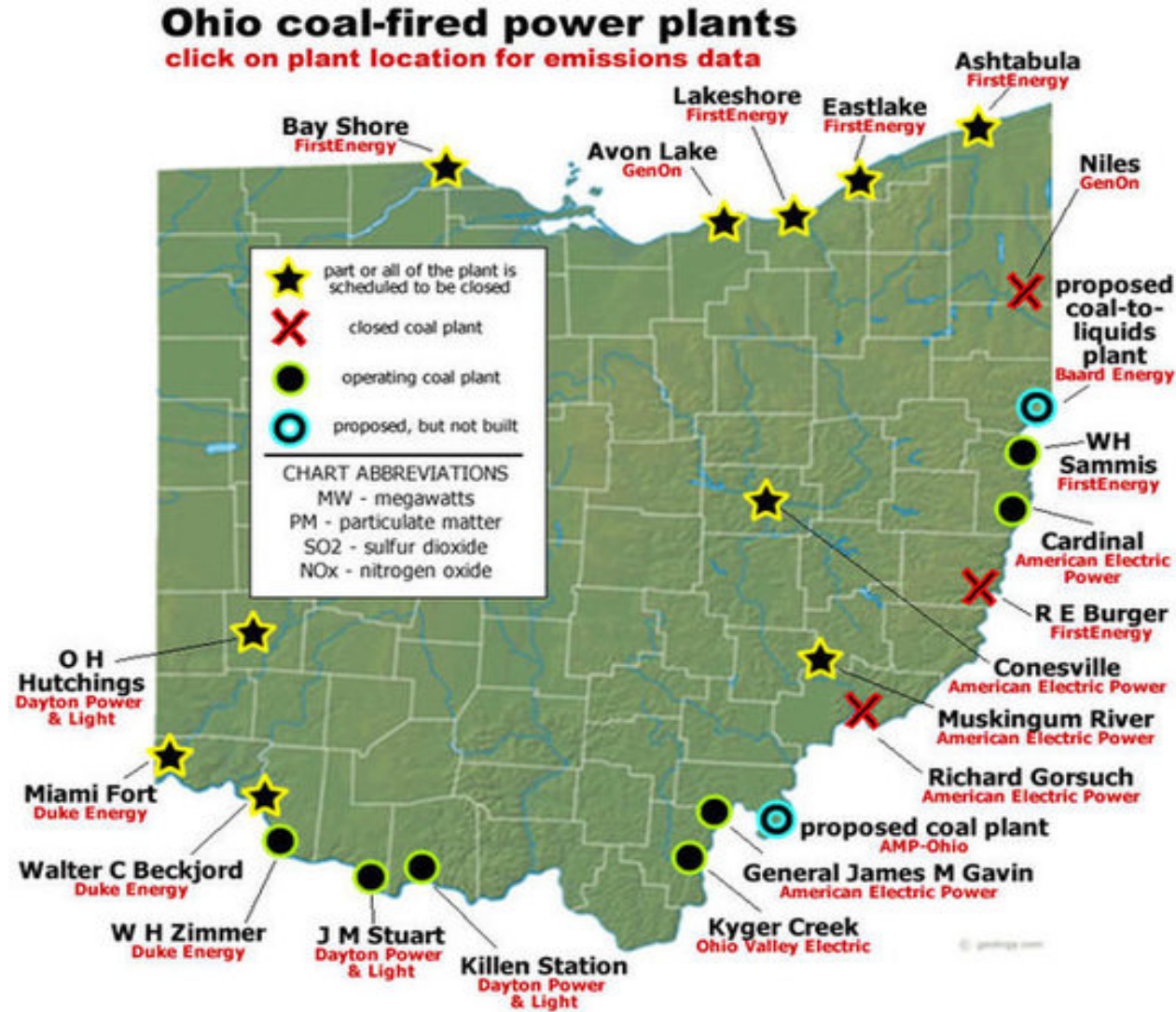


Midwest in brief

Ohio in transition

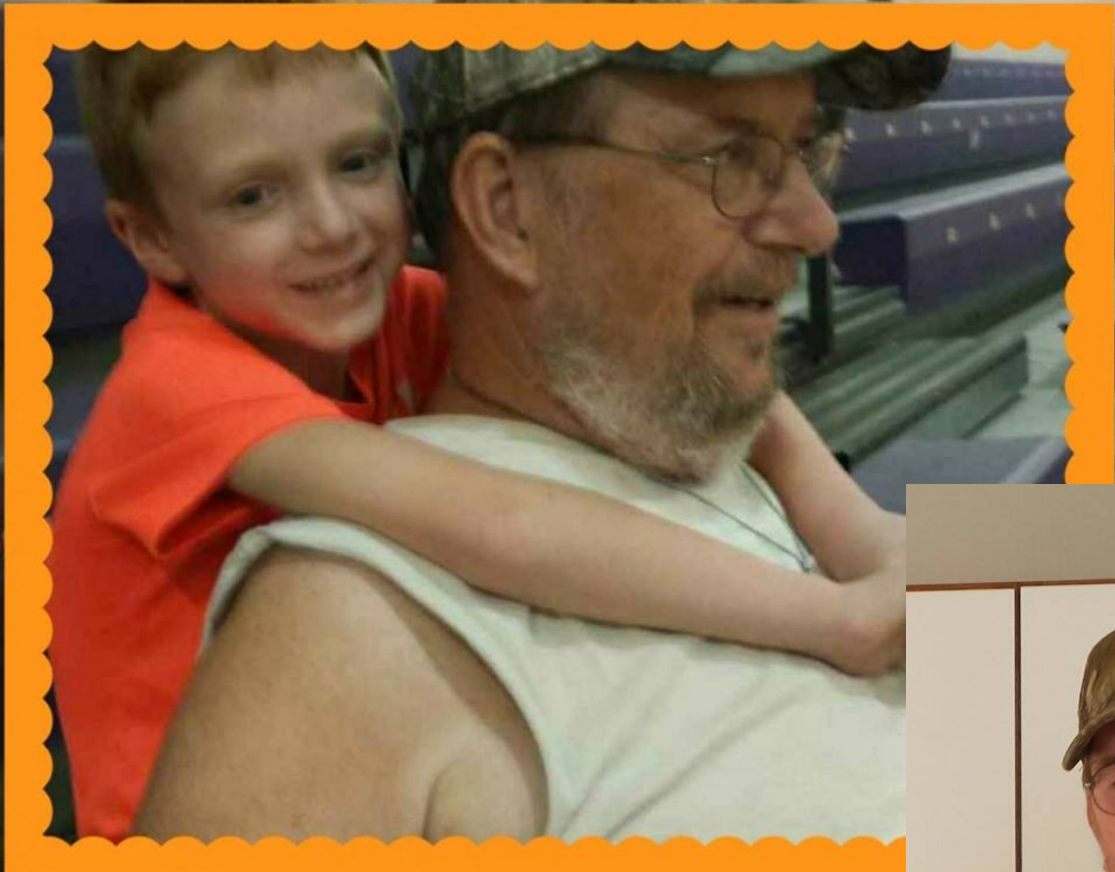


- This map is a bit dated- in recent weeks, First Energy announced that they will close Sammis, as well as another plant just across the river.



Ohio Coal Employment

County	Coal Employment 2009 Q1	Coal Employment 2015 Q4	ARC FY 2016	ARC FY 2017	Unemploy. Rate	Per Capita Income
Adams	0	0	Distressed	Distressed	11.5%	\$18,014
Athens	16	0	Distressed	At-Risk	8.1%	\$23,001
Hocking	0	0	Transitional	Transitional	7.5%	\$22,873
Jackson	59	15	At-Risk	At-Risk	9.8%	\$22,506
Meigs	54	2	Distressed	Distressed	10.8%	\$19,019
Monroe	492	482	At-Risk	At-Risk	9.8%	\$21,015
Morgan	0	0	Distressed	At-Risk	11.8%	\$18,289
Muskingum	585	176	Transitional	Transitional	2.7%	\$20,561
Perry	262	380	At-Risk	At-Risk	8.8%	\$21,968
Pike	0	0	Distressed	Distressed	11.4%	\$20,978
Scioto	0	0	Distressed	Distressed	10.6%	\$20,014
Tuscarawas	243	154	Transitional	Transitional	6.7%	\$27,556
Vinton	128	47	Distressed	At-Risk	9.8%	\$19,157
Washington	6	0	Transitional	Transitional	7.7%	\$27,865



