



National, Regional Experts to Address Controversial Cardinal Hickory Creek Transmission Proposal, Chart Local Energy Futures

Are transmission line evaluations and energy planning as complex and confusing as utilities and officials emphasize? Once better energy directions are identified, what outreach and educational efforts have convinced the public and decision makers across the US to embrace them over expanded transmission?

Clearing our confusions and detailing successful techniques will enjoy highest priority in presentations by fourteen, thoroughly field-tested experts from across the continent during a free, half day energy forum, **“STOP CHC: Harnessing our Energy Futures,”** in Dodgeville, Wisconsin on Friday, March 2.

The forum starts at 1 pm with three, back to back, multiple expert workshops including time for questions and discussion. Following a networking-dinner break at the Badger Bowl location at 381 King St. three speakers will re-cap the day's highlights starting at 6:30 pm. Attendees may stroll tables with printed materials and sign-up for new actions hosted by the seven Wisconsin organizations opposing the transmission expansion line and those of allied organizations as well.

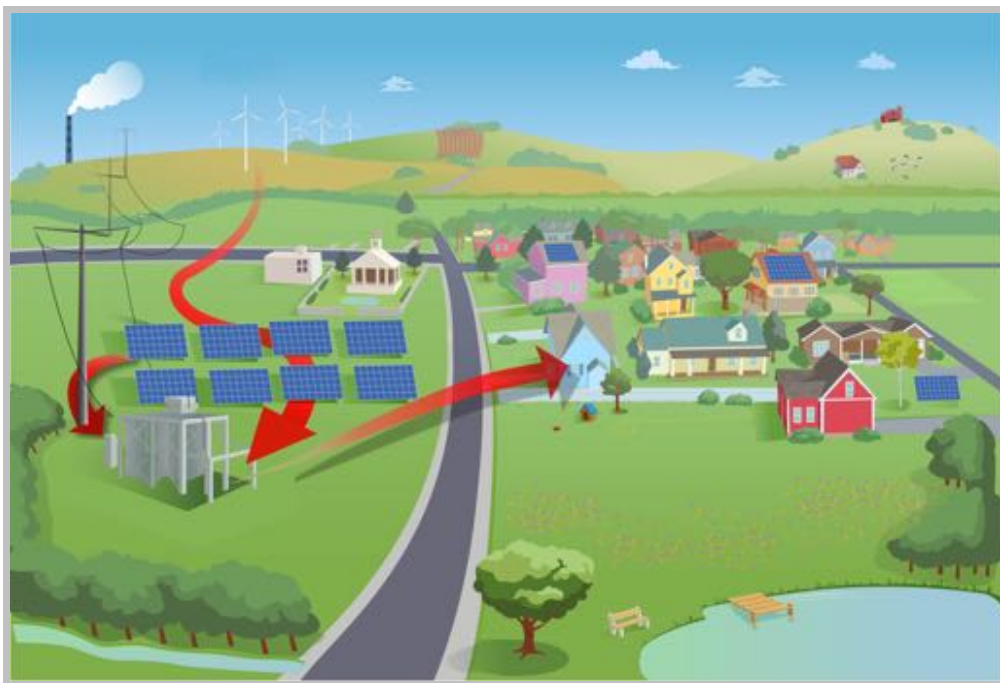
The six hour forum compresses critical awarenesses to help electric customers, business owners, elected officials and social organizers understand electric utilities' capital expansion emphasis in competition with more cost and environmentally effective solutions preferred by most customers and communities. With this knowledge, citizens can publicly question the utilities' reluctance to engage

communities and conduct comprehensive energy planning and Public Service Commission's tendency to accept and approve it.

The event is scheduled on a Friday afternoon to facilitate attendance by state lawmakers.

The forum in Dodgeville, is co-hosted by SOUL of Wisconsin, a 501(c)(3) organization that has formally intervened in expansion transmission line proposals since 1999 and Inter-Municipal Energy Planning Committee (IMEPC) a coalition of six municipal governments in Iowa, Dane, Vernon, and Grant counties. Event co-supporters include Driftless Area Land Conservancy, Driftless Defenders, Citizens Steering committee of Grant County, Vermont Citizens Powerline Action Committee, Western Dane Preservation Campaign and 17 supporting organizations and businesses.

Evening speakers include California energy and environmental engineer Bill Powers, long time anti-transmission expansion activist Keryn Newman, of West Virginia and David Clutter, an expert on the lands and local economies under threat. Newman has been a crucial researcher and strategist in efforts leading to successful denials of expansion transmission line proposals in many states. Drawing upon 30 years of experience including authoring three counter proposals for expansion transmission lines in Missouri, California and Wisconsin, Powers will show how N-Wire, locally focused, futures based on accelerated energy efficiency, load management and home-business-community solar guarantee larger economic, reliability and environmental benefits compared to only potential benefits surmised by transmission builders that inexplicably assume customers will return to wasteful ways.



A community solar farm supplying power directly to homes reduces CO2 emissions most effectively by directly reducing use of grid power averaging 74% fossil fuel generation in the Midwest. By lowering power flow through the substation, the solar facility creates three advantages: it prolongs the lifespan of expensive substation components, it shaves peak load lowering electricity costs for all customers and the facility can be installed at rock bottom price.

STOP CHC: Harnessing our Energy Futures

Session I

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Meeting Our Priorities with Household and Local Solutions

Michael McDermott Welcome by physician, author, activist, co-founder of the *Black Earth Institute*, McDermott is facilitating an array of citizen and local government responses in his community.

