

Illinois Energy Community Reinvestment

Amanda Pankau
Prairie Rivers Network
apankau@prairierivers.org

www.prairierivers.org



Vistra Energy CEO: Coal is on its way out

≡ sitllpr npr

Four Illinois Coal-Burning

Post

CRAIN'S CHICAGO BUSINESS

NEWS & DATA POLITICS & OPINION LIFESTYLE & DINING REAL ESTATE SPECIAL REPORT

September 16, 2019 09:43 AM

WCBU | By
Published At

Another downstate coal plant to close

Vistra Energy will shutter its Edwards power plant near Peoria within years under a settlement of a lawsuit filed last month. The plant is one of the last downstate coal plants that the past month.

STEVE DANIELS [t](#) [e](#)

[TWEET](#) [f](#) [SHARE](#) [in](#) [SHA](#)



Vistra Energy

BRIEF

Vistra to shutter 4 Illinois coal plants, totaling over 2,000 MW

UTILITY DIVE



Utility Dive

Deadlines Set For Peoria Springfield Coal Plant Plan For Workers Next

NPR Illinois

By MARY HANSEN • FEB 5, 2020

[f](#) Share [t](#) Tweet [e](#) Email

THE SOUTHERN ILLINOISAN

Southern Illinois Power Co-op plans to shutter its largest coal-fired unit this fall

SHARE THIS [f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [p](#) [b](#)

Southern Illinois Power Co-op plans to shutter its largest coal-fired unit this fall

Molly Park



Three smoke stacks from Springfield's City Water, Light and Power sit on the lake.

DAISY CONTRERAS / NPR ILLINOIS

Peabody to Close Coal Mine Amid Price Drop

The plan to shut an Illinois mine and processing plant adds to a steady drumbeat of coal operations shutting down due to declining demand

By Alexander Gladstone and Jonathan Randles

Oct. 15, 2019 12:17 pm ET

The Wall Street Journal

Community driven energy policy



Right: Big Table Rural Matters meeting in December 2019 in Havana, Photo credit: Greater Peoria Economic Development Council.



Right: Energy Transition Community Conversation, 2019, Illinois Coal Museum in Gillespie, IL



NEWS

CANTON
DAILY LEDGER

Central Illinois communities convening on coal plant transition

Canton Daily Ledger

Published 12:11 p.m. CT Feb. 26, 2021



photo by Prairie Rivers Network

Pictured is the Duck Creek coal plant in Canton. Photo/Submitted

HAVANA—In the fall of 2019, the communities of Canton and Havana were hit with the shocking news that Vistra Corp. planned closing the local coal-fired power plants within three months. Community leaders were left to navigate the

COMPONENTS

THE CLIMATE AND EQUITABLE JOBS ACT!



Jobs & Economic Justice



Inclusive Financing



Renewable Energy



Energy Efficiency



Carbon-Free Power



Utility Accountability, Grid
Planning, and Low-income Relief



Energy Community Reinvestment



Electric Transportation

Climate and Equitable Jobs Act Energy Community Reinvestment

- 1) Energy Transition Community Grants
- 2) [Energy Transition Workforce Commission \(2022 Report\)](#)
- 3) [Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship](#)
- 4) Coal to Solar and Energy Storage

→ Clean Jobs Workforce Network Program

→ Clean Energy Contractor Incubator Program

ENERGY NEWS NETWORK

DONATE

MIDWESTSOUTHEASTNORTHEASTWESTOPINIONSPECIAL REPORTSNEWSLETTERSABOUT

MIDWEST

As Illinois phases out fossil fuels, law offers support to transition workers

The “just transition” components in the state’s massive new energy law are scaled down from the original proposal, but advocates are still lauding the provisions as promising parts of a historic law.

by Kari Lydersen
September 22, 2021






SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Coal to Solar & Energy Storage Initiative

Legacy Plant	Utility-Scale Solar	Energy Storage
Baldwin	68 MW	9 MW
Coffeen	44 MW	6 MW
Duck Creek	20 MW	3 MW
Edwards		37 MW
Havana		37 MW
Hennepin	50 MW	6 MW
EEL/Joppa		37 MW
Kincaid	60 MW	8 MW
Newton	52 MW	7 MW



The **Coal to Solar** initiative facilitates economic development across central and southern Illinois to help provide plant communities with a **Just Transition** after coal plant retirements.

