



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

CLEAN GRID ALLIANCE

WWW.CLEANGRIDALLIANCE.ORG

20 Years of Impact

Message From Our Executive Director

2022 was an eventful year! We wrapped up our 20th anniversary celebration, achieved 14 legislative wins, gained eight new members, added three staff members, launched our new website, and advocated for and celebrated the approval of MISO's Long-Range Transmission Project Tranche 1 portfolio. These 18 lines are capable of enabling 53 GW of renewable energy and delivering economic benefits for years to come. This was a huge win!

Another major development was the Board of Director's approval to form a 501(c)(6) organization to be called Clean Grid Association. We are very excited about this new structure and the opportunities it will offer for our members and for achieving our mission of advancing renewable energy in the Midwest.

As our nation continues to accelerate toward a clean energy future, we need to move quickly and efficiently to transition our electric grid to accommodate what states, utilities, businesses and the public are asking for -- a resilient grid that can electrify everything! Consequently, the work we do at Clean Grid Alliance is needed more than ever.

I'm enormously grateful to our Board of Directors and staff who work tirelessly to advance our mission and deliver outstanding progress for our members.

Thank you for your continued support.



Board of Directors approves formation of 501(c)(6), Clean Grid Association.

Once this process is complete (in 2023) all our state policy and advocacy work will be housed under the "Association." CGA's educational work will remain under the "Alliance's" 501(c)(3).



CLEAN GRID
ALLIANCE

2022 At-A-Glance



14

Legislative Wins



13.2MM +

Earned Media Reach



\$1.031MM

Grants Received



98

MISO/Regulatory Comments



211

MISO Calls/Mtgs.



158+

Policy Calls/Mtgs.



15,046

Blog Pageviews



225,223

Google Ad Impressions



7

New Members



7,355

Fact Sheet Pageviews



73,973

Website Pageviews



\$120,280

Event Profit

Legislative Impact

CGA's deep relationships and vast network provides access to Governor's offices, legislators, state agencies, NGOs and other key decision-makers to get things done.

We unite nonprofit and for-profit interests to not only craft, but also carry out and achieve strategic clean energy policy initiatives. Then, we implement them.



IN - SB 411

Signed into Law

On March 11, 2022, Gov. Eric Holcomb signed the Midwest's first statewide siting bill, establishing voluntary siting guidelines for wind and solar projects.

[READ MORE](#)



MO - SB 745

Signed into Law

CGA and the lobby team successfully amended the sales and use tax exemption for solar assets and added it to this bill, signed by Gov. Mike Parson. We also changed the proposed local solar tax rate to the Task Force to define the assessed value for solar resources.



MO - HB 2005

Signed into Law

Gov. Mike Parson signed this bill, which included an amendment allowing Grain Belt Express to move forward. The legislation establishes parameters for future merchant transmission lines seeking to use eminent domain.



SD - SB 36

Signed into Law

Gov. Kristi Noem signed this bill into law on February 9, 2022. The bill requires financial security for the decommissioning of solar facilities.

Policy Impact

Paradigm Shift: Novel Renewables Siting Bill Passes in Indiana

Bill Benefits:

- Signals communities that are open for renewable energy development
- Provides a starting point for an ordinance
- Reduces economic risk through permitting, decommissioning, construction and other standards
- Strengthens Indiana's rural economy

On March 2, 2022, the Indiana General Assembly passed SB 411, which allows local communities to voluntarily adopt uniform regulations that will qualify them as wind- or solar-ready communities while providing reasonable statewide siting standards that developers need. This paves the way for smoother renewable energy siting in Indiana.

Clean Grid Alliance and its members spent weeks negotiating, the result of which was legislation that is a model for other states dealing with this issue and ensures the state will be well prepared to generate low-cost clean energy for the foreseeable future.

Providing a comprehensive statewide energy policy was the goal of the 21st Century Energy Task Force, which was established in 2021 after a similar bill was narrowly defeated. This bill evolved from those discussions.

CGA was invited to make presentations to the Task Force on such issues as wind turbine and



solar panel life cycle management and convinced the Task Force not to include recycling and decommissioning of renewable resources in their recommended legislation in 2023.

The bill was supported by County and Commissioner Associations, the Chamber of Commerce, Farm Bureau, utilities, Citizens Action Coalition, Hoosier Environmental Council, and the Indiana Manufacturer's Association.

This novel approach to siting is a compromise that will open the door for future utility-scale wind and solar development opportunities in Indiana, bringing jobs, economic development, and local tax investment to Indiana rural communities along with it. All while enabling utilities and corporate purchasers to achieve their corporate sustainability plans and carbon reduction goals.

