



Just Transition

Seventh Generation Interfaith
May 17, 2023

Welcome!

- ▶ Participants will be in listen only mode until the Q&A section. You can also enter questions into the Chat.
- ▶ This webinar will be recorded and posted on our website.

Reflection



Companions in this conversation



▶ **Mary Hiebert,**
Associate Director:
Climate Change &
Environmental Justice,
ICCR



▶ **Tom Content,**
Executive Director,
Citizen's Utility Board
(CUB)



▶ **Sr. Pegge Boehm,**
P.B.V.M., Councilor,
Sisters of the Presentation
of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Our Itinerary

- ▶ **Supporting a Just & Equitable Energy Transition: Leading Lobbying Practices to Drive 1.5° C Climate Action**
- ▶ **CUB and the Just Transition**
- ▶ **Just Transition: Through the Lens of a Faith-ful Stockholder**
- ▶ **Q&A**

Supporting a Just & Equitable Energy Transition

SGI Webinar, May 2023

ICCR's Just Transition Focus

- ICCR's just transition work to date has been focused on engagements with key U.S. utility companies around the demands of transitioning to a clean energy economy within a “just transition” framework.

This framework links support for necessary climate action with commitments to labor standards and human rights—with a focus on the workers and communities who contribute to and are affected by the transition.

- ICCR's Just Transition engagements with energy utilities are informed by relevant policy and regulation and by a multi-stakeholder, place-based consultative process.

Context

Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement acknowledges "*the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs*" and "*taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems*"

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf

International Labour Organization (ILO)

“Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all” (2015)

- *“The four pillars of the Decent Work Agenda—social dialogue, social protection, rights at work and employment—are indispensable building blocks of sustainable development...”*
- *“Managed well, transitions to environmentally and socially sustainable economies can become a strong driver of job creation, job upgrading, social justice and poverty eradication.”*

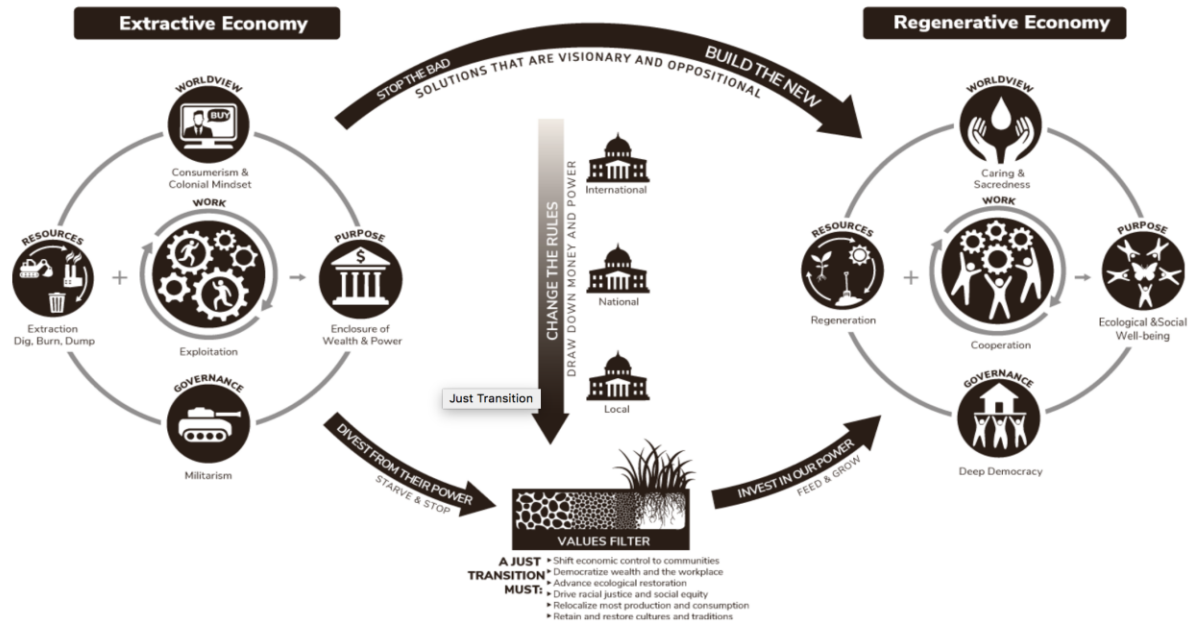
https://www.ilo.org/wcmstp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/@emp_ent/documents/publication/wcms_432859.pdf

