Citizens League's Electrical Energy Phase I Project Report is Off Track

Timing is not urgent, and it's too late to avoid waste:

While it's important to address electricity issues, it's too late because 2005 legislative changes and subsequent massive infrstructure investments such as CapX transmission have locked us into outdated central station mode for the 50+ year life of that infrastructure. If we want different energy policy, we need to stop the transmission buildout at public expense and use conservation, the cheapest option.

Demand is DOWN: The Report uses old data such as CapX 2020, predicated on a 2.49% annual increase, when Xcel Energy admits in recent "Change in Circumstances" filings that the forecast is 0.7% demand increase and 0.5% energy increase. Participants in this project know about decreased demand.

We have electric glut: Across the country there is significant oversupply of electricity, with high reserve margins beyond what's needed.

Retail rates are non-issue: The report claims retail rates have not kept up with inflation (if minimum wage had, it'd be \$23/hr). Electric retail rates are regulated, with built in profit. Report seems to be foreshadowing of increase in retail rates for lower sales. What's the issue?

Wholesale rates should be addressed: Wholesale rates are lower than ever but the report does not mention that – do retail rates reflect and return that decrease to us?

What is policy objective? Xcel Energy, Great River Energy, District Energy and U of M Energy Management are the sponsors. Do above errors and deficiencies reflect their interests? Non-Profit groups are aware of the above issues.

For more info: www'legalecctric.org, search for "Citizens League"

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