Transmission Impact

Largest Portfolio of Transmission Lines in U.S.
History Approved by MISO

Benefits:



53 GW New renewable energy



120K Jobs (Tx only)



12 MM Homes powered by clean energy



400 MM Metric tons of carbon emissions avoided



\$37B Financial benefits over 20 years



Clean Grid Alliance advocates for transmission because it is **the tie that binds** clean, affordable, reliable energy to the electric grid where consumers can benefit from it. Eleven years ago, CGA supported MISO's Multi-Value Projects. All 17 lines and are in service now, except the Cardinal-Hickory Creek line, which has been litigated for 5 years. We are hopeful it will be constructed. Despite the delays, we never relented on our advocacy for transmission.

Victory

The WI Supreme Court ruled **NO BIAS** in the Cardinal-Hickory Creek case.

-- July 7, 2022

For the past two years, CGA coordinated and generated support with MISO, Transmission Owners, State Commissions, and other stakeholders on another – even larger – portfolio of transmission lines. On July 25, 2022, the MISO Board of Directors approved Tranche 1 of the Long-Range Transmission Plan (LRTP) portfolio of 18 transmission lines. They will support 53 Gigawatts of new renewable energy resources that are included in utility resource plans and state goals by 2041.

The approval of the LRTP Tranche 1 portfolio of transmission projects comes at a critical time. These lines will support the transfer of power across the footprint and **improve grid reliability**; a concern that is on full display as grid operators grapple with increasing demand for electricity due to extreme weather events. CGA will be actively supporting the utilities and others who are building these transmission lines.

Regulatory Impact

Illinois Energy Storage Report Adds 600 MW of New Battery Storage by YE 2026

Highlights:



600 MW New Battery Storage by 2026



\$96 kW/ yr. Incentive Payment Level



CGA participated in the Illinois Commerce Commission processes used to prepare an Energy Storage Program Report for the Illinois General Assembly and Governor that recommended specific programs, mechanisms, and policies that support the deployment of energy storage systems in Illinois.

CGA and the American Clean Power Association (ACPA) submitted joint comments recommending two actions to encourage utility-scale battery storage development in Illinois.

- Near-Term: establish a Market Accelerator Incentive Program to provide incentive payments to the first 600 MW of new battery storage that could be placed in-service by the end of 2026. CGA/ACP recommended an incentive payment level of \$96/kW/yr.
- Mid-Term: In the formal docket, CGA/ACP recommended the ICC initiate an investigation to establish a utility-scale battery storage target for 2032.

The Final Report included several of our recommendations, specifically:

- The Market Accelerator Program was included as a recommended Pilot Program that required further legislative action authorizing its creation. (CGA followed-up with bill language and legislative advocacy in 2023.)
- Siting lack of funds to hire a storage consultant for a full study, the ICC recommended that the General Assembly allocate money to the ICC for a consultant to manage that process. (CGA followed-up with bill language and legislative advocacy in 2023.)

The Final Report included other beneficial programs including:

- Compensating energy storage systems that are built and operated in conjunction with existing or new distributed generation and/or community solar renewable energy facilities currently supported through the RPS.

Regulatory Impact

CGA's regulatory engagement involves close collaboration with other groups. In the case of the Consumers Energy Integrated Resource Plan, we intervened with Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council (MiEBC) and the Institute for Energy Innovation (IEI).



Consumers Energy, MI IRP

The Public Service Commission agreed to the following favorable terms put forth by CGA/MiEBC/IEI:

- Limited Consumers' ability to purchase natural gas plants to only 1, from 4
- Consumers will conduct an all-resource solicitation for renewable resources that could provide 200 zonal resource credits and have a PPA duration of 25 years, up from 10-15 years
- Consumers will deploy a new utility-scale battery storage program adding 71 zonal resource credits of new capacity.
- Consumers will retire all coal generation by 2025 and be carbon neutral by 2040.
- Consumers should use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain a 50/50 ownership split under the terms of the 2018 IRP, but no more than 60% in a given solicitation.



LTRRPP - Diversity & Equity

CGA participated in this docket and raised several objections. The following are a few outcomes that were accepted by the Commission.

- IPA must use forward-looking price curves
- No bans of sellers that default on REC contracts for economic reasons for more than 2 years
- "Project Workforce" should be limited to workers whose work on the project is performed in Illinois
- Energy Workforce Equity Database should identify equity-eligible persons that are qualified persons
- Workshops will be held to determine a seller's due diligence in complying with the Minimum Equity Standard



Will County, IL Battery Storage Ordinance

The county adopted CGA's recommendation that battery storage comply with siting standards applicable to the generation with which it is co-located.

20 Years of Impact

Driving Impact at MISO

MISO is a key player in a timely transition to a clean energy future. A robust grid is the foundation for delivering clean, low-cost energy to consumers, decarbonizing and electrifying our economy.

We work on the complex, technical details to ensure renewables have a clear and bright future in the Midwest. Our work includes comprehensive, integrated, forward-looking planning around transmission, wind and solar integration, and storage.