Analysis, Framework and Strategy

JT Framework Design: Wisdom of Frontline communities and leaders with the support of Movement Generation

Climate Justice Alliance:

“Just Transition: A Framework for Change”

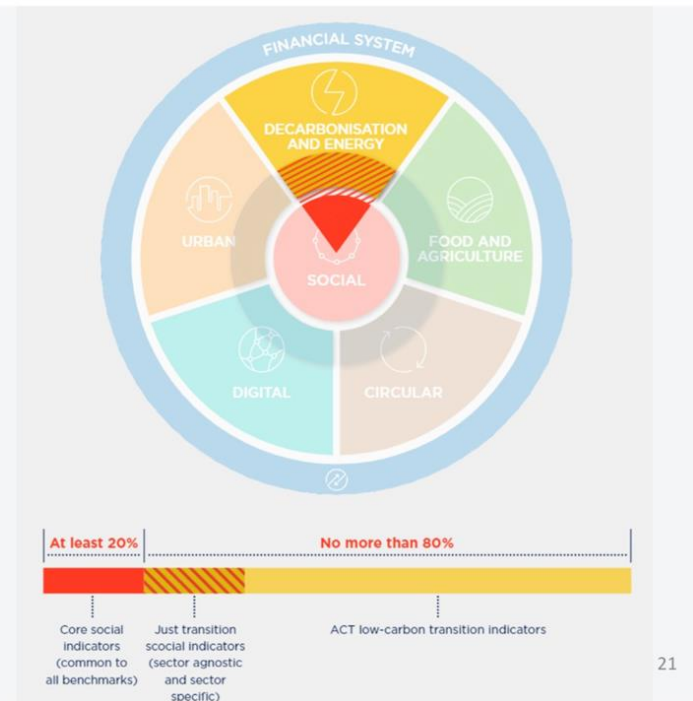


<https://climatejusticealliance.org/just-transition/>

Just transition indicators

1. Social dialogue and stakeholder engagement
2. Planning for a just transition
3. Green and decent job creation
4. Retaining and re- and/or up-skilling
5. Social protection and social impact management
6. Advocacy for policies and regulation supporting a just transition

[Just-Transition-Methodology.pdf](https://www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org/just-transition-methodology.pdf)
([worldbenchmarkingalliance.org](https://www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org))



From a presentation by Lauren Muusse (WBA) on ICCR-Ceres Climate Finance Call, April 12, 2023
<https://www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org/just-transition/>


Disclosure Indicator 9: Just Transition

Sub-indicator 9.1

The company has committed to the principles of a Just Transition.

 **Metric 9.1.a:** The company has committed to decarbonise in line with defined Just Transition principles, recognising the social impacts of its decarbonisation efforts.

Metric 9.1.b: The company has committed to retain, retrain, redeploy and/or compensate workers affected by its decarbonisation efforts.


 **Metric 9.1.c:** The company has committed that new projects associated with its decarbonisation efforts are developed in consultation with affected communities and seek their consent.

Sub-indicator 9.2

The company has disclosed how it is planning for and monitoring progress towards a Just Transition.

 **Metric 9.2.a:** The company has developed a Just Transition plan for how it aims to support workers and communities negatively affected by its decarbonisation efforts.

 **Metric 9.2.b:** The company's Just Transition plan was developed in consultation with workers, communities and other key stakeholders affected by its decarbonisation efforts.

 **Metric 9.2.c:** The company discloses the quantified Key Performance Indicators it uses to track its progress towards the objectives of its Just Transition plan.

