Action Update: KXL down, several pipelines to go

Continue holding Wisconsin leaders accountable, climate justice team update, meet our new interns, and more.

Wisconsin's Climate and Clean Energy Future
On Monday, Feb. 1 at 7pm, 350 Madison will welcome Maria Redmond, Director of the Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy for a discussion on how Wisconsin can lead on climate change and clean energy. Maria coordinated the work of the Governor’s Climate Change Task Force. Over the last year, the task force received input from people across Wisconsin and recently published a report that covered a broad array of important recommendations to move Wisconsin forward on climate change. Maria is now heading the development of the state Clean Energy Plan. She will address how 350 Madison members can provide input on Wisconsin strategies and solutions.

As we work to drive change locally and globally, it’s important for state leaders to hear from citizens. State strategies can empower local efforts and support our communities.

Register in advance for this meeting here. We hope to see you there!

The report of the Governor’s Task Force on Climate Change has 55 bold solutions to this existential threat, and #47 is “No New Fossil Fuel Infrastructure,” with a bullet point stating:

- Avoid new pipelines. Oppose new or expanding infrastructure whose primary purpose is transporting fossil fuels through Wisconsin.

It is wonderful that the Governor Evers and Lt. Governor Barnes, who chaired the task force, included this in the report. It’s a sign they understand that a new pipeline would contradict all their other policies for healing our atmosphere. But there are powerful interests who want this built, so we need to continue giving our leaders the support they need to do the right thing.

Please write to Gov. Evers and Lt. Gov. Barnes today to thank them and to remind them that Enbridge must not get a DNR permit for the Line 5 reroute!

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KXL down, several more pipelines to go!

Our work is absolutely crucial to the future of the human race, and we have a president who has started making good on his campaign promises! On his first day in office, President Biden revoked KXL’s permit, so TC Energy has to stop all construction.

On the state level, we are also looking at significant progress – but we can’t relax!
Climate Justice Team update

We know that climate change and its impacts jeopardize the health and well-being of people all over the world. Frontline communities experience the "first and worst" consequences of climate change. These are often communities of color and low-income, whose neighborhoods often lack basic infrastructure to support them and who will be increasingly vulnerable as our climate deteriorates. Due to the United States' history of racism, economic disparities and segregationist housing policies and practices, many frontline communities had no choice but to live in low-lying areas subject to flooding.

We believe that if we do not understand the root causes of these injustices, we will not be able to create a post-climate change world that is just. It is not enough to stop climate change, but we also need to end the accompanying injustices. We believe we can do both.

As an organization, we are taking the first step to learn about some of the injustices in our country. Twenty-one members and friends of 350 Madison are learning together in a nine-week African-American history class taught by the Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development as part of their Justified Anger program.

Our goal is to understand the systems that put these injustices in place, and then to join forces with frontline communities to develop a clean energy economy and world that will finally bring some of the benefits (new jobs related to renewable energy, lower utility costs, clean air, the ability to live in non-toxic neighborhoods) to those who have, until now, felt the biggest burden from our current energy development and production systems.

As we constantly strive to improve, we will continue to cover ground with on-going deliberation and development. New structures, strategies, and tactics will evolve through collaboration and cooperation among 350 Madison’s Coordinating Council, Executive Board, Team leadership, staff and members. Look forward to specifics rolling out on an ongoing basis as our work together continues.
Where do we go from here?

To survive and thrive as an effective organization, 350 Madison repeatedly focuses attention, thought, and conversation on “Where do we go from here?” Toward that end, a group of 16 leadership volunteers and staff, including Process Facilitator Eileen Flanagan, finished an eight hour series of meetings spanning two Saturdays on Jan. 23.

Overall, our mission remains clear: “350 Madison mobilizes people to take action on climate change and demand a rapid transition to a just and sustainable world powered by clean, renewable energy.”

Thank you to our donors!

350 Madison would like to say a big THANK YOU to all of our generous donors who made our year-end fundraising campaign a success! We exceeded last year’s campaign and came very close to meeting our goal of raising $30,000. A special thanks to local climate activists who provided a generous match donation. By supporting 350 Madison with a financial contribution you are helping us to leverage the energy and dedication of our staff and many volunteers building the climate justice movement in Wisconsin and working to make our state a clean energy leader. Thank you for making our work possible!

Follow us on social media!
Find action updates, climate art, and ways to get involved on our Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. You can also help us reach more people by liking our posts, commenting, and sharing!

Meet our new interns!

**Tar Sands Team**

Olivia Dicely (top) is a senior at North Caroline State University in the College of Natural Resources who will graduate in May with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science with an Environmental Toxicology Minor and a Renewable Energy Assessment Minor. She will help manage a project converting expert testimony into infographics and creating the language and art of the infographics. She writes, “I am looking forward to working with a great group of individuals that aim toward a better future for our environment.”

Maria Novichkov (pictured second) is a junior at Edgewood College with a major in Environmental Studies. She will assist the Superior Waters Story Corps in recruiting writers and helpers and act as a project
manager. She will also coordinate a phone bank to reach out to people who commented or testified to the DNR in July to help them become active as we prepare for a DNR hearing. She writes, “I am eager and passionate to engage the public to fight the multinational energy company Enbridge from rerouting their crude oil pipeline against the public interest. We must work together to save our waterways and natural resources!”

If you are a digital artist, writer, researcher, or behind-the-scenes task doer, we need your help on these projects! Please contact us at TarSandsTeam@gmail.com.

Community Climate Solutions Team

Bryce Kadrmas (pictured third) will be assisting fundraising efforts.

Eliza Kruszynsky (pictured fourth) will act as the point person in charge of organizing and conducting interviews with local election candidates (alders especially) in Madison. Through this position, Eliza will also be partnering with other environmental and social non-profits to determine interview questions, publicize interviews, and get-out-the-vote initiatives.

Alannah Rapp (not pictured) will conduct informal research on topics of interest to the Plan Commission Climate Corps (PC3) and other Madison Community Working Group projects. Alannah will also contribute to formal write-ups on topics to present to policymakers and group members.

Hailey Weinberg (bottom) will be working with the new Local/State working group with Gail Nordheim.

General Assignment
Emily Engel (not pictured) will be working throughout the organization as a non profit intern to learn the ropes of how we operate and providing support to 350 Madison as a whole.

Thank you to our donors!

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