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# Memo

**Date: 9/30/25**

**To: ETAC**

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

## RE: Energy Transition Advisory Plan

Background:

Statute requires that the ETAC plan to be updated yearly. Earlier this year, ETAC Board Members Trisha Duncan (Xcel Energy), Dick Sackett (MN Power employee), Holly Soderbeck (MN Department of Revenue), Shane Zahrt (Coalition of Utility Cities) and Tamara Lowney (no longer on ETAC), volunteered to assist in elevating the plan to meet the needs of 2025 and 2026.

A survey was sent to communities to determine their needs. A survey was sent to the impacted communities in 2022 to learn from them so that the plan reflected the communities and their needs. Staff recommended re-surveying as numerous changes have occurred since the 2022 writing:

1. Federal changes, especially to funding
2. Data centers have taken a large conversation as a redevelopment option for some impacted communities.
3. Loss of Community Energy Transition Funds
4. Transition Aid adoption and the language changes that are needed to include all impacted transition communities
5. Addition of a K-12 school representative to ETAC

Presentation Cadence:

1. ETAC Board and Plan Task Force member Dick Sackett will present the plan and proposed highlighted changes.
2. Bill Sparks, MN Department of Revenue, will present on Transition Aid.

ETO Staff were educated by an impacted community that the Transition Aid as written in legislation has not been working as planned. Mr. Sparks will educate on what the legislation states and why some communities are not receiving aid. To make the communities eligible, it will need legislative change.

1. Questions, Comments, Thoughts
   1. The ETAC Plan Task Force would like conversation on how to ensure that the updated plan is brought to the legislature for consideration and adoption of top areas to assist the impacted communities and workers.

Recommendation:

Please provide comments to the ETAC Plan Task Force on any thoughts, changes, etc. At the next ETAC meeting (fourth quarterly meeting in 2025), the plan will be voted upon.

Attachments: - DEED website rules require that items be in accessible format. As the draft plan document is not in accessible format, it was sent with the ETAC packet to all those that receive a packet. If you want a copy emailed to you, please contact ETO Director Carla Vita at [Carla.vita@state.mn.us](mailto:Carla.vita@state.mn.us)

1. Draft 2025 plan (2024 plan with proposed changes embedded into the plan)
2. Attachments and Figures within the plan
3. Survey results from the impacted communities