



MORE JOBS, LOWER BILLS

Energy Efficiency for West Virginia

FIRSTENERGY AND AEP ARE MAKING A BAD DEAL

FirstEnergy and American Electric Power (AEP) are proposing to transfer expensive and uncompetitive coal-fired power generation from their Ohio subsidiaries to West Virginia customers. These plans would shift the cost of owning outdated coal plants onto West Virginia families, costing homeowners and business owners over \$2 billion while FirstEnergy and AEP stockholders rake in the profits— all without creating any new jobs in West Virginia.

- AEP aims to transfer partial ownership of their Mitchell and John Amos plants to West Virginians through a plan that would protect their corporate interests while passing on the costs to their customers.
- FirstEnergy has overvalued the Harrison Power Plant, which they intend to sell to their West Virginia subsidiary, claiming it is worth \$1.1 billion when the actual value is less than half of that. The cost of the transfer would be borne by FirstEnergy's West Virginia customers.
- Both AEP and FirstEnergy failed to investigate competitive, cost-effective solutions like energy efficiency as an alternative to these bad deals.

A BETTER OPTION: UNLOCK WEST VIRGINIA'S ENERGY-EFFICIENCY POTENTIAL

The state's utilities could meet their customers' needs with money-saving energy efficiency that would create thousands of new jobs and cut ratepayers' monthly electricity bills. West Virginia is nearly last in the nation in offering state energy-efficiency programs,¹ so this represents a tremendous opportunity to cut wasted energy and save money for homeowners and businesses.

- Energy efficiency can meet our electricity needs at less than half the cost of power from the Harrison power plant.²
- In West Virginia, energy-efficiency programs could create as many as 19,500 new jobs in construction, installation, technology development, and other related fields within three years of aggressive investments by utilities.³
- Energy efficiency creates more jobs per dollar spent than investments in other parts of the economy, including coal plants.⁴
- Utility energy-efficiency programs make updating lighting, replacing outdated appliances, weatherizing homes, and other money-saving building upgrades more accessible to customers.
- Both FirstEnergy and AEP already invest in energy efficiency in other states, including Ohio and Kentucky. If they applied similar programs in West Virginia they could cut energy use in the state by nearly three times more than the projections included in their existing plans by 2016.

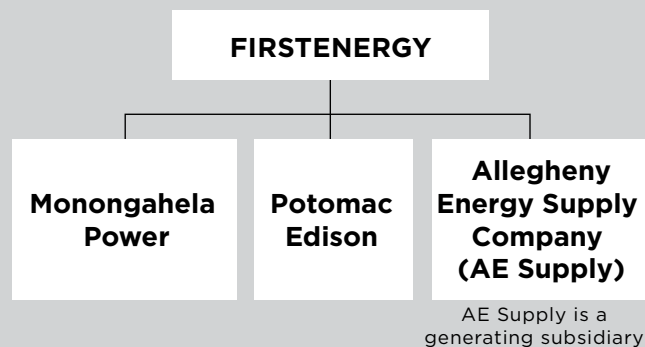
The West Virginia Public Service Commission (PSC) has the power to stop these expensive transfers and ensure that West Virginia utilities better serve their customers with money-saving energy efficiency.

The PSC should require utilities to conduct fair, competitive, and transparent processes to determine what sources will best meet their customers' needs.

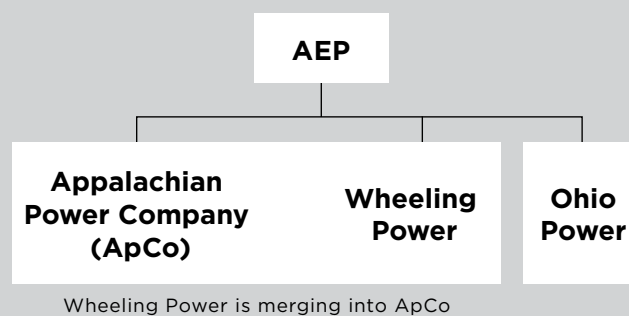
You can help by telling the PSC to protect electricity customers from this bad deal and instead help save money and create jobs with energy efficiency.

- Visit westvirginia.sierraclub.org or contact Jim Kotcon, Chapter Conservation Chair, at 304-594-3322 or jkotcon@gmail.com to get involved and learn more about the actions listed below.
- **Submit a letter of protest** to the West Virginia PSC asking them to choose lower bills for their customers and more jobs for West Virginians with energy efficiency.
- **Send a letter to the editor** to your local newspaper to let your community know about the high cost of this proposed power plant transfer and how energy efficiency can benefit our state.
- **Generate public support for energy efficiency** by bringing postcards to a meeting of your business, church, union, or other organization.
- **Meet with your public officials** to ask them to publicly express their support for lower bills and local jobs by writing a letter of protest to the West Virginia PSC.

WHO OWNS YOUR LOCAL POWER COMPANY?



FirstEnergy is based in Ohio, but owns subsidiaries across OH, WV, PA, NJ and MD.



AEP is based in Ohio, but owns subsidiaries in OH, WV, KY, MI and across the Southwest.

ENDNOTES

1 American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, 2012 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard Ranking, <http://aceee.org/energy-efficiency-sector/state-policy/aceee-state-scorecard-ranking>

2 "2011 ENEC Filing of Monongahela Power Company and The Potomac Edison Company." Case No. 11-1274-E-P. Page 55, <http://www.psc.state.wv.us/scripts/WebDocket/ViewDocument.cfm?CaseActivityID=352359&NotType='WebDocket'>

American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, "Saving Energy Cost-Effectively: A National Review of the Cost of Energy Saved Through Utility-Sector Energy Efficiency Programs", <http://aceee.org/research-report/u092>

3 Optimal Energy, "How Energy Efficiency Can Work for West Virginia", <http://westvirginia.sierraclub.org/announcements/p027.html>

4 American Council for Energy Efficient Economy: "How Does Energy Efficiency Create Jobs" <http://aceee.org/files/pdf/fact-sheet/ee-job-creation.pdf>

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**WE CAN CREATE JOBS AND SAVE
MONEY WITH ENERGY EFFICIENCY**



DEAR COMMISSIONERS ALBERT, MCKINNEY, AND PALMER,

As a West Virginia electricity customer, I want the Public Service Commission to support increased energy efficiency programs and reject utility proposals to purchase expensive and outdated coal-fired power plants. Requiring our utilities to aggressively invest in energy efficiency will lower our monthly bills, create 19,500 new jobs in West Virginia and reduce air pollution so our kids can breathe easier.

Energy efficiency is a more affordable way to power our homes and businesses than proposals by FirstEnergy and AEP to sell their outdated coal plants to our families at a cost of over \$2 billion.

**IT IS TIME TO ACT IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL WEST VIRGINIANS BY
REQUIRING OUR UTILITIES TO INVEST IN MONEY-SAVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY
THAT WILL CREATE JOBS AND BUILD A STRONGER ECONOMY.**

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