Vistra will be able to **accelerate commercial delivery**, **reduce development costs**, and **lessen the environmental impact of development** by responsibly **reusing existing** interconnects and transmission lines.

The new development **rebuilds the local property tax base** and local communities can expect **property tax base increases of ~350-400%** from projected closed plant values. Vistra is committed to a comprehensive and responsible transition at every legacy coal plant site it owns in Illinois.

*Edwards closing in 2022 pursuant to previously negotiated agreement.
**EEL/Joppa is closing in 2022 following a settlement with the Sierra Club.

Energy Transition Community Grants

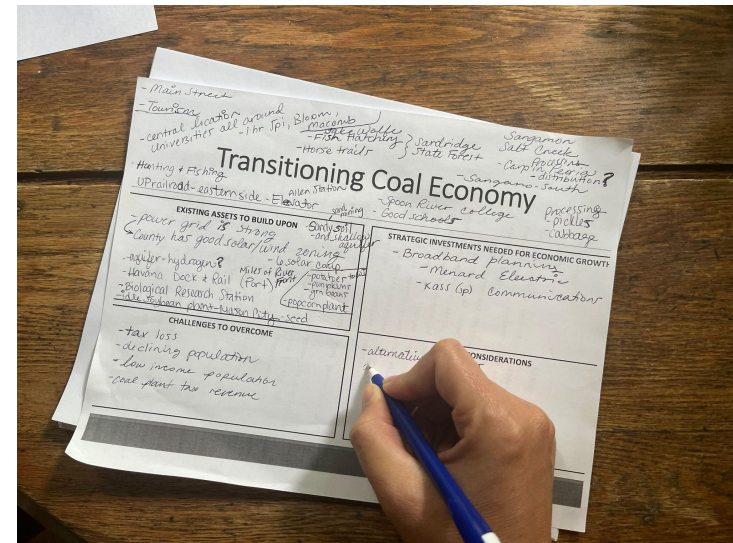
- Administered by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
- \$40 million per year
- To plan for or address the economic and social impact of plant or mine retirement.
- Local units of government (municipalities, counties, school districts, and other taxing districts)
- Plant or mine that has closed or significantly reduced operation:
 - within 6 years before the application, or
 - will be closed or have operation significantly reduced within 6 years following the application.

Energy Transition Community Grants

Fall 2022 - DCEO Request for Information (RFI) to inform grant program development

2023 Grants

- 30 mile eligibility radius
- Dec 2022 - Jan 2023: Phase 1 NOFO
 - Funding formula
- March - May 2023: Phase 2
 - >50 Grantees
 - Project selection, stakeholder engagement
- July 2023: Awards Announced



Energy Transition Community Grants

“This grant will be invaluable in helping us expand opportunities for our students.” –Amy Dixon, Harrisburg Schools Superintendent

*Grants funds for a Career Technical Education (CTE) training center.

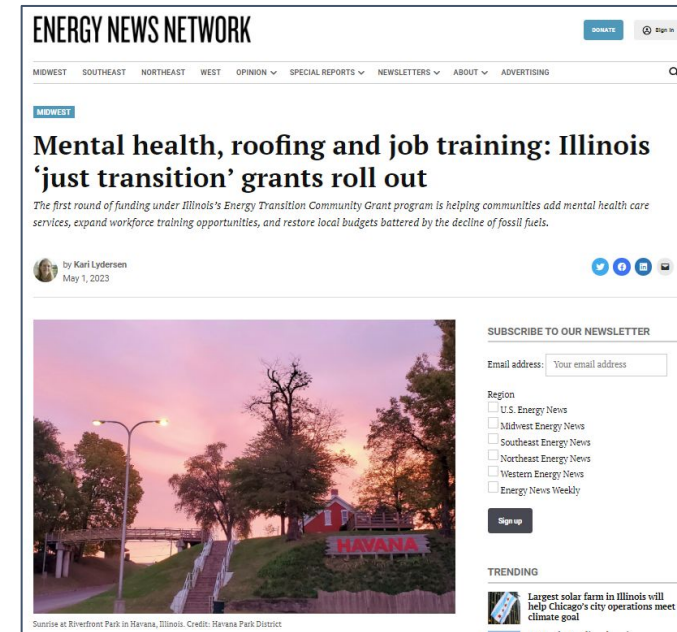
“If not for the energy transition community grant, I’m still not sure we’d be sustainable in the long run.” –Gracie Mott, Havana Park District Director

