

Dear Shane Bradford and Matt Rice,

CenterPoint Energy Indiana is at a crossroads right now. CenterPoint can choose a future reliant on old, polluting, uneconomic coal or they can choose the path of affordability, and clean, renewable energy. This company has the opportunity to do what is right for its customers, our health, and the environment by retiring coal, and investing in affordable, renewable energy projects and contracts. FB Culley is an aging, polluting, coal plant¹ that is costing us not only in our bank accounts, but in our health outcomes every time we breathe air polluted by coal. CenterPoint says they are community partners, yet CenterPoint is attempting to backtrack on coal retirements and abandoning clean energy contracts, all while receiving rate increases that severely burden our communities and neighbors. Over 350 people have contributed to the Sierra Club Indiana Beyond Coal petition asking CenterPoint to move beyond coal and to invest in more affordable, renewable energy. Retiring coal and increasing renewables is popular and what many in the community want.

CenterPoint's customers, and our environment and climate are at a breaking point. If CenterPoint continues to prop up coal at FB Culley, it would be at the expense of customers and southwest Hoosiers. To show a positive commitment to our community, CenterPoint needs to retire coal at FB Culley, as originally planned in your previous Integrated Resource Plan, and invest in clean, renewable energy. Wind and solar are now cheaper than aging coal plants and gas. The average levelized cost of energy for coal is \$118/MWh while utility-scale solar is \$61/MWh². Wind and solar do not require fuel to run, unlike coal plants, and renewable energy outputs result in energy generated without pollution. It's an obvious win-win. Considering CenterPoint is a billion dollar company³, we believe that you have the responsibility to move beyond coal, invest in wind, solar, and battery storage, while not continuing to burden customers with extreme costs for return rates. The solution is simple, move beyond coal, and strive towards renewable energy. Don't backtrack on your 2027 coal retirement. Not only is our future at risk, but so is our present, and coal is not the answer.

Signed,

Sierra Club Indiana Beyond Coal Campaign Supporters, Members, and CenterPoint Customers

¹ Sierra Club Comments on CenterPoint Energy Indiana South's 2022/2023 Integrated Resource Plan, <https://www.in.gov/iurc/files/Sierra-Club-Comments-on-CenterPoint-Indiana-2023-IRP.pdf>

² The Climate Reality Project, <https://www.climateRealityProject.org/blog/how-do-renewables-lower-cost-electricity>

³ CenterPoint Energy Gross Profit 2010-2025, <https://macrotrends.net/stocks/charts/CNP/centerpoint-energy/gross-profit>