Storage Dispatch

CGA and members succeeded in removing storage dispatch in the shoulder interconnection studies. As a result of this work, plus LRTP and the storage market model work, there are now 32 gigawatts of storage in the 2022 queue cycle.



SATOA

CGA successfully stopped efforts to allow Storage as a Transmission Only Asset to participate in the market, which would have enabled unfair competition by Transmission Owners.



TMEP

After years of work, MISO and SPP completed a Targeted Market Efficiency Project study and developed a new planning tool to identify lower cost, beneficial cross-border transmission solutions.

Order 841 was implemented in June 2022 after a long effort and strong pushback by CGA on additional requests for delay. This is good news because further delays would have prevented most energy storage devices from coming online until 2025.

Land & Liberty Coalition

Softening the Ground for Renewables: A "Good News First" Approach

Highlights:



22

Industry Members



\$1.69MM

Raised from Industry
& Philanthropy



292K

Media Reach from
Press Releases



CGA and the Conservative Energy Network are co-founding partners of the Land & Liberty Coalition (L&LC) and work together to lead the Midwest program for L&LC. To complement the local communications activities and fill an important role in the overall L&LC communications strategy, CGA has been working on a regional positive communications campaign aimed at spreading "good news first."



- CGA created, branded and hosts, the new "MyRenewableResource.org" website as an aggregator of facts and credible information about utility-scale solar and wind projects in the Midwest. Social Media accounts on Facebook and Twitter were launched.
- We ran a solar-focused ad in the *Illinois Farmer Today*, which has a reach of over 14,000 subscribers.
- CGA co-hosted two *Solar 101 events* with Hoosiers for Renewables and featured speaker Peter Sinclair. Four meetings were held, with two meetings each in Bartholomew and Sullivan Counties, Indiana. Approximately 115 people attended these events, including county leaders involved in developing the local siting ordinance.
- CGA held five *Peer Convenings* on subjects including a solar community acceptance story and the Community Acceptance Research Model with 5 Lakes Energy, among others.



20 Years of Impact

Reliability Initiative

Responding to Reliability and Resource Adequacy Concerns

Highlights:



9

Op-Eds



1,400

Visitors to Website



9

Fact Sheets



210K

Video Engagements



15

Social Media Assets

The release of the 2022 NERC Summer Reliability Assessment showed MISO at a high risk for capacity shortfall. This created a negative narrative about the ability of clean energy to provide reliable power in the Midwest. In response, CGA engaged Strategic Elements for a communications campaign to advance a CARE (clean, affordable, reliable energy) message.

We used the CARE theme in our videos, social media and fact sheets. The state-specific reliability fact sheets were particularly successful. Our Google Adwords program delivered 574 downloads in the two months that the fact sheets were available; roughly equal to all the downloads of all other CGA fact sheets for the entire year.

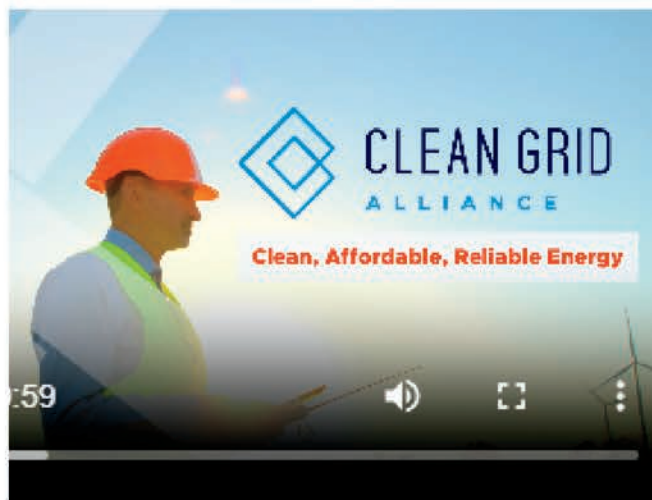
Additional funding for paid promotion of the three 30-second videos resulted in over 5,000 engagements and delivered 1,400 new users to our website.

Education on the role of renewable resources, storage, and transmission as MISO discusses Resource Adequacy issues amid a changing generation mix will be an ongoing priority.



**Reliability Today
and Tomorrow:
Clean Energy
Works for You**

LEARN MORE >



MICHIGAN
Clean Energy Works for You

Clean, Affordable, Reliable Energy

As clean, affordable, reliable energy generation increases, Michigan has taken action to meet the demands of the upper Midwest. Developments in the state's wind and solar sectors and strong manufacturing roots have positioned Michigan as a leader in the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy. Reliable transmission is essential to transition to clean and affordable new generation resources.