*Grant funds to for staff and marketing.

“This gives us an opportunity to try to make families healthier and have a positive impact.” –Marc Kiehna, Randolph County Commissioner

*Grant funds toward a Behavioral Health Center

[DCEO Press Release community grant funding list.](#)



Energy Communities IWG



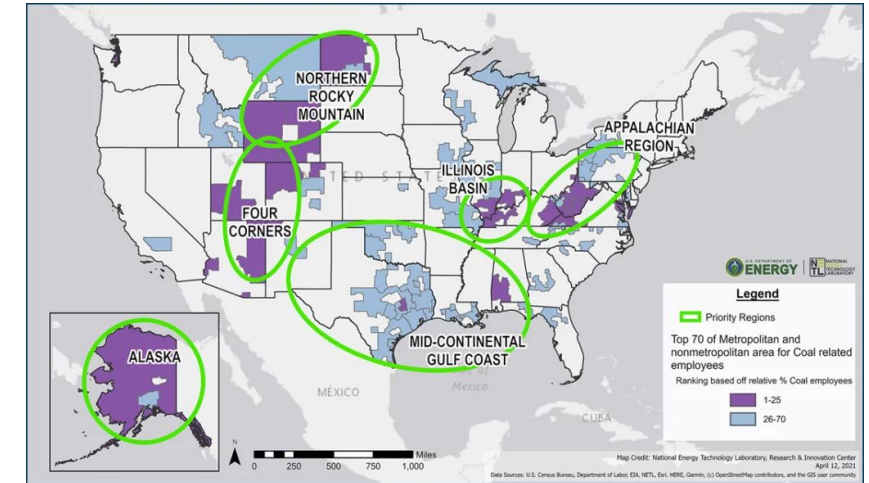
Interagency Working Group on
Coal & Power Plant Communities
& Economic Revitalization

Four Virtual Listening Sessions: Summer 2022

- Six coal communities
- 48 community leaders
- 30+ state and federal agency personnel

Revitalizing Energy Communities in the Illinois Basin Workshop: September 29th

Rapid Response Team: December 2022 - ongoing



See More Photos Online
www.masoncountymodemocrat.com

Mason County DEMOCRAT
Mason County's Oldest Business - Est. 1849

Listening session targets future action

“...these are the first listening sessions in Illinois and we hope the conversation continues...”

band, water and sewer, building infrastructure, community facilities, education and workforce.

Effects and responses
Mason County representatives

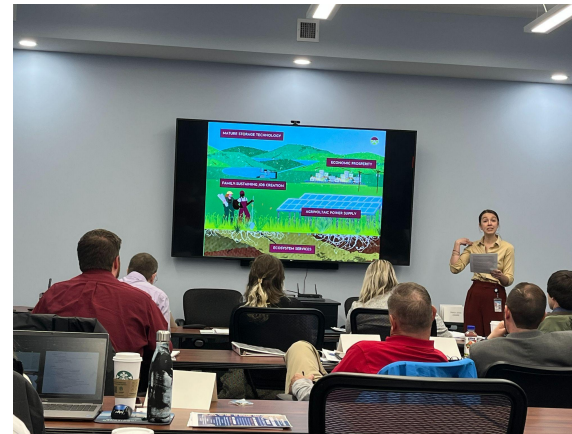
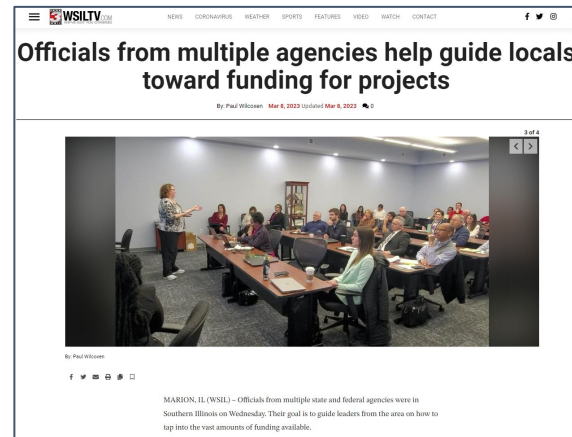
were able to share with the Interagency Working Group the many ways the closure of the Vistra Power Plant has affected their agencies.
See LISTEN Page 3

