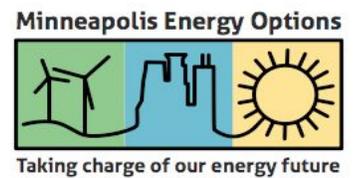




Community Power  
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Minneapolis, MN 55406



### Community Power 2017 Minneapolis Candidate Questionnaire

Community Power invites all candidates to complete the following questionnaire to inform Minneapolis voters on positions shaping Minneapolis's energy future:

**WARD: 8**

**CANDIDATE: DAVID HOLSINGER**

1. What role do you feel energy infrastructure, sourcing, and decision-making play in shaping livability, affordability, economic resilience and community health for Minneapolis residents and businesses? How do you propose to fulfill that role?

I support initiatives that would modernize the power grid to allow citizen access to multiple providers, as well as enabling microgrid infrastructure to enable neighborhoods to generate and use power that they generate themselves (solar, wind, etc.) on a local basis. I would like to see the utility monopoly by Xcel broken since there are now practical – if technically advanced - means to do so.

2. Do you think Minneapolis is adequately prepared to respond to climate change? If yes, how? If no, what do you think Minneapolis should do to become prepared?

The pleasantly warmer winters aside (kidding, of course), I think the city's infrastructure is adequate to handle what would typically be expected of climate-change driven disasters. We are geographically lucky in this regard. In our case, climate disaster would likely be excessive heat or excessive precipitation; both of those cases seem well handled by existing infrastructure.

3. Do you support a policy of 100% renewable electricity for city operations by 2021, 100% renewable electricity by 2030 for all Minneapolis energy users, and 100% renewable energy in all sectors (electricity, heating, transportation, industry) by 2050 for all Minneapolis energy users (check one)?

- Yes, by those timelines
- Yes, by (define years) \_\_\_\_\_
- No

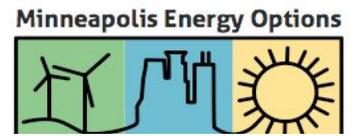
Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

I certainly support moving to cost saving, energy efficient infrastructure. If it's feasible for industry (and I think it is), then there should be enough economic benefit for them in switching to renewables without city mandates to change sources. I would consider tax initiatives to encourage capital upgrades to move to renewable energy consumption by industrial consumers. As noted above, I'd also strongly support modernizations that would let additional providers onto the grid, especially local generators of renewables.

Return Surveys to: [marcus@communitypowermn.org](mailto:marcus@communitypowermn.org)  
[www.communitypowermn.org](http://www.communitypowermn.org)



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4. What do you intend to do during your time in office to help achieve the Minneapolis Energy Vision (established by City Council in 2014) and the goals of the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership?

I feel that the 2014 Energy Vision likely will incur additional cost to taxpayers, and I can't support it as such.

5. Do you support securing universally-accessible financing that allows all Minneapolis energy users to make energy efficiency improvements and switch to clean energy with no upfront cost, no debt or credit checks, and monthly payments on utility bills that are overall lowered due to the energy saved?

Yes

No

Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

I should answer "maybe," depending on the source of the financing – it's a stronger "no" if it's publicly financed. I am definitely a fan of flexible demand-based pricing that allows more consumer choice, as well as usage of smart devices that can reduce overall energy consumption. To my mind, anything that increases consumer choice is a positive when it reduces dependence on the utility monopoly. In this particular case, I'm not familiar enough with the practicalities (finance, etc.) to be able to make a firm decision.

6. Do you support using the rooftops of Minneapolis public buildings to host community solar gardens that create access for low-income families as well as train and hire Minneapolis residents of color to install and maintain them?

Yes

No

Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

Again, a "yes, but..." – I'm fully supportive of access to unused public infrastructure for this purpose. I would much rather that the solar gardens be privately funded if at all possible, and that the private or non-profit organizations using them make decisions about which demographic groups to engage, rather than using city-driven quotas for specific minority or immigrant groups.

7. How would you advance equitable access to energy resources for renters and low-income families to ensure that all Minneapolis families have healthy, comfortable homes, affordable energy bills, and the choice to shift to clean and efficient energy?

My hope in this case is there can be end-consumer options enabled – like Arcadia Power – that can be deployed to allow more individual choice in energy source, as well as cost reduction.

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Minneapolis Energy Options



8. Would you support an increase in utility franchise fees of 0.5% of Minneapolis energy sales to be re-invested in dedicated long-term funding for local energy solutions (**check all that apply**)?

Yes

No

Dedicated funding could additionally/instead come from these sources:

These specific energy solutions need this kind of long-term funding:

Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

I would agree to this in the interest of modernizing the energy grid. I'm opposed to general tax increases, but this increase in the franchise fee is much more directly targeted at energy consumers and would facilitate more energy independence in the future.

9. How should the City of Minneapolis evaluate the effectiveness of the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership as its second two year work plan ends in late 2018? What criteria or thresholds would convince you that the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership is succeeding (and should be sustained and expanded) OR is failing (and the city should pursue a different route)?

I am not familiar enough with the specifics to give a specific answer. My evaluation will depend purely on demonstrable progress towards net cost reductions over the plan timeline.

10. If Xcel Energy and/or CenterPoint Energy refused to agree to the measurable outcomes you defined in question 9, or failed to achieve them, would you support active exploration of other options by the City of Minneapolis, including: terminating the franchise agreement, securing Community Choice Aggregation, or pursuing energy municipalization (**check one**)?

Yes

Yes, under these conditions:

No

Feel free to provide a deeper explanation of your position:

Yes to all with the exception of municipalization – in this case, I would oppose government delivery of this service since it would increase overall city spending. Community Choice Aggregation seems to be the best option, to my thinking.

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