Connecting Midwest Clean Energy Reliably & Affordably

Today, throughout the Midwest, clean energy contributes to keeping the lights on 24/7/365. Tomorrow, a modernized grid will connect clean energy economies all

20th ANNIVERSARY YEAR IN REVIEW

June 7 WRAP PARTY

- The yearlong celebration of CGA's 20th Anniversary concluded with a "Wrap Party" at Erickson Farmstead in Isanti, MN. The outdoor reunion included a charming venue, lawn games, music, ice cream truck, photo booth, and much more! There was "fire-side chat" with Paul White, Joe DeVito, Julie Voeck, Adam Sokolski, and John Moore who shared stories and memories of CGA's early days, followed by a special performance from mind reader extraordinaire Mark Toland, who also strolled the crowd amusing guests with his "powers."

December 8 TCB 100 PEOPLE TO KNOW

- Executive Director Beth Soholt was named one of Twin Cities Business's 100 People to Know for 2023. She was recognized at an event on Dec. 8, 2022. The list represents people in and around Minnesota business likely to make news and drive change in the year ahead.



20th ANNIVERSARY IMPACT VIDEO

- The program concluded with a special video that provided a bit of history of CGA and some of the significant impacts CGA has made over the past two decades.



December 12 C-6 APPROVED

- The Board of Directors approved the formation of a 501(c)(6) organization to be called Clean Grid Association, which will include all CGA's advocacy work. This legal classification enables us to do more lobbying on behalf of our members.

Wrap Party in Pictures



20 Years of Impact

2022

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022, Audited

Revenue	Amount	Percent
Foundations and Grants	\$ 1,031,800	23.10%
Member Contributions	\$ 2,755,893	61.70%
Fees for Service	\$ 663,899	14.86%
Investment Revenue	\$ 15,103	0.34%
Total Revenue	\$ 4,466,695	



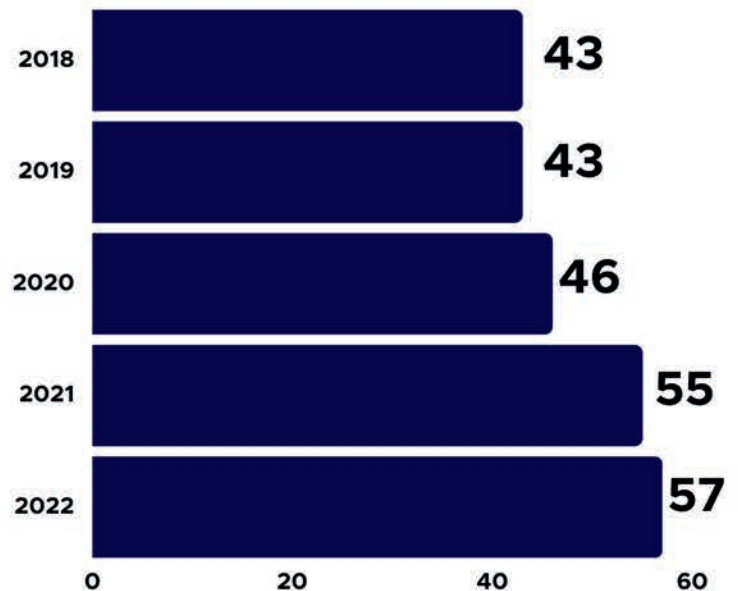
Expenses	Amount	Percent
Technical	\$ 396,458	11.30%
Regulatory	\$ 555,622	15.84%
Education and Outreach	\$ 1,875,075	53.44%
Administration/Fundraising	\$ 681,175	19.42%
Total Expenses	\$ 3,508,330	



Change in Net Assets: \$958,365

Membership Reaches All-Time High

In 2022, CGA welcomed 8 new members.



2022 Members

2022

Our Team

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

Chairman of the Board

Adam Sokolski
EDF Renewable Energy

Immediate Past Chair

Julie Voeck
NextEra

Secretary/Treasurer

Sarah Johnson Phillips
Stoel Rives LLP

Board Members

Jon Chase
Vestas

Erika Kowall
American Clean Power Association

Will Eberle
RWE

Ray Fakhoury
Pattern Energy

Kerri Johannsen
Iowa Environmental Council

Chris Kunkle
Apex Clean Energy

Nicole Luckey
Invenergy

David Mindham
EDP Renewables

John Moore
Sustainable FERC Project, NRDC

Beth Soholt
Clean Grid Alliance

STAFF

Beth Soholt
Executive Director

Sean Brady
Senior Counsel and
Director of Regulatory Advocacy

Linda Brewster
Office Manager

Tina Brown
Consultant

Jeff Danielson
Vice President, Advocacy

Ella Laurent
Communications Associate - Siting

Tom Lockhart
Accountant

Natalie McIntire
Technical/Policy Consultant

Peder Mewis
Regional Policy Director

Rhonda Peters
Technical Consultant

Madelyn Smerillo
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