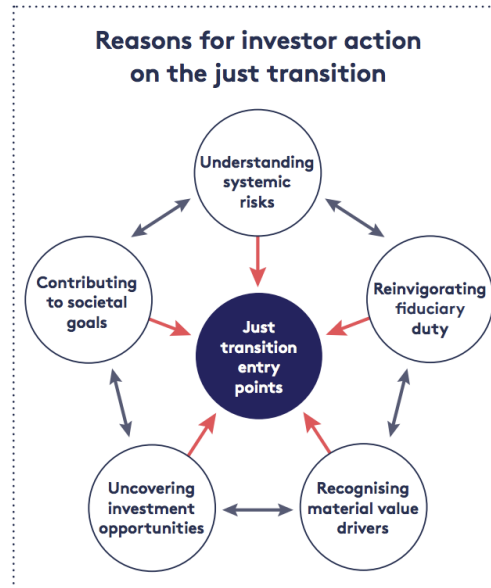


CA100+ Net Zero Company Benchmark: <https://www.climateaction100.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Climate-Action-100-Net-Zero-Company-Benchmark-Framework-2.0..pdf>

Additional Investor Resources

“Climate Change and the just transition: A guide for investor action” (2018)

*By the Grantham
Research Institute on
Climate Change and the
Environment at LSE & the
Initiative for Responsible
Investment at the
Harvard Kennedy School,
in partnership with PRI*



<https://www.unpri.org/download?ac=9452>

ICCR: Key Just Transition Activities & Resources

2022 Investor Statement on Job Standards & Community Impacts in the Just Transition

- "We call on companies, investors, and policymakers to ensure...a just transition that supports a racially and economically equitable, decarbonized economy by prioritizing "high-road" jobs, respect for human rights, positive community impacts, and the remediation of harms."
- Principles of the statement:
 - *Provide a foundation for decent work, job benefits, and working conditions*
 - *Offer equitable opportunities for quality jobs*
 - *Invest in impacted communities*
 - *Facilitate transparency and accountability*
 - *Support just transition policies at all levels (internal and external)*
- Supported by nearly 100 global investors representing \$4.3T in assets under management

<https://www.iccr.org/statement-investor-expectations-job-standards-community-impacts-just-transition>

2023 ICCR Just Transition Roundtable

- **January 18-19, 2023 in NYC**
- **Goal:** To bring together utilities and a wide range of stakeholders to share their perspectives on what a just and equitable energy transition looks like in practice
 - Focus on renewable energy buildout
- ***Followed 2019 ICCR/IRI Just Transition Roundtable***

2023 Roundtable: What did we hear?

- **Cross-stakeholder dialogue and meaningful stakeholder engagement in the energy transition are critical**
 - *Need inclusive dialogue among a broad range of stakeholders, including workers and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) communities*
- **Need to better align utility incentives with a just transition**
 - *Need for broader understanding of regulatory changes needed to support a just transition*
- **Need for shared just transition data, metrics, and benchmarks to assess impacts (including equity impacts) on workforce and communities.**

2023 Roundtable: What did we hear?

- **Labor stakeholders** emphasized the need to:
 - Ensure that the energy transition enables the creation of high-road jobs with fair compensation, benefits, and safe working conditions
 - Include ALL workers (direct employees and workers employed with contractors) in energy transition planning

2023 Roundtable: What did we hear?

- **Energy justice and community-based stakeholders** emphasized that the just transition must be addressed in the context of past harms caused, with particular consideration for the disproportionate harms the energy economy has caused BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) communities.
- *“Energy justice refers to the goal of achieving equity in both the social and economic participation in the energy system, while also remediating social, economic, and health burdens on those historically harmed by the energy system (“frontline communities”).”**

*Initiative for Energy Justice: <https://iejusa.org/section-1-defining-energy-justice/>

Next Steps

- Public report on lessons learned from the 2023 ICCR Just Transition Roundtable (June)
- Limited series of informational webinars focused on topics surfaced at the Roundtable
 - June 6, 1-2:30pm ET: Performance-Based Regulation for a Just Energy Transition
- *ICCR members to continue just transition engagements*

