

ANNUAL REPORT

OUR CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE



Dear friends,

It has been a monumental year for clean energy. Across the state, thousands of people are standing up and making it clear: Minnesota needs 100 percent carbon-free, clean energy. Thanks to strong public policies shaped and driven by Fresh Energy, nearly half of Minnesota's electricity is now free of carbon. But that's not nearly enough. The accelerating pace of climate change demands that we move faster.

Fresh Energy's team of policy analysts and regulatory experts are ambitiously driven toward achieving a clean energy future for our state. And we made important progress over the past year.

Utilities, companies, cities across the state, and Governor Tim Walz have now voiced commitments to 100 percent clean energy by 2050, including many Minnesota-based Fortune 500 businesses. Electric vehicles and buses are on the rise, and the pace of adoption is accelerating. Thanks in part to our coalition work, expect an all-electric bus fleet by 2040. Most importantly, our team is ensuring that we're creating clean energy solutions that benefit all Minnesotans—across race, gender, class, and place.

I invite you to read the stories of how our policy work is impacting real families in this edition of our annual report. None of this work would have happened without our generous and thoughtful donors. Together, we're sailing toward a bright energy future in our state.

With gratitude,



Michael Noble



Fresh Energy rallied at the Capitol alongside hundreds of supporters and partners to support 100 percent clean energy.



Our Mission

Shape and drive realistic, visionary energy policies that benefit all.

Our Vision

An economy we thrive in and energy that ensures our well-being.

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OUR 2018 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

51

Clean energy solutions advanced at the Public Utilities Commission, legislature, and within local governments

OVER

500

Megawatts of solar and wind energy added and committed to the grid, thanks in part to our advocacy

6,830

People reached in 69 speaking engagements throughout Minnesota and internationally in Greece and Poland



FRESH ENERGY PROGRESS

CLEAN POWER



Our Clean Power team is working hard to increase the amount of renewable energy in Minnesota’s electricity mix, phase out coal plants, and ensure a strong and modern electric grid. And with support from utilities, it’s working. After years of advocacy by Fresh Energy, Xcel Energy, Minnesota’s largest utility, announced it will produce 100 percent carbon-free energy by 2050. Thanks to our work, the Public Utilities Commission also unanimously approved the process portion of the new interconnection standard, so that more families and businesses can connect their solar and battery systems to the grid quickly and with minimal red tape.

BENEFICIAL ELECTRIFICATION



Fresh Energy is catalyzing a major and healthy transition from oil and gas to clean, renewable electricity to power our homes, cars, and buses. Following our expert testimony over the past five years, the Public Utilities Commission filed an order in 2018 to boost electric vehicle sales by directing utilities to support public electric vehicle charging stations, raise customer awareness of their many benefits, and allow overnight charging rates. This allows couples like David and Louise of Minneapolis to charge their electric vehicle at night, when the wind is blowing and demand is low. For those that use public transportation to get around, big changes are also on the way. In part due to our strong, coalition advocacy work last year, Metro Transit announced plans to convert its entire fleet to electric buses by 2040.

ENERGY ACCESS AND EQUITY



Fresh Energy is helping move Minnesota toward an equitable energy future by shaping clean energy policies that ensure no community is left behind. Last year, we pushed for a solar and energy efficiency pilot to be part of Xcel Energy’s larger strategy to serve customers earning low incomes. Fresh Energy was the lone advocate that intervened in the docket at the Public Utilities Commission and we encouraged key program design details to promote increased access to solar projects for under-resourced households. This means that innovative clean energy programs, like community solar gardens, are now more accessible to families like the Guzmans, a family of three living in rural Minnesota.

GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS



Fresh Energy is working hard to dramatically cut carbon from all sectors of our economy. Last year, we showcased our bold leadership as part of a Minnesota delegation at the Conference of the Parties 24th annual climate summit in Katowice, Poland (COP24). While there, we met with the prime minister of Fiji to discuss actions the United States must take to mitigate climate change on a global scale. We are proud to stand alongside Minnesota-based companies as visible advocates for clean energy on the national stage.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY



Our team of experts is working to drive modern energy efficiency and optimization. As a result of our work, public schools across the state will be better able to track and reduce their energy use. Fresh Energy is now the leading nonprofit working to improve Minnesota's building energy code. And we have worked hard to make the statewide Conservation Improvement Program for utilities strong and effective. That way real estate developers, like those behind Villa del Sol, an affordable housing community, can more readily embed energy efficiency into their design models and save their tenants money.

CENTER FOR POLLINATORS IN ENERGY



Fresh Energy's Center for Pollinators in Energy is speeding the use of deep-rooted grasses and native plants on ground-mounted solar sites, creating acres of pollinator habitat as well as improving water quality and sequestering carbon. Last year, we inspired Xcel Energy to use Minnesota's pollinator-friendly solar scorecard in its future solar request for proposals process. Our national advocacy on this issue helped secure Pollinator-Friendly Solar acts in four states and helped Clif Bar, Disney, and Organic Valley launch new pollinator-friendly solar arrays.

