



Minneapolis Energy Options

TAKING CHARGE OF OUR ENERGY FUTURE

Dear Minneapolis business owner,

In 2014, the City of Minneapolis's long-term franchise agreements with Xcel Energy and Centerpoint Energy expire. The city will face the choice of whether to renew these agreements, renegotiate them, or seek an alternative way of delivering electricity and natural gas to Minneapolis businesses and residents. These decisions could impact the cost and reliability of Minneapolis energy service, financing to help businesses and residents save energy and produce clean energy, job creation in the local economy, and local and global pollution.

Minneapolis faces significant threats through our current energy system. Xcel Energy and Centerpoint Energy produce two-thirds of our city's greenhouse gas emissions, and cost Minneapolis energy users \$450 million annually – over \$9 billion over the 20-year life of these agreements. Neither has shown strong support for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs that would spur local business, create local jobs, and help meet the city's goal of 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2025. Minneapolis businesses face increasing blackouts and natural gas accidents from aging energy infrastructure that is not being adequately maintained and modernized. Energy prices, especially for electricity, are rising rapidly, including a 2013 8.6% Xcel rate increase.

Minneapolis Energy Options would like to invite you to a forum and facilitated discussion in late June to inform local businesses about the upcoming opportunity and how it may impact the business community and help businesses identify priorities for the future of our energy system to guide action by the City of Minneapolis. Minneapolis Energy Options is a city-wide campaign supported by 30 local organizations. The campaign seeks to either push our current utilities to provide clean, affordable, reliable, and local energy as the 20-year franchise agreements expire or to identify alternatives that better meet Minneapolis's needs and goals. The City of Minneapolis is already collaborating with the campaign, including approving a recent \$250,000 pathways analysis to evaluate the city's options for energy service.

Please join us for a discussion among local businesses on this important issue:

What: Minneapolis Energy Options Lunch Forum: Our City & Our Choice

When: Thursday June 27th, 11-2pm

Where: Mill City Museum, Classroom, 704 South 2nd St. Mpls, MN 55401

Please register to save your spot now: <http://meolunchforum.eventbrite.com>.

Capacity is 40 participants, we will open a second discussion on Friday June 28th 11-2pm with adequate interest.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Dylan Kesti

Campaign Coordinator

Minneapolis Energy Options

dylan@minneapolisenergyoptions.org