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- ▶ Q&A

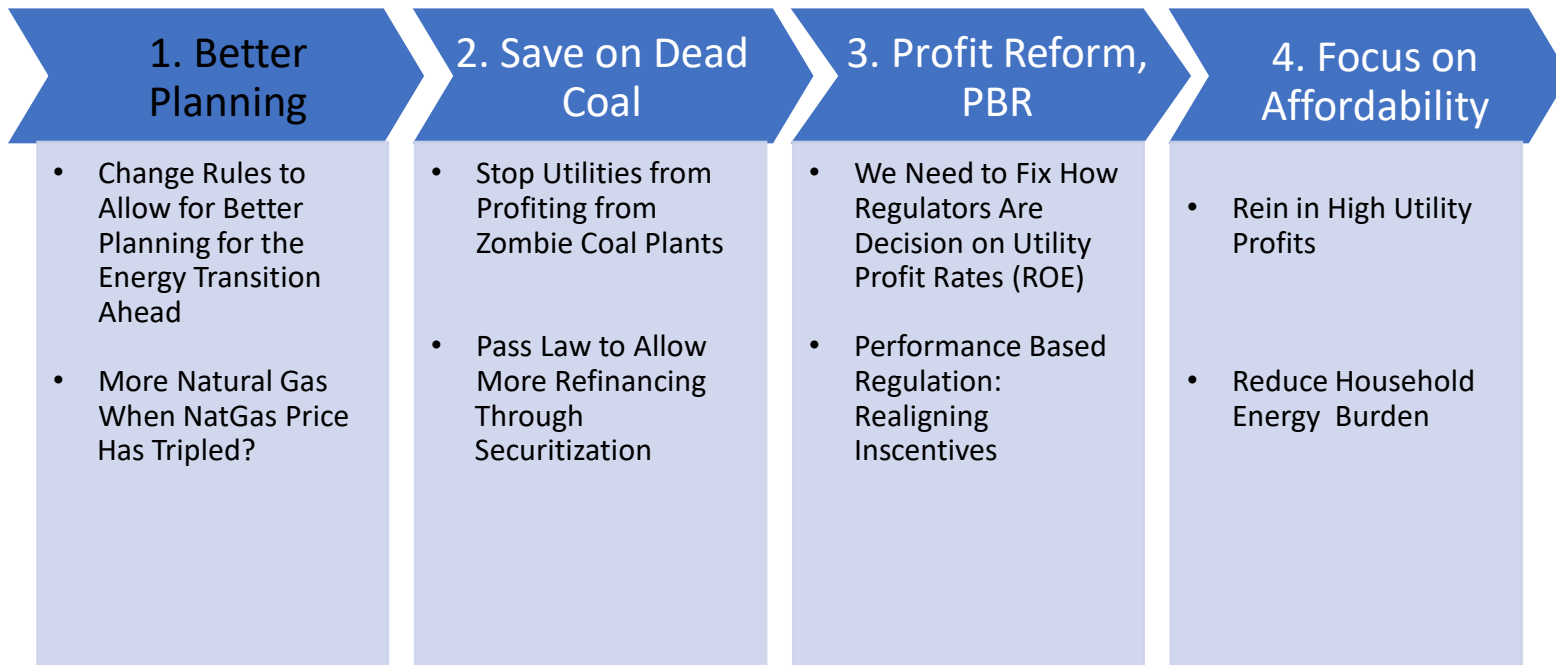


Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin
What We Do for Wisconsinites
Our Work Toward a Just Transition
Tom Content May 17, 2023

CUB: Wisconsin's Customer Advocate

- Founded in 1979. Wisconsin = first state in the country to create a residential nonprofit to advocate for utility customers where decisions are made regarding monopoly utilities
- The goal: **Level the Playing Field** of Influence Where Key Decisions are made
- CUB has saved customers more than **\$3.8 billion** since 2006. \$500 million in past four years!
- CUB is a member of National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates

Four Steps to an Affordable, Customer-Focused Clean Energy Transition



The 2022 Rate Case -- We Energies and WPS WEC Energy Group

Critics say a proposed rate hike by We Energies for new solar and natural gas generation pits low-income residents against clean energy advocates, taking too much profit for shareholders

Wisconsin case raises question: Who pays, profits from energy transition?

By Kari Lydersen | Energy News Network
Published November 9, 2022 at 4:45 PM CST



Utility Profit Reform and PBR



Rein in Utility Profits That Are Far Too High

- ✓ Wisconsin ROEs (aka Profit Rates) Are Higher Than the National Average and Have Been Too High for Too Long
- ✓ CUB's Experts Are Weighing In This Year
- ✓ Set A Profit Rate That Takes Utility Performance and Customer Interests Into Account
- ✓ Economist Study from Berkeley Haas Energy Institute:

A new study suggests excess compensation to shareholders is costing ratepayers billions.

