

WEST VIRGINIANS FOR ENERGY FREEDOM

West Virginians for Energy Freedom is fighting for an electricity system that works for our state instead of out-of-state monopolies. Corporations block competition and squeeze as much money as possible out of customers by owning expensive power plants. These companies do not share our vision for an efficient, reliable, affordable electrical system run in the interests of West Virginians.

<p>FirstEnergy Corp. <i>For the last several years, the Ohio-based corporation has pursued strategies to prop up its profitability at ratepayer expense by:</i></p>	<p>West Virginians For Energy Freedom <i>Our vision is for an electrical system where:</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forcing W.Va. customers to bail out its obsolete, uncompetitive power plants, including FirstEnergy’s current scheme to transfer the financial risks of the Pleasants power plant onto Mon Power and Potomac Edison customers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ West Virginians have already lost more than \$160 million because of Mon Power and Potomac Edison’s purchase of the Harrison power plant from another FirstEnergy company in 2013. • Chasing federal incentives to build high-voltage transmission lines (including the TrAIL and PATH lines), while letting W.Va.’s local distribution system fall into disrepair. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ After the PATH project was ultimately abandoned, FirstEnergy fought for years to recover \$120 million from electricity customers across the Mid-Atlantic region for a project that was never built. • Blocking competition from other energy sources, including solar and energy efficiency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ FirstEnergy lobbies against solar and energy efficiency in W.Va. and Ohio. ◦ FirstEnergy’s energy efficiency programs in W.Va. are among the weakest in the country. ◦ FirstEnergy wants to roll back W.Va.’s net metering policies that fairly compensate homeowners who generate their own solar power. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Virginians have the freedom to invest in and benefit from locally owned renewable energy. • West Virginians have access to the most cost-effective energy sources, instead of being forced to boost shareholder profits by bailing out obsolete power plants. Our ratepayer dollars should go towards improving reliability and modernizing our distribution system, not corporate bailouts. • West Virginians are actively encouraged to develop a more reliable electrical system where electricity generation is closer to demand. This means investing in micro-grids, community renewable energy and energy efficiency. • Priorities for West Virginia’s electrical system are decided in West Virginia, for West Virginians – not in Ohio corporate boardrooms. <div data-bbox="873 1381 1351 1789" data-label="Image"> <p>A map of West Virginia with two regions highlighted. The western and central parts of the state are shaded in dark green, representing Mon Power territory. The eastern part of the state is shaded in light green, representing Potomac Edison territory. A legend in the bottom right corner identifies the colors: a dark green square for 'Mon Power' and a light green square for 'Potomac Edison'.</p> </div>