

Message

From: Barry Hart [bhart@amec.org]
Sent: 4/19/2017 2:46:40 PM
To: Bennett, Tate [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1fa92542f7ca4d01973b18b2f11b9141-Bennett, El]; Graham, Amy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=26722dfde5b34925b0ad9a8dd4aff308-Graham, Amy]; Joe Wilkinson [jwilkinson@aeci.org]
Subject: Fwd: E&E on Pruitt Visit

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim McCarty <jmccarty@amec.org>
Date: April 19, 2017 at 8:16:40 AM CDT
To: "Bell, Stephen A." <Stephen.Bell@nreca.coop>
Cc: Joe Wilkinson <jwilkinson@aeci.org>, "Mark Viguet (GR)" <mviguet@aeci.org>, Barry Hart <bhart@amec.org>
Subject: Re: E&E on Pruitt Visit

Typical Sierra Club statement, looking right past our wind investment to highlight a latecomer with less renewables than we have!

Jim McCarty
Editor, Rural Missouri
Ex. 6
jmccarty@ruralmissouri.coop
<http://www.ruralmissouri.coop>

On Apr 19, 2017, at 8:12 AM, Bell, Stephen A. <Stephen.Bell@nreca.coop> wrote:

Making sure you all saw the below E&E article on Pruitt's visit to MO. Came out very nicely. Could play well on social.

Pruitt to bring 'Back-to-Basics' message to Midwest coal plant

Jeffrey Tomich, E&E News reporter

A week after visiting a Pennsylvania coal mine and a day after his visit to East Chicago, Ind., U.S. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt is taking his "Back-to-Basics" tour to a coal-fired power plant in the heart of Missouri.

Pruitt, who will be joined by Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), is scheduled to speak at the Associated Electric Cooperative Inc. Thomas Hill Energy Center tomorrow morning.

The former Oklahoma attorney general is expected to deliver much of the same message that he has delivered twice in the past week, highlighting an executive order

signed by President Trump last month that eases regulations on fossil fuels (Energywire, March 29).

Pruitt's message is likely one that will resonate in the rural central Missouri county where the 1,153-megawatt plant is located. Randolph County residents voted for President Trump over Democrat Hillary Clinton by a margin greater than 3-to-1.

Tomorrow's visit is being organized by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national organization representing more than 900 rural power cooperatives across 47 states, and AECl, the generation and transmission cooperative that serves about 875,000 homes in Missouri, Iowa and Oklahoma.

Springfield, Mo.-based AECl said it is pleased to host Pruitt and hear about his "vision and priorities for energy and the environment."

"As a leading power generation and transmission company, it is important for us to understand Administrator Pruitt's perspective and to share our experience with him," AECl spokesman Mark Viguet said in an emailed statement. "Working together, we can make sure responsible and affordable energy remains the cornerstone of our rural electric cooperative system."

The Thomas Hill plant, one of two coal-burning plants in AECl's generating portfolio, employs about 230 people. The plant, which sits beside a man-made reservoir that provides a source of water, has three units, the first of which began operation in 1966.

Like Missouri itself, AECl has leaned heavily on fossil fuels, specifically coal, to generate electricity.

But in recent years, the cooperative has diversified its portfolio by contracting for hundreds of megawatts of wind energy from projects in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. The cooperative was the first electric generator in the state to buy power from Missouri wind farms and is the largest buyer of Missouri wind power.

Andy Knott, senior campaign representative for the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal campaign in Missouri, said it's ironic that the EPA head is choosing to highlight an aging coal plant when utilities across the state are creating jobs and cutting emissions by boosting investment in wind and solar projects.

As an example, he cited the city of Springfield's contract to purchase 200 MW of wind energy from an Oklahoma wind farm — a deal that will provide the state's third-largest city with energy at a 15 percent discount to the municipal utility's most modern coal-burning plant.

"In general, we're appalled at Pruitt's agenda," Knott said. "He thinks the only way to create jobs is to reduce regulations on coal when the economics are clearly changing for clean energy."

From: Bell, Stephen A. [Stephen.Bell@nreca.coop]
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 10:49 AM
To: Jeff Tomich; Mark Viguet (GR); Joe Wilkinson
Subject: RE: Pruitt in MO

Associated and the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives are organizing the visit. Looping in Associated's comms team here who can likely get you a statement.

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Tomich [mailto:jtomich@eenews.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 11:47 AM
To: Bell, Stephen A.
Subject: RE: Pruitt in MO

Hey Stephen, we're doing a short piece fro tomorrow just noting that Pruitt will be visiting Missouri and the Thomas Hill plant. Anyone from NRECA available to discuss briefly or any kind of statement you could send along.

Are NRECA and AECl organizing the visit?

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeffrey Tomich
E&E News Midwest reporter
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From: Bell, Stephen A. [Stephen.Bell@nreca.coop]
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 10:46 AM
To: Jeff Tomich
Subject: RE: Pruitt in MO

Hi Jeff - glad you plan to cover. Details are still taking shape and I'll pass them along as I have them. For your planning purposes though, it'll be Thursday morning at the Thomas Hill Energy Center near Clifton Hill.

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Tomich [mailto:jtomich@eenews.net]
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 9:40 AM
To: Bell, Stephen A.
Subject: Pruitt in MO

Good morning Stephen, it's Jeff Tomich with E&E. Emily Holden forwarded your note about Scott Pruitt's visit to Missouri this week. I'm based in St. Louis and plan to cover. Are there details or a press advisory available?

Thanks,
Jeff

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