[What Does Capital Really Cost a Utility? - Energy Institute Blog \(wordpress.com\)](#)



Reducing Household Energy Burden

CUB has worked to:

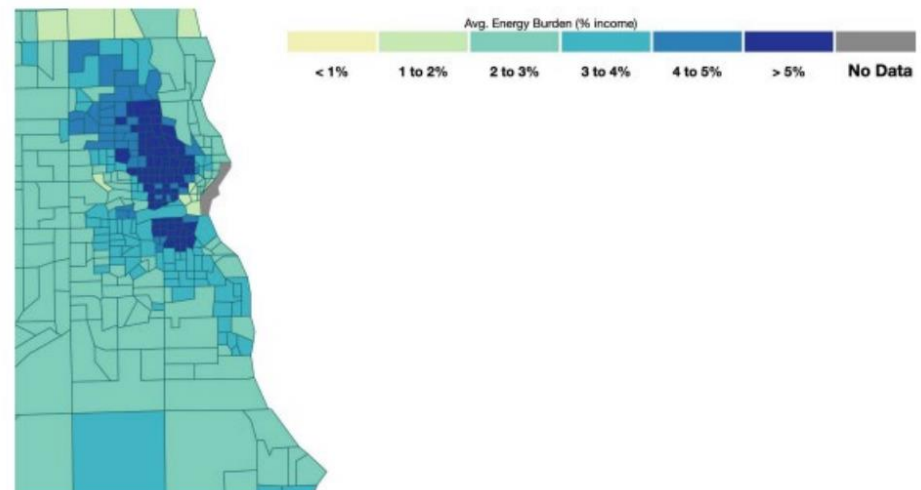
- Protect access to life-sustaining services and delay disconnections during COVID-19 health crisis
- Urge more attention and analysis on the **household energy burden** faced by folks across Wisconsin
- Partner with Utilities and BIPOC and LMI Stakeholder Groups to Develop Innovative Low-Income Rate Programs - Percent of Income-Based Utility Bill



Better Data to Help Address Areas with High Energy Burden

- ✓ CUB 2017-2020: To Get At the Heart of the Problem, Need Better Data
- ✓ 2021-22: PSC Requiring More Granular HEB Data from Utilities
- ✓ 2022: PSC Burden Study with DOE National Labs
- ✓ 2023-25: Use Study Results for Targeted Outreach and Allocation of IRA \$\$\$ to Rural and Urban Areas with High Energy Burden

Figure 7-1 **Energy Burden** by Census Tract in the Milwaukee Area

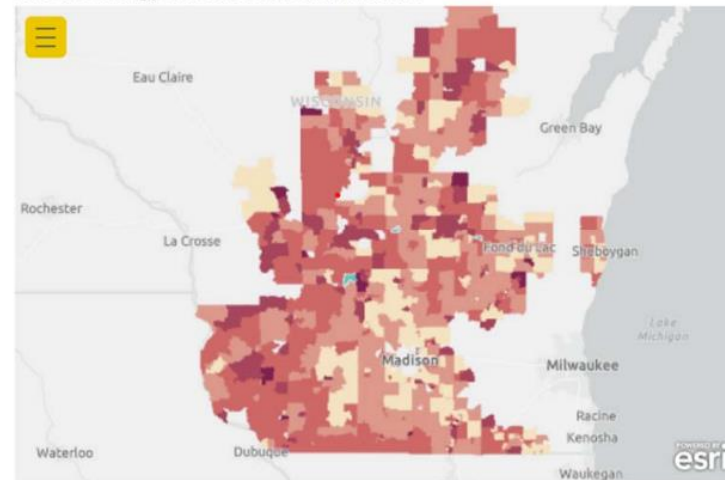


If You Don't Measure It, You Can't and Won't Manage It

Alliant Energy's Energy Burden Heat Map

Wisconsin Energy Cost Ratio
Analysis Report, May 1, 2023
psc.wi.gov

Electric Energy Burden for Median Income



From Measuring to Managing

- 1) Forgiveness Program, Alliant and WEC Group, 2021-23
- 2) New Customer Assistance and Forgiveness Program Based on Percent of Income, Xcel Energy - proposed in March 2023
- 3) Investigation into Percent of Income Pilot, 2023
- 4) New Low-Income Credit, Alliant Energy, proposed April 2023
- 5) New LMI Initiative for Customers Who Don't Qualify For LIHEAP, (MGE Energy) proposed April 2023

Percentage of Income Payment Pilot (PIPP)

Utility bill keep rising?
Wondering what can be done?

