Michigan IPL Minute

January 2015

Members, partners, and friends,

For me, this is always a tough time of year, with short days, cloudy skies, bone-chilling temperatures. But this year, I’m able to say that I am fully engaged in positioning our organization in the most powerful way possible for 2015. For the upcoming year, we have some major goals. The first is to expand our advocacy work by growing our grassroots base of clean energy champions. This year our state has great potential to advance energy policies that are friendly to our environment and beneficial to our people. But without decisive legislative action, our continued progress on clean and efficient energy will be in jeopardy. Click here to join us in advocating for a clean energy future. We also plan to greatly expand our energy efficiency work with Houses of Worship, particularly in new parts of the state. And finally, we have a number of exciting events in the works, including a groundbreaking conference in the fall. Keep your eyes peeled for more news on all of these fronts, and Happy New Year to you and yours.

Luke Allen, Executive Director

Own Your Power: A Clean Energy Advocacy Workshop

Learn how to be an effective advocate for clean energy. Join Michigan IPL and the Sierra Club for the "Own Your Power" workshop!

In 2008, legislation was put in place to require Michigan utilities to generate 10% of their energy from renewable sources (like wind and solar). We are on track to meet that goal, but without legislative action to extend and strengthen these standards in 2015, our state’s
progress will stall.

**When:** Tuesday, January 20, 2015 from 6:30-8:30pm  
**Where:** Royal Oak Public Library (222 East 11 Mile, between Main and Troy St.)

Keynote: Jim Nash, the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner.

Questions? Contact Andrew Sarpolis at andrew.sarpolis@sierraclub.org.

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**Michigan IPL Helps More Houses of Worship Go Green!**

In late fall 2014, Michigan IPL entered into a partnership with CLEAResult Consulting Great Lakes. We began a pilot project to provide energy assessments and energy upgrades at 15 houses of worship in four different areas of the state: the Upper Peninsula, Hillsdale, Alpena and South Haven. Within the next month, the upgrades will be complete, and we will then help the congregations track their energy usage to show the impact of these improvements.

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**Upcoming Events**

- **Building Green Bridges Workshop**, 1/17/15 (Bloomfield Hills)
- **Clean Energy Advocacy Training**, 1/20/15 (Royal Oak)
- **Michigan Energy, Temple Israel ASK Speaker Series**, 1/26/15 (West Bloomfield)

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**Resources**

- Check out a list of our free online resources for congregations. From energy efficiency guides to study manuals that help faith communities engage with the spiritual dimensions of earth care.

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**Become an Advocate**

In 2015, Michigan's renewable energy standard will expire. Sign our Clean Energy Pledge to stay informed about policy and advocacy opportunities.

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**Love Our Work?**

Become a member! See our membership benefits (including discounts on energy efficiency products). Or, make a tax deductible donation in any amount.