TRANSITIONING TONAWANDA
OVERVIEW

- Regional History
- Transitioning NRG Huntley
- Lessons we’re learning
- Deepened relationships
- Framed the debate
- Began conversations in communities and workplaces
JUST TRANSITION ASSEMBLIES

- Provide opportunities to practice leadership skills
- Build new relationships
- Continue to build and win the message frame

OUR GOALS FOR TODAY

- Understand why Huntley is losing $
- Brainstorm potential pathways forward for our community
- ID next steps + just transition delegates
NRG Huntley: Financial Reality

The Huntley power plant, like many aging coal-fired power plants, has taken a substantial financial hit in recent years, with little likelihood of a recovery in the near future. A recent report by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis found that earnings generated by the plant have dropped dramatically in recent years due to decreased power demand, increased energy efficiency, low natural gas prices, and noncompetitive coal prices. Given that the plant is located in a region with substantial excess energy capacity, the Huntley units appear ripe for retirement.

Coal Costs More

- 7% per year: The projected increase in the cost of coal from 2013-2020
- 43%: The percentage increase in coal costs for Huntley from 2008 to 2012

They are Operating Less Often

- 18%: The percentage of time Huntley ran in 2012

Transportation Costs More

- 50%: The increase in coal transportation costs

Profits Are Down

- $110 million: Huntley’s estimated pre-tax earnings in 2012
- $-3 million: Huntley’s estimated pre-tax earnings in 2013

Huntley is Losing Millions

- $-6 million: Huntley’s estimated pre-tax earnings in 2014

We Don’t Need the Electricity

- 2,783 megawatts: Projected energy demand in 2023 for WNY
- 4,464 megawatts: The amount of energy we can produce in WNY right now

The Plant is Outdated

- 55 and 56: The ages of Huntley’s coal burning units
- 57: The average age of retirement of a coal burning unit

Huntley is Losing Millions
JUST TRANSITION ASSEMBLIES
WHAT COMES NEXT?

- Delegate training and planning
- Just transition conference
- Pressure on NRG
- Launch campaign
MORE THAN CLEAN ENERGY
IT WASN’T “CLEAN AIR”
“We can’t just give lip service. If there’s to be a real alliance around our shared concerns, the cornerstone has to be a just transition, a transformation, moving from the type of society that does harm to a great many people to a society that does harm to no one and a society that’s free of want. But it cannot be rhetorical, it’s got to be practical, it’s got to be tangible and understandable and coherent, and we’ve got to hammer that program out together.”

–Tony Mazzocchi
CLEAN AIR: ORGANIZING FOR HEALTH AND JUSTICE

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