Energy democracy calls for community-owned energy sources that are for the people and by the people, decentralizing and transforming the energy system to benefit consumers, rather than pollute and deplete their pockets. You can watch this short 2-minute video to learn more: https://bit.ly/3L9rTBo

Problem: CENTRALIZED, DIRTY, FOR-PROFIT ENERGY

The current state of the energy grid is harmful to the environment and disproportionately impacts Black, Brown, Indigenous, and low-income communities causing adverse health effects and so much more. In Philadelphia, PECO is an investor-owned electric utility company that is solely responsible for the distribution of electricity and primarily transports dirty energy.

How much profit? $500,000,000/YEAR

Did you know that PECO makes over $1 million a day profit for the shareholders of their parent company Exelon? This comes from the customer, which then exports $500 million+ out of state.

TO TRANSFORM THE SYSTEM, WE MUST TELL THE STORY OF HOW ENERGY DEMOCRACY CAN TRANSFORM LIVES AND ADDRESS THE SOCIETAL ILLS OF SYSTEMIC RACISM, CAPITALISM, HETEROPATRIARCHY, IMPERIALISM/COLONIALISM, AND WHITE SUPREMACY.

WHAT YOU CAN DO?
Organize your community!
- Learn more about and assess your community and its relationship to energy.
- Find applicable lessons from other energy fights
- 1:1 with people in your network
- Call/write legislators and get your community members to also!
- Lobby visits
- Letter-to-the-editor and opinion
- Public talks – Educate Public
- Encourage citizens to vote for good government!
- Encourage citizens to RUN for office
- Website: powerinterfaith.org
- Follow us on social media: @powerinterfaith

CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT A DIFFERENCE ENERGY DEMOCRACY WOULD MAKE FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITIES?

LET’S TAKE BACK OUR POWER. IT IS A HUMAN RIGHT AND BASIC NEED FOR ALL.

LEARN MORE
A friendly reminder: We’ve done our research, but you should, too! Check our sources against your own, and always exercise sound judgment.

• Energy Democracy Project: https://energydemocracy.us/
• Emerald Cities Collaborative: https://emeraldcities.org/
• Little Sis Powerlines 101: https://powerlines101.org/
• A People’s Orientation to a Regenerative Economy: https://climatejusticealliance.org/regenerativeeconomy/
• Climate Justice Alliance: https://climatejusticealliance.org/
• Book: Energy Democracy Project: Advancing Equity in Clean Energy Solutions: Buy Book
WHAT DOES THE PUC MEAN TO YOUR LIFE??

Have you felt your utility bills increase? Or maybe you have experienced an electric/gas shut off? Do you, your family, or anyone you know have health issues such as asthma and live near facilities that generate pollution? Everyone has an energy story to tell! Guess what? The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is a state agency that regulates such concerns of 7000+ utilities across the state of Pennsylvania and most people have never heard of them.

A utility is a public service that provides essential needs such as water and electricity that would be hard for each individual to get themselves. Some utilities are privately owned (PECO) and some are owned by local government (PGW).

THE PUC AFFECTS OUR DAILY LIVES IN THOUSANDS OF WAYS!

- How much energy costs
- Whether a pipeline goes through a community
- Rules for changing to renewable energy
- Deciding if a utility can shut off service
- Address/prevent pipeline leaks
- What is in the water we drink (lead)
- If some public utilities can be privatized

What the PUC says is their mission

"The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission balances the needs of consumers and utilities; ensures safe and reliable utility service at reasonable rates; protects the public interest; educates consumers to make independent and informed utility choices; furthers economic development; and fosters new technologies and competitive markets in an environmentally sound manner."

www.puc.pa.gov

Is the PUC serving the public interest?

What does the PUC mean by balancing the needs of consumers and utilities?

Has the PUC kept our energy affordable?

Did the PUC protect people from utility shutoffs during the pandemic?

Is the PUC keeping energy clean and safe for you and your community?

Has the PUC addressed the national security threat of climate change?

Has the PUC protected you from tens of thousands of pipeline leaks?

If you answered "NO" to any of these questions, it is time to make your voice heard!

IT’S TIME TO HOLD THE PUC ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PUBLIC

THE PUC MUST PLAN FOR THE CLIMATE CRISIS & PUT PEOPLE & PLANET BEFORE PROFIT!

JOIN US IN MAKING YOUR VOICE HEARD!

Sign up today to join POWER in fighting for an energy system that works for all:


POWER Interfaith is a movement organizing for racial and economic justice on a liveable planet.

Learn more on our website: https://bit.ly/3tRmSXP