Bill Powers With more than 30 years of experience in energy and environmental engineering including strategic energy plans for major US cities and states, Powers will explain how *No Wire* alternatives he has presented before public utility commissions in Wisconsin, Missouri and California are able to exceed all economic, reliability and environmental benefits that utilities claim for expansion transmission lines like Cardinal Hickory Creek.

Melissa Davis Can an ambitious volunteer engage in-kind community assets and realize energy savings shattering those of leading state energy efficiency programs? Melissa accomplished this as the mastermind and Managing Director of *New Power Tour/HEET* based in her utility in Houghton, MI.

Gary Radloff Recently retired UW-Madison researcher and Director of Midwest Energy Policy Analysis for the Wisconsin Energy Institute will discuss the potential of energy efficiency, load management and other Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) in Wisconsin's future as alternatives to enlarging utility-scale infrastructure.

Sondy Pope Wisconsin State Representative for District 80 and outspoken advocate of energy efficiency and conservation, Rep. Pope will moderate discussion.

2:20 to 3:50 pm

Shortfalls in Transmission Review Process and Busting Utility Myths

Bill Powers From experience developing *No Wire* alternatives for two MISO-recommended expansion transmission lines, Badger-Coulee and Mark Twain, Bill will address the unique challenges and advantages anticipated with the Cardinal Hickory Creek proposal.

Frank Jablonski As legal counsel for the Town of Holland, Frank will describe the basis of the on-going appeal of the Badger-Coulee transmission line, and discuss possible implications for opponents of Cardinal Hickory Creek and strategies to help overcome shortfalls in the review process and in appeal should one become necessary.

Keryn Newman From her roles assisting transmission opposition efforts in many states, Keryn Newman will shed light on how the regulatory process is created by and for utilities and how citizens can employ 'out of the box' techniques to make utilities play in the opposition's sandbox. She will also discuss common, misleading utility claims,

Ross Astoria Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin at Parkside and Chair of the board of the directors of Citizens' Climate Lobby, Ross will discuss New York efforts to develop non-wire alternatives and transition to a distributed, low-carbon grid in relation to the Cardinal Hickory Creek proposal.

4:00 to 5:30 pm

Confronting the Harmful Land and Economic Impacts of Transmission Expansion

Marilyn Pedretti As town clerk and off-grid energy advocate in the Town of Holland located north of La Crosse, Wisconsin, Marilyn will describe economic and other negative impacts from the presence of two, 345 kV expansion transmission lines in her community. Through steadfast appeal of the PSC's approval of the most recent Badger-Coulee line and other energy improvements, the Town of Holland provides an inspiring example of local efforts to restore land owner and electric customer accountability throughout Wisconsin.

Dave Clutter Drawing upon more than 20 years of experience as a conservation professional, Driftless Area Land Conservancy Executive Director David Clutter will provide an overview of the area's unique lands and waters, and plans for residents to respond to the Environmental Impact Statement (natural, cultural and economic impacts) for the Cardinal Hickory Creek transmission proposal.

Jon Greendeer Calling upon personal experiences with Wisconsin's first, 345 kV expansion transmission line, *Arrowhead-Weston*, the proposed *Crandon Mine*, and the *Enbridge Expansion Pipeline*, former Ho-Chunk Nation president, Maasusga (*White Feather*) will discuss potential cultural impacts and environmental degradation.

Lila Zastrow & Dave Hendrickson Lila as a certified arborist and both owners of an off-grid property severely impacted by the Bay Lake 345 kV line and multiple 138 kV transmission lines near Appleton, WI, Lila will describe increasing utility intrusions on corridor habitats and lower-cost, habitat compatible, federally approved vegetation management practices that utilities in Wisconsin are currently allowed to ignore.

Mary Mauch As Executive Director of the Illinois Landowner's Alliance and Co-founder of Block RICL, Mary will describe organizing and outreach techniques with citizens and elected officials which proved effective in stopping the Rock Island Clean Line in Illinois, and other merchant lines in Missouri and Iowa, that sought to use eminent domain to take private property for transmission expansion.

4:00 to 5:30 pm

Networking & Food

6:30 to 8:30 pm

Evening Speakers & Discussion

Bill Powers

Powers Engineering, San Diego, CA

Local-Based Energy Futures and the Obstacle of Transmission Expansion

Dave Clutter

Driftless Area Land Conservancy, Dodgeville, WI

Protecting the Natural Habitats and Local Economies of the Driftless Area from Unnecessary Transmission Expansion

Keryn Newman

StopPATH WV, Shepherdstown, WV

Participation, Politics, and Public Opinion

As a long time anti-transmission expansion activist, Keryn Newman has been a crucial researcher and strategist in efforts leading to successful denials of expansion transmission line proposals in many states. She will explain that utilities have a "playbook" for getting transmission projects approved and will share her experiences of successfully opposing various transmission projects by using the utility's own tactics.

Half Day Energy Forum

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

1 to 8:30 PM

FREE ADMISSION / DONATIONS ACCEPTED

318 King Street

Dodgeville, Wisconsin

DIRECTIONS <http://bit.ly/DodgerBowI>

Live Video Streaming (if sufficient bandwidth)

<https://www.wisvideohub.net/>

Facebook Event Page

<https://www.facebook.com/events/165543147420639/>

Vermont Citizens Powerline Action Committee

<http://bit.ly/Vermont-Forum-Info>

Questions about the Event

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Event Organizing Team

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Event Planning Assistance and Volunteers

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Richard Graney, Robin Schumacher, Katie McGrath, Nancy Bruins,
David Lucey, David Hess, John Wright, Betsy Deangelo, Jon Lund,
Terese Agnew, Keith Ashley-Wright and Michelle Citron