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# Memo

**Date: 6/5/25**

**To: ETAC**

**From: Carla Vita, Director Energy Transition**

## RE: Energy Transition Advisory Plan Planning 2025

### Background

In 2022 ETAC developed the Energy Transition Advisory Plan. The plan was largely based on the Energy Transition Sprint that DEED created and the Mid-West Governors Association document: <https://midwesterngovernors.org/power-plant-closures/> . ETAC created 5 task forces that the plan would be comprised: Workforce, Community Engagement, Tax Base and Financial Incentives, Re-Use and Economic Diversification. Each task force met numerous times in order to have a completed document completed in 2022.

A major component of the research was a survey to the impacted communities. We really wanted to know, from them, what were their struggles, their successes, their concerns, their triumphs. We recognized each city, county, school district and Prairie Island Indian Community was unique. We also recognized that some similarities might exist.

### Current

As it has been three years since the last survey, staff believe it is a perfect time to re-survey each community. We could find any trends, see where the ETO’s work is benefiting, areas to modify for better community success. Please advise to additional questions you believe would be needed for a successful polishing of the ETAC plan.

Evolution of funding and needs have occurred in 3 years. The Federal Interagency Working Group on Power Plant Communities no longer exists, DEED had Community Energy Transition Grant funds for FY 24 and 25 -as of this writing, the status is unknown for the future, Transition Aid was passed to assist communities with power plant closures. Then economic development – three years ago ETAC was not discussing data centers, battery storage, nuclear, etc.

**Below are staff’s recommendations for survey questions:**

*A 6 option scale (areas in blue are the same as the 2022 survey):*

No Needs Few Needs Moderate Needs Many Needs Considerable Needs No response

Bridge – new &/or upgrades

Roads – new &/or upgraded

Sewer infrastructure needs

Water infrastructure needs

Our community needs inclusion and diversity training to attract workers

Unique economic development incentive for our communities growing businesses

Unique economic development incentives for new businesses

Staff capacity

Recreation

Housing

Childcare

Broadband

Additional question for consideration for the 6 point scale above:

Brownfield issues

Yes/no questions with options to add comments

Do you have a transition plan

If you do, any implementation issues you have?

Please state any implementation successes you have?

Funding

Has your community received Federal Funding

Are you concerned with future federal funding opportunities

Has your community received the Community Energy Transition Grant

Open question: If so, how did it assist in your transition goals.

Did you receive funding from non-profits?

How did the funding, if received, assist in your transition goals.

Any other comments you would like ETAC to consider as they update their plan.

The survey will be sent to each impacted city, county and PIIC as shown in the 2024 plan.

Staff’s goal is that a good 2025 draft will be ready for the 3rd quarter ETAC meeting for a robust conversation with approval of the plan at the 4th quarter ETAC meeting.

**Recommendation:**

1. Discuss the data points above. What additional information would you find useful. Any information above not needed.
2. One task force will exist as this is a polishing. Volunteers to update the plan.

Minimally staff desires a representative from:

Workers – Sacket (he volunteered in March), however more is welcome

Impacted Community

Person with economic development experience

A State department rep

A Utility

1. The plan be updated with current images of workers, power plants, communities, while keeping images of the past.
2. Updated tax info
3. Updated worker numbers for plan