



Minnesota Energy Transition Office

**Midwest Governor's Association Meeting
Tuesday, June 13, 2023**

Many Pieces of MN Legislation

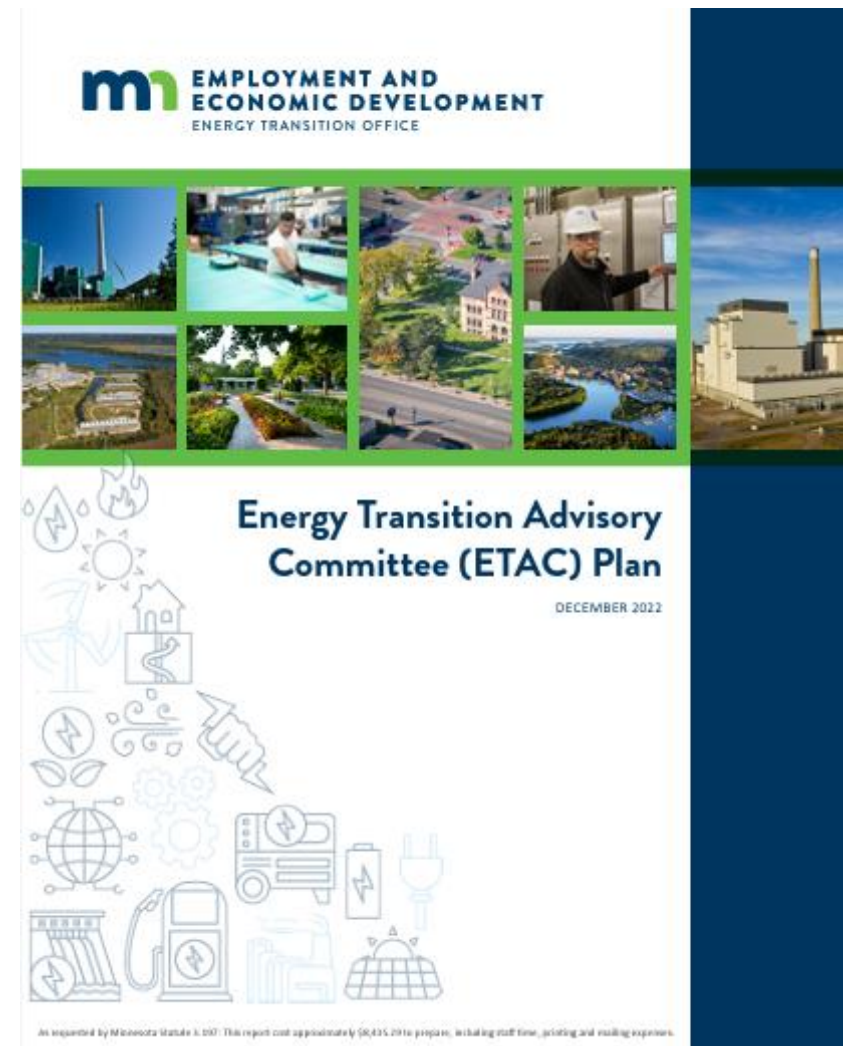
- Energy Transition Office:
 - ETAC
 - Grants
- Coalition of Utility Cities:
 - Transition Aid
 - Bonding



Boswell (Cohasset, MN) power plant employee

... In the past year

- Energy Transition Advisory Committee (ETAC) created a plan and submitted to Governor Walz and both the MN Senate and MN House leaders.
- Significant research
 - Created plan in 6 months
 - Significant research from throughout US
 - Document is widely distributed in the US as a model
 - On ETO webpage or ask presenters to send



ETAC Plan Top Recommendations

- **Workforce:** Provide adequate resources to retrain the existing and potential workforce in high-wage, high-demand jobs.
- **Community Engagement:** Support transitioning communities in their community engagement, marketing, planning and outreach.
- **Tax Base:** Explore tax base replacement aids to impacted communities.
- **Re-Use:** Encourage the re-use of existing infrastructure to support economic development and business retention.
- **Economic Diversification:** Create a toolbox to assist impacted communities including best practices and opportunities for economic diversification, capacity building and networking.
- **Energy Transition Office:** Expand and empower the Office of Energy Transition to coordinate programming and support and to provide guidance for recommendations.
- **Energy Transition Advisory Committee:** Legislative action to make the ETAC permanent.

