From: <u>Deborah Guebert</u>

To: Carolyn Riggle; Kent Shafer; Catlin Frazier; Stephen Tackett; Cory Hoffman; Drew Farrell; Adam Haynes

Cc: R Thomas Homan; Elaine McCloskey; Adam Moore

Subject: Special Pleading by Special Interest Groups or "The Price of Eliminating Consequences" (article follows letter)

Date: Friday, March 10, 2023 5:40:26 PM



Dear Elected Stewards for the Citizens of Delaware, aka Delaware City Council Members,

The human response to lack of consequences is as old as humanity itself. We see it anew in the outcome of each child raised without appropriate discipline. We see it in every community where law enforcement is hobbled or withdrawn. We see it in the bleak landscapes of government housing projects and Section 8 housing, not to mention the streets of San Francisco, in the thrall of street dwellers given carte blanche to live without consideration for other residents. We see it wherever any class or group of people is given special, protected status, not subject to the normal consequences of behavioral choices.

Yet, the utopian dreams of those who ignore natural consequences, continue to be pushed forward. Whether these pushers are the deceived, or the deceivers, makes little difference. The trust of society, in the wisdom and fairness of its leaders, is broken.

Kneeling (literally or figuratively) to those who push for special privilege or recognition, paves the path to abuse, resentment, disorder, and eventually, to anarchy. When people no longer believe the authorities to be impartial, they will feel compelled to defend their own interests. The "law of the jungle" will prevail, where the strong dominate, and the weak are terrorized and trodden into the ground.

What might be the intended "solution" to such disorder and chaos? Both global and national groups (cabals?), such as the WEF, the WHO, the World Bank, the UN, the CDC, the DOJ, the DHS, and even the IRS, have not been shy to let us know. These powerful entities itch for globally coordinated, strictly surveilled and controlled, authoritarian government - because they know best how others ought to live. After all, the ignorant masses need to be governed by those with superior understanding, no? Without the humility of respect for fellow citizens,

and awareness of its own limitations, any exercise of power can turn toxic.

Utopians have run the gamut from atheist Marxists to the determinedly religious Inquisition. Locally, whether it be over impartiality in law enforcement, the politization of our energy grid, or the ceding of our flags and banners to special interests, there will always be a need to resist pressure from "reformist" special interest groups. When fallible men (generic) gain the power to reform their fellow human beings according to their own lights, the results are, without fail, dire. I hope, that as representatives of the people of Delaware, you will resist the misguided zeal of those who use a utopian vision to gain power over their fellow citizens. Please do not be taken in by their dreams of the perfectibility of human nature, nor of the "net zero" purification potential of our earth, however much CO2 is, or is not, present in our atmosphere.

Sincerely, Deborah (Kruse Guebert)

https://thevirginiastar.com/2023/03/10/commentary-the-price-of-eliminating-consequences/?utm_source=Iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=edm

Commentary: The Price of Eliminating Consequences

March 10, 2023 Virginia Star Staff

by Victor Davis Hanson

Recently there were some remarkable online videos of a Portland, Oregon good Samaritan confronting shoplifters and forcing them to dump loads of their pilfered goods.

More stunning, however, was the sheer outrage—of the thieves!

They pouted. They screamed. They resisted. How dare anyone stop them from stealing anything they wished.

The criminals entertained no fear of any consequences for walking out with bags of things that were not theirs. They had no care that mainstreaming their habits would undermine the entire fabric of society.

What is common to the pandemic of smash-and-grab, carjacking, fighting on airliners while in flight, and deadly Saturday night shootouts is this same apparent assurance there will be no consequences.

That expectation of exemption is why the Antifa thugs in Atlanta were so bold in their latest violent attacks on the police.

And why not, after the 120 days of rioting, looting, arson, and assault in summer 2020 which resulted in few Antifa indictments, fewer convictions, and almost no imprisonments.

The "broken windows" theory of policing in the 1990s and 2000s showed how the failure to punish even minor infractions soon leads to escalation to more violent crimes.