WHAT IS THE PIPP?
A plan where low-income households pay a fixed percentage of their monthly income for utility bills, instead of a rate based on usage.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?
\$100 means a lot more to someone who makes \$1,000/month than someone who makes \$10,000/month.

WHY DO WE NEED PIPP?
Each year over 20,000 households have their utility TERMINATED due to unaffordable bills.

HAS PIPP WORKED BEFORE?
YES! Currently over a dozen states have successful PIPP programs, such as Ohio, New Jersey, and Maine.

WHAT'S THE IMPACT OF ELECTRICAL SERVICE TERMINATION?
Loss of communication, Food spoilage, small business closure, prevents usage of medical devices, Lack of A/C & heating, and MORE!

WHAT YOU CAN DO!

1. ATTEND NEIGHBORHOOD WORK GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS
 - STARTING THIS MARCH, EVERY WEDNESDAY 12PM-1PM @ WALNUT WAY CONSERVATION CORP
2. CONTACT THE PSC TO COMMENT
 - [HTTPS://PSC.WI.GOV](https://psc.wi.gov)
 - (608) 266-5481
3. LEARN MORE ABOUT PIPP
 - [HTTPS://WWW.EICWISCONSIN.ORG](https://www.eicwisconsin.org)

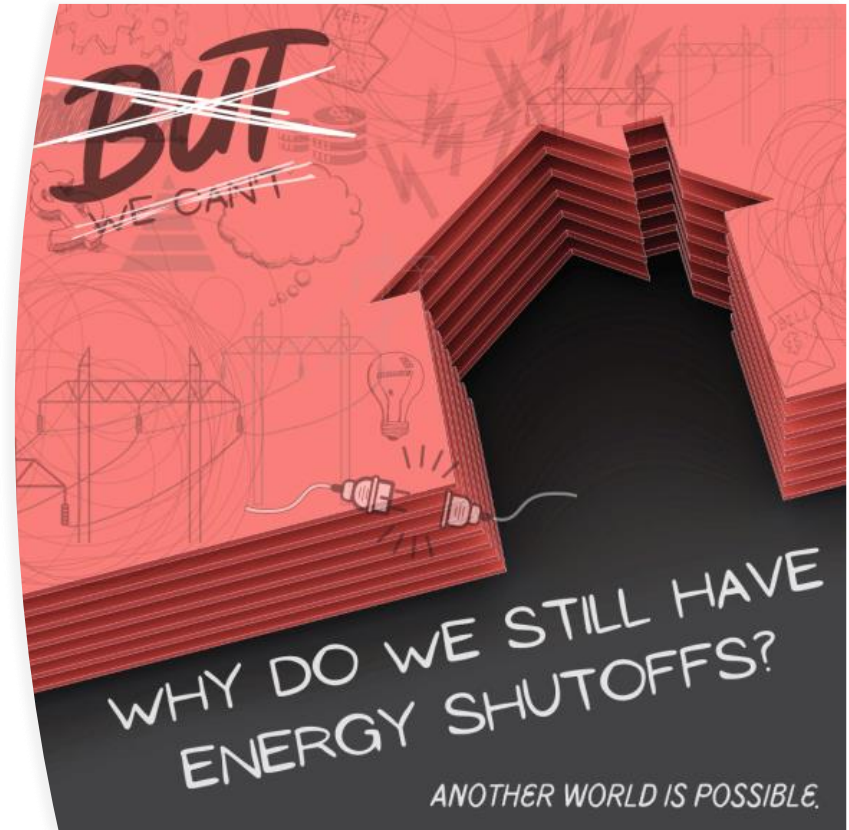
Our collective strategy to solving for the issues of inability to pay We Energies bills.

Logos for PSC Wisconsin and WALNUT WAY are also present.

What to Measure?