... In the past year

- Visited every impacted community
- Check-in with communities every 3 months
- Hired a Grants Coordinator in anticipation of State funding.
- NACO BRECC participant, ETO office and Becker, MN
- MN Energy Transition Summit on June 26 – 5 Fed Depts, numerous State, for all MN impacted communities

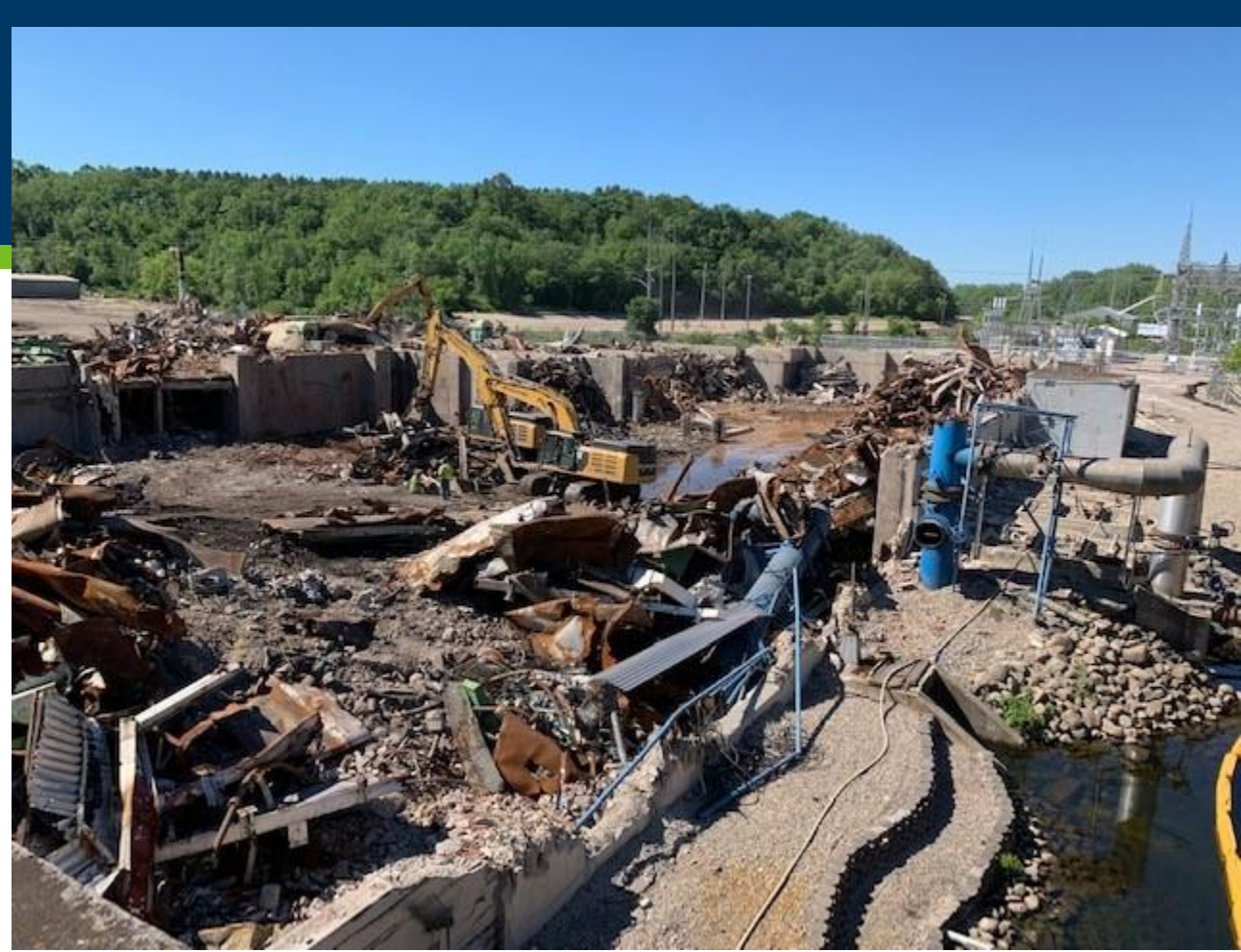


Image of Fergus Falls plant demo.

Legislation

- Continuation of ETAC (Energy Transition Advisory Committee)
- Grant funds - \$10M, \$ 5M per FY 2024 and FY 2025
 - Qualify:
 - Eligible Community per statute
 - Currently operating, and
 - Is scheduled to cease operations
 - Whose cessation of operations has been proposed in an integrated resource plan filed with the commission under section 216B.2422, or
 - Ceased operations or was removed from the local property tax base no earlier than 5 years before the date of an application is made for the grant.



Becker, MN Power plant. Unit 2 closing this year

Grants, cont.

\$5M per calendar year

Can be used for: (2) reimburse the department's reasonable costs to administer this section, up to a maximum of five percent of the appropriation made to the commissioner under this section. The commissioner may transfer part of the allowable administrative portion of this appropriation to the Environmental Quality Board to assist communities with regulatory coordination and dedicated technical assistance on conversion for these communities.

(b) An eligible community awarded a grant under this section may use the grant to plan for or address the economic and social impacts on the eligible community of the electric generating plant's cessation of operations, including but not limited to land use studies, economic planning, researching, planning, and implementing activities, capital costs of public infrastructure necessary for economic development, and impact studies and other planning activities enabling communities to become shovel-ready and support the transition from power plants to other economic activities to minimize the negative impacts of power plant closures on tax revenues and jobs designed to:

- (1) assist workers at the plant find new employment, including worker retraining and developing small business start-up skills;
- (2) increase the eligible community's property tax base; and
- (3) develop alternative economic development strategies to attract new employers to the eligible community.

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