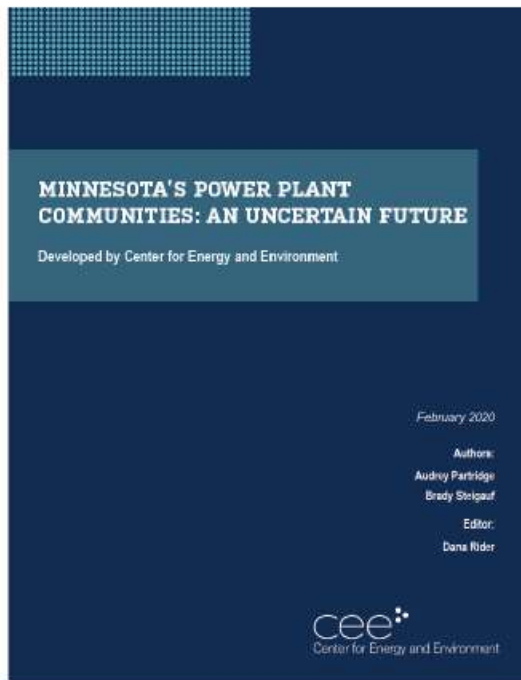
The Energy Transition Advisory Committee is established to:

- Develop a statewide energy transition plan
- Advise the governor, the commissioner, and the legislature on transition issues, established transition programs, economic initiatives, and transition policy.

Welcome – Becker Mayor Bertram

- Population
- Impacts
- City Planning for the Power Plant transition – past, current, anticipated

Cindy Winland Presentation

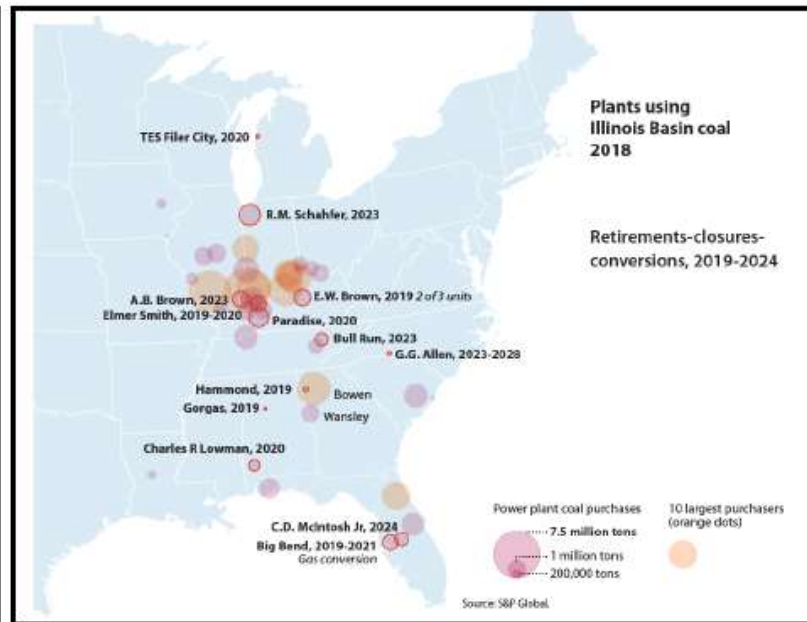
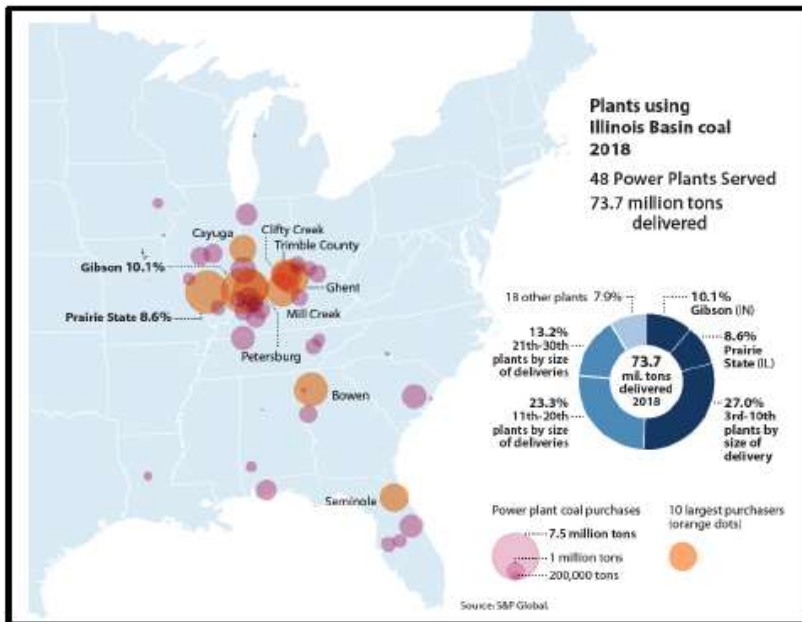


Cindy Winland Presentation

Sherburne County (Becker)



Cindy Winland Presentation



Southern Illinois Coal production and sales (dated, for example only)

Cindy Winland Presentation

Colstrip, MT



Cindy Winland Presentation



Cindy Winland Presentation

FACT SHEET: White House Initiative to Revitalize Energy Communities Acting to Increase Funding, Reduce Barriers

September 27, 2021 / News



Under the banner of the [Interagency Working Group \(IWG\) on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization](#), top officials from the [White House](#) and eleven federal agencies met today to review actions completed to date and announced further commitments to pursue near- and long-term actions to support energy communities as the nation transitions to a clean energy economy.