The homeless take for granted that ancient rules forbidding urination, defecation, fornication, and injection on the sidewalks do not apply to them. Is it any wonder that they increasingly are not victims of circumstance but victimizers of innocent passersbys?

Yet deterrence is not just eroded from the bottom up, but also from the top down—and by an elite who assume it will never be subject to the chaos it wrought.

Former FBI Director Andrew McCabe admittedly lied on four occasions to federal investigators, apparently with the prescient expectation he would never be prosecuted.

The same hubris was true of former CIA Director John Brennan who admittedly lied under oath to Congress—twice—with absolute impunity.

The former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper not only lied under oath to Congress, but crowed that he gave the "least untruthful" answer. He too faced zero consequences.

Could the FBI and the CIA recover their tarnished reputations if their directors knew in advance they would go to jail for lying under federal oath?

Sometimes the problem is not just the absence of sure punishment for criminal behavior, but the asymmetry of penalties.

Why are some violent criminals released from custody the very day they punch, club, or shoot innocents, while others committing lesser offenses are not?

Nations are no different from people. Without expectation of a severe reaction to their provocations, they only escalate their aggression.

Why are athletes who choose not to be vaccinated barred from competing in the United States, while 6-7 million illegal entrants were waved in without passports, vaccinations, or COVID tests?

And once those millions south of the border saw a few thousand illegally cross with impunity shortly after Joe Biden was inaugurated, then they followed en masse.

Why does the Mexican government shrug when the United States asks it not to greenlight illegal immigration?

Why does Mexico City tolerate factories inside Mexico producing lethal fentanyl pills for export northward that kill over 100,000 Americans a year?

What sort of deterrence would stop millions from illegally entering the United States or Mexican-manufactured fentanyl from killing more Americans in the last decade than all the dead in all our wars since World War II?

Should the United States tax the \$60 billion in remittances sent back

yearly to Mexico, mostly by those who are here illegally and so often subsidized by our own state and federal entitlements?

Should America declare cartels international terrorists, extradite them, and bar all their accomplices and abettors from the global banking system?

China knowingly sends Mexico the raw ingredients of fentanyl, believing it is a win-win strategy of enormous profits and lots of deaths of America's youth.

What would deter China from its nonchalant aggression? Still more concessions? More ignoring the Wuhan origins of the COVID pandemic?

Or would the expulsion of 350,000 Chinese students from American universities stop their fentanyl exporting? Or prohibiting Chinese companies with ties to the Communist government from buying American farmland?

Apparently, the more technologically sophisticated and affluent, Americans became, the more their elites believed they could change ancient human nature that is fixed and predictable across time and space.

They redefined criminality as either a lifestyle choice or reimaged the criminal as one with legitimate grievances against the society he subverts.

The more the current presidential administration ignores those harming us abroad, the more they interpret it as American weakness, if not decadence to be further exploited.

The result is the predictably dangerous present.

When our state and federal governments allow criminals and foreign nations to injure with impunity their own law-abiding citizens, is it any wonder the civilized world we once knew has vanished—replaced by the Hobbesian rule of the wild?

Victor Davis Hanson is a distinguished fellow of the Center for American Greatness and the Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He is an American military historian, columnist, a former classics professor, and scholar of ancient warfare. He has been a visiting professor at Hillsdale College since 2004. Hanson was awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2007 by President George W. Bush. Hanson is also a farmer (growing raisin grapes on a family farm in Selma, California) and a critic of social trends related to farming and agrarianism. He is the author most recently of The Second World Wars: How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won, The Case for Trump and the newly released The Dying Citizen. Photo "Minneapolis Riots" by Lorie Shaull. CC BY 2.0.

From: <u>Deborah Guebert</u>

To: Carolyn Riggle; Kent Shafer; Catlin Frazier; Stephen Tackett; Adam Haynes; Cory Hoffman; Drew Farrell

Cc: R Thomas Homan; Elaine McCloskey

Subject: Freedom for Religious Expression Takes Giant Leap Forward - Liberty Counsel

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:21:39 PM

Dear Representatives of the People of Delaware,

Discrimination against religious viewpoints has been shown up for what it is. No doubt you have taken due notice of this.