ENERGY NEWS NETWORK



Editorially independent from Fresh Energy's policy work, the Energy News Network provides daily access to top energy news stories and original reporting on the transition to clean energy. This acclaimed national news operation grew significantly over the past year. Building on our flagship Midwest and Southeast reporting, we launched Western and Northeast Energy News and increased editing capacity. We now have 15 freelance journalists providing top-quality original reporting on 22 states and our journalism is being republished across the country, with key stories distributed by the Associated Press.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Fresh Energy's work is far from over. The urgency of the climate crisis requires great political willpower and transformative change. In 2019 we have near-term opportunities to significantly increase the percentage of wind, solar, and storage in Minnesota's energy system—and ensure utilities no longer invest in coal plants and new natural gas infrastructure. Climate isn't an unsolvable problem—there are solutions. And it's time to act boldly. Fresh Energy is your clean energy champion working to secure the ambitious change we need now. Visit our Take Action page to learn how you can get involved: fresh-energy.org/take-action

OUR DONORS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

Please access the full list of donors and supporters
on our website: fresh-energy.org/2018-19donors

- THANK YOU -



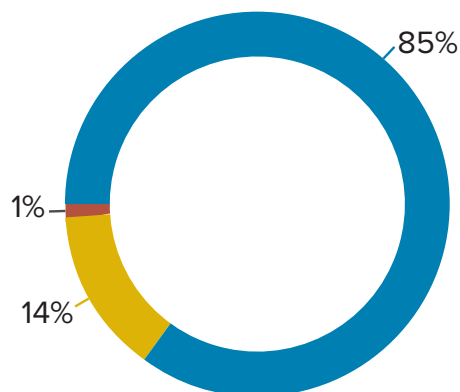
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2018 – 2019 FISCAL YEAR

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

● Grant Revenue Released from Restrictions	\$ 3,114,835
● Other Unrestricted Contributions	\$ 507,340
● Other Revenue	\$ 35,351

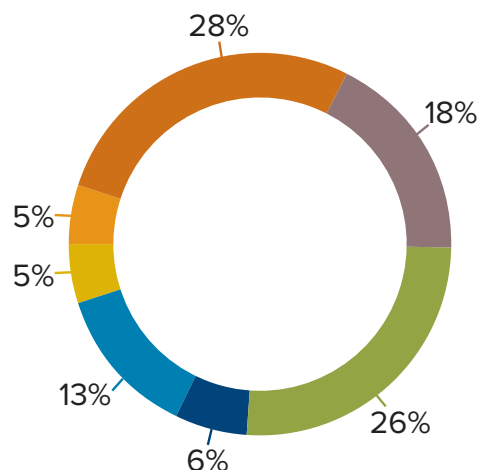
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE **\$3,657,526**



EXPENSES

● Center for Pollinators in Energy	\$ 180,850
● Energy News Network	\$ 984,350
● Energy Performance (includes Energy Efficiency and Energy Access & Equity)	\$ 626,294
● Energy Markets (includes Clean Power and Beneficial Electrification)	\$ 904,106
● Global Warming Solutions (Carbon Reduction)	\$ 227,449
● Administration	\$ 442,069
● Fundraising	\$ 165,503

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$3,530,621**
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets **\$ 126,905**



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,434,108
Investments	\$ 475,925
Pledges < 1 year	\$ 1,686,760
Pledges > 1 year	\$ 52,446
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 23,972
Equipment	\$ 8,295
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,681,506

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Total Liabilities	\$ 233,132
Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$ 3,332,818
Total Unrestricted Net Assets (Operating Reserve & Strategic Framework Fund)	\$ 1,115,556

TOTAL LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS **\$4,681,506**

Audited financial statements are available upon request for February 1, 2017 – January 31, 2018.




More than 1,000 people took part in Fresh Energy events last year, including our signature Power Pairing and annual Benefit Breakfast.



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FEATURE EVENT | BENEFIT BREAKFAST

2019 BENEFIT BREAKFAST

What's the Deal?!

A BLUEPRINT FOR OUR FUTURE

FEATURED SPEAKERS

*Rhiana Gunn-Wright
AND Jigar Shah*



SIGN UP NOW

for Fresh Energy's annual Benefit Breakfast

OCTOBER 2, 2019 / 7:30 — 9:00 AM

RSVP NOW: fresh-energy.org/benefitbreakfast

You'll get inspired to explore how bold action on climate can positively transform our communities and capital markets.

Rhiana Gunn-Wright is one of the lead policy architects of the federal Green New Deal. A 2013 Rhodes Scholar, she has worked for former First Lady Michelle Obama, the Institute for Women's Policy Research, and the Detroit Health Department.

Jigar Shah is the co-founder of Generate Capital, an investment and operating platform that builds, owns, operates, and finances infrastructure assets involving the world's critical resources: energy, water, agriculture, and basic materials.

SAINT PAUL RIVERCENTRE BALLROOM
175 WEST KELLOGG BOULEVARD, SAINT PAUL, MN 55102

\$100 SUGGESTED MINIMUM DONATION

For information on sponsoring the event or becoming a table captain, please contact Meggie LaValley at lavalley@fresh-energy.org or 651 726 7561.