Energy Equity Project Report,
Michigan State University, 2022

www.energyequityproject.com



More on Metrics

- UTILITIES AND STATES SHOULD:
- **Consider energy equity and affordability** as basic requirements of utility quality of service
- **Develop an energy affordability index**, including a granular analysis of household energy burdens
- **Regular reporting requirements for utilities**
- **Encourage participation of diverse voices in regulatory proceedings**



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF STATE UTILITY
CONSUMER ADVOCATES

NASUCA

NASUCA Equity Affordability Resolution, Nov. 2022

www.nasuca.org/2022-nasuca-annual-meeting

More info: Tom Content
content@cubwi.org

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Just Transition: Through the Lens of a Faith-ful Stockholder

Seventh Generation Interfaith Webinar

Wednesday May 17, 2023

By Pegge Boehm, PBVM



Living the Golden Rule: Faith in Action for Just Transition

VALUES/PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE JUST TRANSITION

LIVING THE GOLDEN RULE:

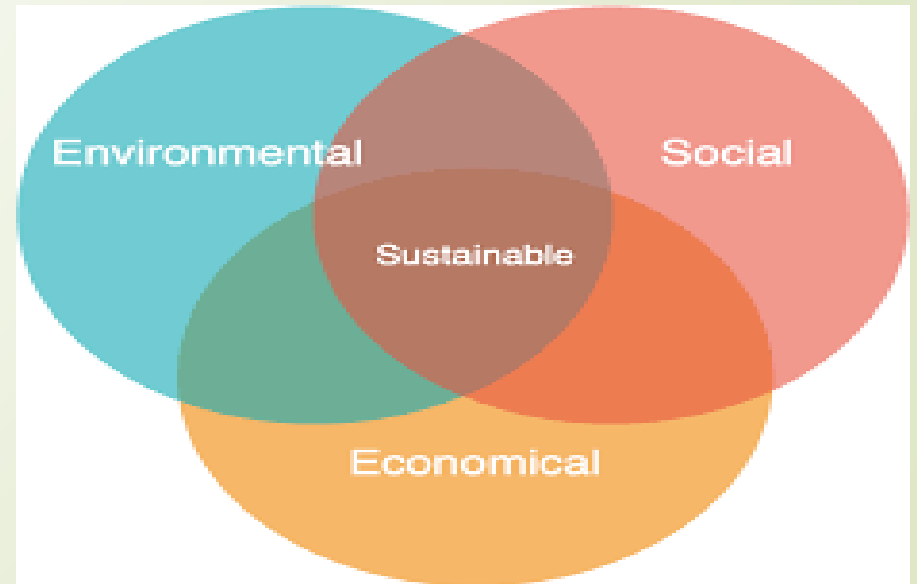
- act with inclusion and mutual respect,
- solidarity with vulnerable and marginalized communities.
- equitable way that ensures a healthy environment, in which the company, workers and communities thrive.
- Treat others the way we want to be treated.
- Transition with “justice”
- Care for one another and our Common Home
- All is related. All is connected.

THREE INTERSECTING DIMENSIONS OF LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

Ecological Well-Being


Social Well-Being

Economic Well-Being





A UTILITY COMPANY: JUST TRANSITION IN ACTION

- **Adopted the EPA tool: Environmental Justice Screening Tool.**
 - **Holds Stakeholders meetings in communities, before filing IRPs**
 - **Concerned about other renewable energy companies coming to the state.**
- 



A UTILITY COMPANY: JUST TRANSITION IN ACTION cont.,

- **2020's - about deploying renewable energy. 60% reduction!**

Aggressive implementation of solar! (facing "Anti-solar" campaigns)

- **Engaged in job training/transition. Strong relationship with unions.**
- **Biggest driver is to increase sales and to decrease rates.**

* **Goal to power 1 million EVs by 2030.**



A UTILITY COMPANY: JUST TRANSITION IN ACTION

- Has a Clean Energy Plan and Scope 3 Action Plan**
 - Electrification of the transportation sector
 - Pledged to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions from the company's entire natural gas production and delivery system – including customers and suppliers – by 2050.
 - Commitment to retire all coal use by 2025.

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Questions



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- ▶ **Tom Content**, Executive Director, Citizen's Utility Board (CUB), content@cubwi.org
- ▶ **Sr. Pegge Boehm, P.B.V.M.**, Councilor, Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, pboehm@presentationsisters.org

Thank You

SeventhGenerationInterfaith.org