



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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QUOTES ON THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION'S PRELIMINARY DECISION REGARDING WE ENERGIES' VERY LARGE CUSTOMER RATE STRUCTURE

MILWAUKEE – The following quotes were issued today following the [Public Service Commission's](#) (PSC) preliminary decision on We Energies' proposed Very Large Customer (VLC) rate structure ([Docket 6630-TE-113](#)):

Alex Beld, Communications Director, RENEW Wisconsin

"Tech companies must cover their own costs to operate data centers in our state. Today's decision gives us hope that Wisconsin residents served by We Energies won't shoulder the financial burden of data centers' energy needs. While today is a step in the right direction, we must also seek commitments from these large energy customers to power their facilities with renewable energy to protect our climate and the health of Wisconsinites."

- For an interview with Alex Beld, contact abeld@renewwisconsin.org or 608-210-1429

Brett Korte, Staff Attorney, Clean Wisconsin

"This decision was an important and positive moment for the regulation of hyperscale data centers in Wisconsin. The Commission recognized that the tariff negotiated with tech companies and proposed by WEPCO did not do enough to protect households and other businesses from increasing utility bills and took significant action to correct those deficiencies. Clean Wisconsin commends the Commission's actions today. Families in WEPCO's territory will have lower bills and cleaner air as a result."

- For an interview with Communications Director Amy Barrilleaux, contact abarrilleaux@cleanwisconsin.org or 563-508-7979

Britnie Remer, Organizing Director, 350 Wisconsin

"The Public Service Commission took significant steps toward fully protecting Wisconsinites from subsidizing billion-dollar data centers. Today's preliminary decisions set a precedent for establishing real safeguards to ensure that our families and small businesses come before Big Tech. The Commission clearly heard from residents across the state: regular customers should not be responsible for paying even a penny of the costs associated with these projects – not now, and not at any point in the future. We urge the PSC to continue to guide their decisions by listening to ratepayers' concerns and recognizing the impacts on the people of Wisconsin."

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

Bryan Rogers, Director, The WEBB at Walnut Way

“Today, the Commission made a critical and necessary intervention in drawing a clear line that everyday people should not be forced to subsidize billion-dollar data centers. That matters. It reflects what residents across Wisconsin have been saying with clarity and urgency. While we applaud the Commission’s preliminary decision, we recognize it is only a first step, and that many more will need to be taken to truly deliver adequate protections for ratepayers, safeguard our environment, and uphold the democratic promise that public utilities exist to serve the public — not subsidize the accumulation of corporate wealth on the backs of communities already bearing the heaviest burdens of an inequitable energy system. The people of this state have been clear about what they need, and are now watching. And they will see to it that the days of simply giving utilities and corporations whatever they want are over, for good.”

- For an interview with Bryan Rogers, contact brogers@walnutway.org | 414-458-1984

Cassie Steiner, Senior Campaign Coordinator, Sierra Club — Wisconsin Chapter

“Today, the Public Service Commission served its mission well: the preliminary decisions on the Very Large Customer tariff will protect residents and small businesses from paying for Big Tech in Wisconsin. The strong decisions in this case are precedent-setting and necessary, especially while Wisconsin lacks statewide legislative guardrails on data centers. We hope that the Commission continues to recognize the impact these decisions put on Wisconsin ratepayers in future decisions like the We Energies rate increase case and the Alliant Energy contract with the Beaver Dam data center.”

- For an interview with Cassie Steiner, contact cassie.steiner@sierraclub.org or (262) 930 3963.

Cristina Carvajal, Executive Director, Wisconsin Ecolatinos

“Frontline communities should not bear the burden of pollution generated by fossil fuel plants, nor should they be forced to pay for the infrastructure and energy consumed by data centers. We are pleased with the Public Service Commission's recent decision and urge it to continue to prioritize the protection of Wisconsin residents.”