Cindy Winland Presentation

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Interagency Working Group on Coal & Power Plant Communities & Economic Revitalization. The header includes the organization's logo and name, social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube, and links for 'Contact Us' and 'Newsroom'. A navigation menu below the header lists 'Home', 'About', 'Principles', 'Energy Communities', 'Funding', 'Events', and 'Resources'. The main content area features a large dark blue banner with the text: 'We are delivering federal resources to help revitalize America's energy communities'. Below this banner is a light gray box with the heading 'GET FUNDING' and a sub-heading: 'Find out what your community or organization might be eligible to receive in grants, loans, technical assistance, or other support'. A yellow button labeled 'EXPLORE FUNDING CLEARINGHOUSE' is centered below the sub-heading. At the bottom of the page, there are four columns of statistics: 1) '119 Open/Planned Opportunities Currently Available (Last updated: 5/19/22)'; 2) '48 Opportunities Don't Require Matching Funds (Last updated: 5/19/22)'; 3) '\$240B+ Open/Planned Funding Available (Last updated: 5/19/22)'; and 4) 'Learn about new Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding ->' with a bar chart icon.

Public Utility Presentation

- Separate Slide deck

Task Force Presentations



Community Engagement Task Force

- Met on May 16 – Task Force will meet monthly
- Success for the task force includes:
 - Educating ourselves on plant closures dates and process
 - Important for Community and Power Plants to work together. This includes our impacted Native American communities.
 - Anticipated impacts from the entire process within the entire community
 - Important that the engagement includes **all** people within the community.
 - Plan must include need for consultants to work with communities for a non-bias perspective (community education, marketing funds, grant writing and administration, re-branding, etc.) is important. The closure will have a financial, emotional, mental health, visual, etc. impact. Plans need to be updated as needed
 - What grants, funding exist to help today? What gaps can we identify?
 - Best practices from other communities on their engagement from beginning to complete redevelopment

Economic Diversification Task Force

- Met on May 23 – Task Force will meet monthly
- Success for the task force includes:
 - What economic development tools exists? Gaps? Areas that might need modification.
 - Unique tools and funding to attract businesses
 - Funding for planning, impact studies, economic development studies to attract businesses
 - Understand current infrastructure and transportation of each community to attract businesses
 - State, Fed, non-profit – Funding for re-use and permitting requirements
 - Community needs to bring in business – childcare, housing, high speed internet, transportation enhancements/improvements, infrastructure enhancements/improvements, job training
 - Best practices

Re-Use of Assets Task Force

- Met on May 20 – Task Force will meet monthly
- Success for the task force includes:
 - Communities & Power Plant Research:
 - What has been done?
 - What has been/being planned on site? Long term – environmental, coal ask, nuclear storage,
 - Regulations (Federal, State, local, environmental), ect. for re-use
 - Cities and counties planning – Comprehensive Planning, zoning, utility/infrastructure (streets, water sewer, stormsewer, rail, etc.) /CIP, financial, impact analysis. Planning needs to start early and be constantly reviewed.
 - State, Fed, non-profit – Funding for re-use and permitting requirements
 - Best practices from other Power Plant and other large business reuse
 - Important for community and property owner to work together.

Tax Base/Financial Assistance Task Force

- Met on May 19 – Task Force will meet monthly
- Success for the task force includes:
 - Recognizing that the impacts on tax base and the need for financial assistance for cities, counties, Native American communities, schools and other taxing jurisdictions
 - Need to understand LGA, CPA, solar and wind taxing, and how power plants are taxed
 - Need for tools and assistance for the tax base that is lost
 - Need for incentives to redevelopment property to start filling in tax base
 - Communication for the community to understand the tax base current, future
 - Need for great communication on closure dates as some have changed.
 - Importance of financial planning for the fiscal impacts
 - Look at best practices of other US closure locations on tax base financial assistance

Workforce Tax Force

- Met on May 18 – Task Force will meet monthly
- Success for the task force includes:
 - **Overriding Goal:** Actionable steps and tangible outcomes – **more** robust than the Colorado Transition plan’s workforce section
 - **Considerations for Impacted Communities**
 - Recognition that each community has different needs, customizable per community
 - Important to attract employment opportunities for impacted communities with similar pay/benefits for those employees that might not want to leave.
 - Recognition that current unemployment rates may be different at different times of plant closures as we think of re-employment
 - **Considerations for Impacted Workers**
 - Recognition that Utility Workers have extensive training already, many 6 + years, are employees committed to their employer and their work
 - Employees will have different employment goals after closure, including retirement, some employees might not be able to/want to move
 - Assistance for mental health needs of worker and their families.
 - **Link Efforts to the Future**
 - Youth might have been considering the Power Plant as their careers. Resources to assist them as they look at other opportunities
 - Workforce skills have evolved and will continue to evolve.
- **Next steps: Conversations with previously impacted communities and existing programs, more detailed community profiles**

Executive Committee Report

- Staff has met in person in Fergus Falls, Becker, Cohasset and Oak Park Heights; meeting with Monticello today
- Staff is met virtually with all impacted cities within the Sprint
- Researching on best practices nationwide
- Coordinating Task Forces
- Future plans to meet in person in other impacted communities

Engagement Process

DEED Commissioner Grove



Open discussion

Next Meeting

June 28, 2022 at 11am

Virtually and at

Oak Park Heights City Hall.

Tour at King Coal plant following the meeting

