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WISCONSIN CLEAN ENERGY ADVOCATES URGE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO REJECT ALLIANT'S PROPOSED DATA CENTER CONTRACT

*Testimony at PSC public hearings calls for a rejection of Alliant's application,
requiring the utility to file a large customer rate structure*

MADISON, Wis. — The following statements were issued today following the [Public Service Commission's](#) (PSC) hearings regarding Alliant's application for an Individual Contract Rate Agreement ([Docket: 6680-TE-115](#)).

Alex Beld, Communications Director, RENEW Wisconsin

"Transparency builds trust. With many of the facts redacted in this proposal, it is difficult to say there has been an earnest attempt to engage the public on this issue. We need a plan that encourages the expansion of clean energy, protects Wisconsin residents from rising costs and ensures that large energy customers pay their way. It should be created with the input of the people who work and live in the state."

- For an interview with Alex Beld, contact: abeld@renewwisconsin.org

Amy Barrilleaux, Communications Director, Clean Wisconsin

"Utilities and tech companies insist these facilities will pay their own way, but those claims do not ensure customer protection and they have nothing to do with minimizing environmental harms. This contract puts too much risk on Alliant's other customers: Wisconsin families and small businesses. And it prevents the PSC from being able to impose conditions that protect our environment."

- For an interview with Amy Barrilleaux, contact: abarrilleaux@cleanwisconsin.org

Britnie Remer, Organizing Director, 350 Wisconsin

"With the potential to impact utility bills for decades, Alliant Energy's entire proposal should be made available for review — their regular customers deserve to have all of the facts. Without transparency, families and small businesses cannot fully understand the implications of this contract, and utility and tech companies will not have a mechanism for public accountability. Wisconsinites should not be at risk for paying for billion-dollar hyperscale data center projects, and Alliant's proposal falls short of ensuring this."

- For an interview with Britnie Remer, contact: britnie.remer@350wisconsin.org

Brittany Keyes, Clean Air Policy Manager, Healthy Climate Wisconsin

“Alliant’s proposal fails to meet the standard of protecting Wisconsin residents from harm, especially when it comes to rising energy bills. Given the potential public health harms, lack of transparency and the short-sighted and inadequate design of the contract, we need to require a rate structure that will better protect Wisconsin ratepayers from the costs of data centers and can also better protect Wisconsin’s climate, supporting our clean energy goals.”

- For an interview with Brittany Keyes, contact: brittany@healthyclimatewi.org

Cathy Erdman, SNOW Janesville Volunteer and Alliant Ratepayer

“If allowed to advance, a contract like this gives Alliant the precedent to negotiate individual, private deals with large tech companies with very little consumer oversight. It also opens the door for preferential billing and cost assignment practices and makes it difficult to track and properly assign costs over the lifespan of the infrastructure. What’s worse, it makes it impossible for the public to understand the contents of the contract or the community ramifications.”

- For an interview with Cathy Erdman, contact: snowjanesville@gmail.com

Cristina Carvajal, Executive Director, Wisconsin Ecolatinos

“Alliant Energy’s proposal lacks transparency and appears to favor a multibillion-dollar tech company at the expense of Wisconsin families. This plan places the financial and environmental burden on these families, particularly affecting disadvantaged communities that face higher energy bills and endure the negative health impacts of polluted air generated by methane gas plants.”

- For an interview with Cristina, contact: cristina_carvajal@wisconsincolatinos.org

Don Ferber, Chair, Wisconsin Chapter Sierra Club

“It is astonishing that the Public Service Commission would allow a utility to redact all the information that would permit the public to understand the impacts and risks of this proposal. Residential utility rates have already been allowed to rise to levels that are unaffordable for too many people. The PSC should reject this single contract proposal, and ensure that large load tariffs will not negatively impact other customers over the life of the infrastructure, that clean energy be primarily used, including for backup power, and that the data center regularly report out energy usage and other environmental impacts. These are megacorporations that must be held accountable for all costs and impacts.”

- For an interview with Don Ferber, contact: d_ferber@sbcglobal.net

Tom Content, Executive Director, Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin

“The issues in these cases are technical, but for the Citizens’ Utility Board, the bottom line is not. Put simply, the PSC needs to ensure wealthy tech companies pay their fair share for the energy — and the energy infrastructure — needed to make data centers run. We are encouraging folks to weigh in by the PSC comment deadline next Tuesday because the decision by the Public Service Commission in this case will address fundamental questions about transparency, fairness and who bears the financial risk of surging energy demand.”

- For an interview with Tom Content, contact: content@cubwi.org

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ABOUT POWER WISCONSIN FORWARD

Power Wisconsin Forward is organized on the foundational truth that methane gas infrastructure is bad for our people, planet, and pocketbooks. Supported by the Clean Economy Coalition of Wisconsin (CECW) and its more than 50 partner organizations, the campaign is focused on following the science and educating Wisconsinites and activating change to enable a cleaner energy future for our state that creates jobs, builds energy reliability, and saves people money. Learn more and get involved at www.powerwisconsinforward.com