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

Elizabeth Hittman, Associate Director of Wisconsin Policy, Elevate

“Today’s preliminary decision reflects what Wisconsinites made clear throughout this proceeding: data centers and the utilities serving them must pay the full costs of the energy and infrastructure they require — not everyday customers. The written order will determine whether these protections are real and enforceable, and we will be watching closely to ensure they are.”

- For an interview with Elizabeth Hittman, contact Alejandra Flores at Alejandra.Flores@elevatenp.org

John Imes, Cofounder & Director, Wisconsin Environmental Initiative (WEI)

“Today’s decision is an important step toward getting this right for Wisconsin. It reinforces a simple principle: families, farms, and small businesses should not be asked to subsidize

infrastructure built for large-scale data centers. As electricity demand grows, affordability, transparency, and responsible planning must guide every decision. We appreciate the Commission recognizing that growth and accountability can and must go hand in hand.”

- For an interview with John Imes, contact jimesother@gmail.com or 608-712-7898

Kat Klawes, Climate Action Policy Coordinator, Citizen Action of Wisconsin

“Today’s decision is a step in the right direction and shows the Public Service Commission is hearing the concerns of Wisconsin residents. But this is only a first step. As data centers drive massive new demand on our energy system, we need stronger, enforceable protections to ensure that households are not left paying for infrastructure built for billion-dollar companies. We also cannot allow this surge in demand to justify more fossil fuel expansion that drives pollution, worsens our climate crisis, and harms public health. The final order must clearly guarantee that regular customers will not shoulder these costs, now or in the future, and that Wisconsin moves forward with clean energy, not backward into more pollution.”

- For an interview with Kat Klawes, contact kat.klawes@citizenactionwi.org or 920-634-8981

Laura Lane, Wisconsin Director of Outreach, Faith in Place

“More than 85% of public comments in this case called for stronger protections for Wisconsin families and small businesses, and today’s preliminary decision reflects that. Intervenors worked hard to ensure the Commission had a full picture of what’s at stake. We’re encouraged by this step, and we’ll continue pushing to make sure the written order delivers.”

- For an interview with Laura Lane, contact Kira Dault at kira@faithinplace.org

Maria Fernanda Chavez, Senior Energy Analyst, Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)

“Data centers in Wisconsin could cause up to [\\$47 billion](#) in electricity system costs over the coming decades. Ratepayers deserve to be protected from unfairly picking up this massive tab on behalf of Big Tech. Today marks an important milestone for holding data centers accountable for their electricity costs, but state decision-makers must do more to safeguard energy affordability. Greater transparency, transitioning away from fossil fuels and implementing long-term resource planning are in the best interest of all Wisconsinites who want affordable, reliable power.”

- For an interview with Maria Chavez, contact Daela Taeoalii-Tipton at DTaeoaliiTipton@ucs.org or 801-808-0759

Molly Collins, Wisconsin Advocacy Director, American Lung Association

“When data centers are powered by dirty energy, they can put lung health at risk. These new large electricity demands must be met with clean, renewable power to protect the health of our communities. But too often, energy demands are being met with fossil fuels that endanger health, such as extending the lives of aging coal plants, expanding methane gas plants, and using diesel generators for backup power on-site. We hope the final PSC decision will protect the health of Wisconsinites as well as ensure the economic costs are not passed on to consumers.”

- For an interview with Molly Collins, contact Katie Geraghty at Katie.Geraghty@Lung.org or 602-433-4834

Tom Content, Executive Director, Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin

“This decision signals that the PSC commissioners heard loud and clear that Wisconsinites have significant concerns about energy affordability and AI data centers. And that tech companies should clearly be paying their own way for the massive amounts of energy these data centers need. How this gets implemented in future rate cases remains to be seen, but customers’ interests are in a better place after the PSC supported critical changes to the utility’s proposal that CUB and other groups recommended.”

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

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ABOUT POWER WISCONSIN FORWARD

The Power Wisconsin Forward campaign 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