Oakford on Puck!

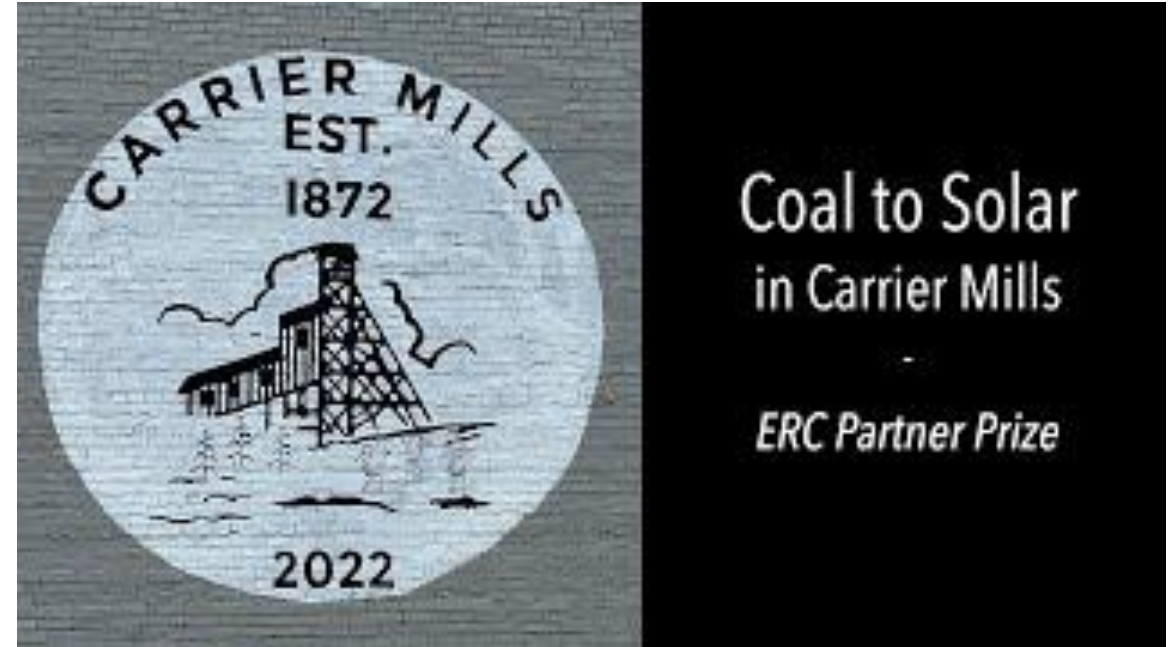
IWG - Rapid Response Team (RRT)

Regional Funding Meetings

- Havana (Dec 2022)
 - Marion (March 2023)
 - Effingham (June 2023)
 - Ongoing
-
- Two Day Meetings
 - Community Project Pitches
 - Agency Presentations



Energizing Rural Communities Prize



What's Next...

- IWG RRT Meetings (June 27 & 28, Effingham, IL)
- Energy Transition July Webinar Series, [Register here](#)
- Regional Meetings of the Energy Transition Workforce Commission
- 2024 Energy Transition Community Grants
- Continue to tell the story of energy community transition in IL
- Education, outreach, and support on state and federal funding

