Presentation to CLEAN Network
March 2016
The RE-AMP Story

Strategic Value of the Midwest

A Network Approach

Systems Thinking

Strategic Alignment

Our Model and Structures

Impact

Evolution
Clean energy for a vibrant Midwest

Why the Midwest?
- Outsized pollution
- Opportunity for renewables coming online
- Set example for rest of country
- Both rural and industrial opportunities
- Began with amazing policy opportunities in multiple realms
- Lots of coal, and more being planned
Why a Network Approach?

Usual Conditions are Fragmented, Non-aligned and Competitive

- Little dialogue among advocates
- No shared analysis
- Mostly informal program discussions b/w foundations
- No co-creation of strategy b/w funders and advocates

RE-AMP Region
Hypothesis

Alignment is achievable and necessary

- BAU could not make progress needed
- Efficiency of resources
- None of us is smarter than all of us
- Create conditions for strategic dialogue and collaborative action
- Match complexity with systems thinking, shift the system strategically
RE-AMP SYSTEMS MAP
Forces That Animate the Mid-West Energy System
Our Insight!

To meet goals:
- amplifies
- dampens

Midwest Leadership in Climate Stability by Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 80% by 2030

LEADING WITH ENERGY EFFICIENCY
INCORPORATING DEMAND FOR CLEAN ENERGY
REDUCING DEMAND FOR NEW DIRTY ENERGY
RETIRING EXISTING DIRTY ENERGY

Four leverage points need simultaneous intervention.
Thinking systemically, acting collaboratively

- Ongoing systems analysis
- Collaboration through strategic levers
Thinking systemically, acting collaboratively

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80%:
- from the electrical generation sector by 2030
- economy-wide by 2050
RE-AMP Network Members: 2016

2017 – More than 170 member organizations
RE-AMP’s model for success

Clean energy for a vibrant Midwest

80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions

in the regional electrical sector by 2030 + economy wide by 2050

Supporting Entities
Action Fund
Organizing Hub
Learning & Progress

Systems Analysis
Groundbreaking Collaboration
Network-Wide Learning

State-Level Collaboration
Engaged Membership
Regional Collaboration
Democratic Leadership

Regional Collaboration
Energy Efficiency Working Group
Clean Energy Working Group
Global Warming Solutions Working Group
Coal Working Group
Transportation Working Group

Local Solutions Working Group
Foundation Working Group
Faith Caucus
Environmental Justice Caucus
Youth Caucus
Rural Caucus

State-Level Collaboration
IL, IA, MI, MN, ND,
OH, SD, WI
How we collaborate
Midwest hub for climate action

- Regional alignment
- State-based capacity building
- Effective campaigns
- Commitment to learning
- Climate and energy funding
- Regional energy headlines
Working Groups

- Electric Sector (3 groups)
- Local Solutions
- Direct Regulation
- Transportation

80% Reduction by 2050
Caucuses

Youth
Environmental Justice
Faith
Rural

Caucuses

A Climate Movement
Strategic alignment across the region

RE-AMP members collaborate and align their strategies across the region through their participation in working groups and caucuses.
State-based capacity building

RE-AMP supports advocates in collaborating and building shared capacity on a state-by-state basis.
Annual Meeting

Everyone comes together once a year to help set the direction for our Network.
Climate and energy funding

A pooled fund ($2.1 million)
Collective decision-making
Informed by intelligence on the ground
Effective climate campaigns

- Campaign Excellence Conference
- Peer Learning Circles
- Deep and ongoing support of three climate change campaigns in Ohio, Michigan & Iowa
- Written guides for campaign planning
- Express Campaign Assistance
- Webinar series
Commitment to learning

RE-AMP seeks to foster learning and transparency across all of its activities.

Members participate in a culture of learning by connecting and sharing best practices across the region.
Regional energy headlines

REGULATORS WARN UPDATED GRID NEEDS UPDATED RELIABILITY RULES

By EnergyWire

As tomorrow’s grid is reshaped with more wind farms, solar arrays and gas-fired plants, experts warn that new regulation will be needed to ensure that these resources provide the frequency support and other essential services.

TODAY’S HEADLINES
March 01, 2016

DAILY DIGEST
98-year-old pipeline being considered to move oil from Michigan to Canada

U.S. ENERGY NEWS
New Jersey bill would set 80 percent renewable standard

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What does it all add up to?
Game-changing victories

- Stopped the massive coal rush!

- Using renewable and efficiency policies to drive market shifts.

- Stopping highway boondoggles and pushing to make cities walkable, enjoyable, and sustainable.

- Over 150 coal plants in the RE-AMP footprint have been slated for retirement—with a focused priority on working with communities.
Always evolving

• Establish “state” tables for in-state clean energy progress, informed by regional opportunities
• Movement-building
• Campaign Excellence Conference
• Network Mindset Practicum
• Systems Thinking Academy
• Sharing best practices
• Environmental Justice Caucus & special EJ re-grants fund
• Steering Committee equity & diversity workshop (embedding practices in the Network and expanding to include new partners)
Challenges/opportunities are always present

- Natural gas
- Limitations of original systems mapping (didn’t contemplate potential of battery storage for example)
- Changing demographics
- Political landscape is a moving target
- Resource constraints, still reliant on climate and energy funding
- In a network, each member has own organizational commitments
- Rapid growth has presented cultural challenges to our roots in systems thinking
Lessons learned

- Understand the system you are trying to change
- Involve both funders and non-profits as equals from the outset
- Design for a network, not an organization and invest in collective infrastructure
- Cultivate leadership
- Create multiple opportunities to connect and communicate
- Remain adaptive and emergent – and committed to a long-term vision
Questions? Feedback?

For more information: Gail Francis, gail@reamp.org. 715-558-4544.