Best Dad Ever



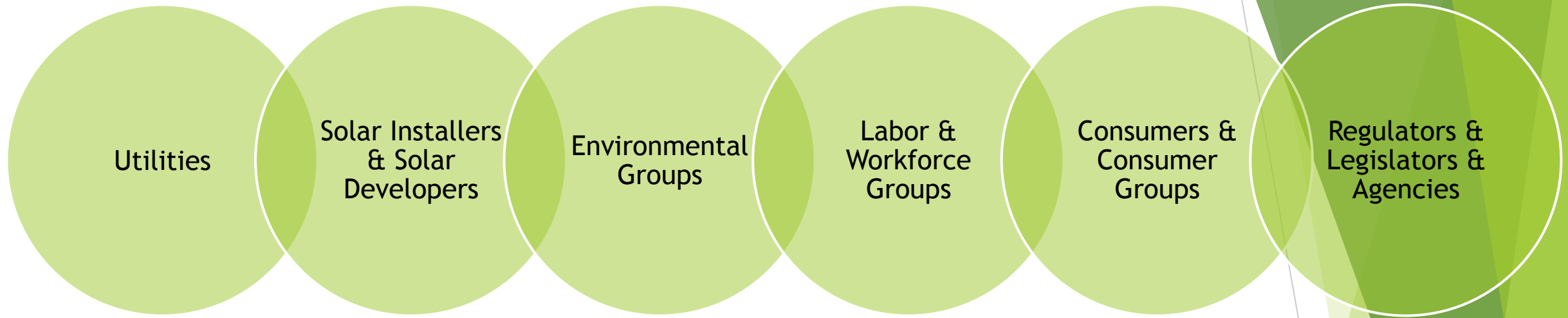
Middleport Ohio



Resurgence of crippling black lung disease seen in U.S. coal miners

(Reuters, August 23, 2018)

- ▶ The yearly number of cases fell from 404 in 1978 to 18 in 1988 but then began increasing each year, with 383 confirmed cases in 2014, the study found. At the same time, employment has declined from 250,000 miners in 1979 to 81,000 in 2016, the authors note.
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Economic Developers, Local Government, Employees,
Teachers, Non-Profits, State and Federal Agencies,
Universities and Community Colleges

Stakeholders

Who's at the table?

Who's not?

- ▶ ARC: Power
- ▶ AML: PILOT
- ▶ Non-profits and economic development authorities doing some work
- ▶ Local and state elected officials want to help
- ▶ Lots of people are engaged in education, workforce development, support of entrepreneurship, and economic diversification
- ▶ Key problem is no coordination, little communication, and no agreed upon strategy

Rural Action's Vision

We envision a region with clean streams and healthy forests; a place where thriving family farms and meaningful livelihoods exist for everyone; vibrant communities with people engaged as good stewards of the world they live in and working together to make this vision a reality.

Vision and Solutions

▶ ARC POWER grants in Ohio

- ▶ Makerspaces
- ▶ Workforce development
- ▶ Entrepreneurship
- ▶ Impact investing
- ▶ Solar supply chain
- ▶ Ecotourism

▶ PILOT funding (AML program)

- ▶ Health and safety legacy mining problems
- ▶ With economic development potential
- ▶ Working on AMD project to restore a stream and create jobs

Local Solutions

► Community Choice Aggregation

Allows local governments to procure power on behalf of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts, increasing local control over their electricity sources. These can be structured to focus on green energy sources and/or lower electricity prices. By aggregating demand, communities gain leverage to negotiate better rates with competitive suppliers and choose greener power sources.

► Carbon Fee

The City of Athens just passed a carbon fee, which will be collected on the property tax duplicate and used to pay for solar installations on public buildings, thereby saving taxpayer funds through reduced utility bills.

Utility scale renewables

- ▶ In 2016, AEP Ohio committed to pursue development of 900 MW of renewable projects sited in Ohio (500 MW wind and 400 MW solar)
- ▶ AEP Ohio or its affiliates can own up to 50% of the renewable projects in the aggregate
- ▶ The projects are to be completed by 2021 subject to timely regulatory approvals
- ▶ The solar projects will reflect a preference for the creation of local manufacturing jobs
- ▶ The PUCO accepted the Company's commitment saying in its 2016 order that it supports the construction of new renewables in Ohio; the PUCO expressed a preference for solar development to enhance the diversity of available generation options.
- ▶ In late 2016, AEP Ohio commenced a competitive RFP process to get bids for renewable projects; since that time, solar RFP was reissued to help clarify how non-price factors (Appalachian jobs, etc) would be evaluated in the selection process and to evaluate the potential trade tariff impacts
- ▶ AEP Ohio plans to file its prerequisite "need" case in September 2018 to support a PUCO finding that economic renewable projects should be developed from a resource planning perspective; shortly thereafter, the Company will file for approval of renewable energy purchase agreements associated with specific projects.
- ▶ AEP Ohio looks forward to coordinating with economic development, environmental and renewable industry stakeholders to support the regulatory filings

Regional strategies

► Capital and philanthropic resource development

- Appalachian Growth Capital is a new CDFI seeking to bring additional capital investment into the region.
- The Foundation For Appalachian Ohio is building assets in the region, which has historically lagged the rest of the state in terms of philanthropic capacity.

► Entrepreneurship and economic diversification

- In many rural communities, nothing can replace the loss of a major employer.
- To counter these losses, often traditional economic development efforts are ineffective.
- Culture change to promote entrepreneurship and build from the ground up are key strategies.

What's needed?



- ▶ Scale
- ▶ Convening
- ▶ Coordination
- ▶ Sustained effort
- ▶ Strategy

Thank you