Sincerely, Deborah K. Guebert

https://lc.org/newsroom/details/031323-freedom-for-religious-expression-takes-giant-leap-forward-1

Freedom for Religious Expression Takes Giant Leap Forward

After major victories at the U.S. Supreme Court last year that led to the overturning of the so-called "Lemon Test," the freedom for public expressions of faith has now been restored in America.

The "Lemon Test" was binding authority for 51 years with 7,073 references in court opinions, administrative law decisions or other legal writings as cited on Thomas Reuters Westlaw since 1971. The legal test came out of the ruling in *Lemon v. Kurtzman* that has been used to determine if a law violates the First Amendment Establishment Clause. The High Court ruled in that case that a Rhode Island law that supplemented salaries of some parochial schoolteachers was unconstitutional. Since then, the "Lemon Test" has been used to censor religious speech, songs, Christmas cards, symbols, displays and even America's National Motto — "In God We Trust."



On May 2, 2022, Liberty Counsel's 9-0 victory at the U.S. Supreme Court in *Shurtleff v. City of Boston* involved censorship of Christian viewpoints regarding flag raisings. The High Court unanimously ruled that the city of Boston violated the Constitution by censoring a private flag in a public forum open to "all applicants" merely because the application referred to it as a "Christian flag." The High Court unanimously rejected Boston's use of the Lemon test to censor Christian viewpoints.

In *Kennedy v. Bremerton School District*, Liberty Counsel filed argued in its amicus brief that since the Establishment Clause provides no justification for suppressing Coach Joe Kennedy's private, religious speech to silently pray on the football field after games, the "Lemon Test" should be overruled.

On June 27, 2022, the High Court ruled that the Bremerton School District violated both the First Amendment Free Speech and Free Exercise Clauses when it fired Coach Joe Kennedy for having prayer on the 50-yard line of the football field after the game. In addition, the High Court also finally buried the "Lemon Test, citing Liberty

Counsel's 9-0 decision in *Shurtleff v. City of Boston* involving the Christian flag. The Justices wrote: "In fact, just this Term the Court unanimously rejected a city's attempt to censor religious speech based on *Lemon* and the endorsement test (See *Shurtleff*, 596 U. S.).

Now because of the High Court overturning *Lemon* with these two case decisions, there are many areas where religious viewpoints have now been restored in America. Moreover, with the "Lemon Test" now overruled, the High Court noted that the Establishment Clause should be interpreted according to its historical intent and meaning.

Some examples are:

- Government shall not discriminate against religious viewpoints whether expressed in speech, symbols, displays, or performances.
- Public schools must permit after school religious student clubs the same access they allow similar secular clubs.
- Churches can rent public schools for worship services.
- Since the "Lemon Test" is dead and the Establishment Clause must be interpreted according to its historical intent, all the cases that relied on the Lemon test are no longer good law, including cases that struck down prayer, Ten Commandments, Nativity displays or other religious symbols, religious performances, religious speech and expression, rental of public school facilities for church services when other secular use is permitted, student aid programs, and much more.

Liberty Counsel's Founder and Chairman Mat Staver said, "This 9-0 decision from the Supreme Court involving the Christian flag continues to have an impact across the nation. The clear message from the Supreme Court is that government must not discriminate based on viewpoint. The government cannot favor one viewpoint and censor another and cannot censor religious viewpoints under the

guise of government speech. Any governments that are ignoring this ruling are setting themselves up for potential lawsuits."

For more information on the case, visit www.LC.org/flag.

From: Nina Cantrell

To: Elaine McCloskey

Subject: For Parks and Rec and Council comment

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 8:43:42 AM

Dear members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Thank you for your commitment to our City's health and recreation.

I have heard that the City is considering charging for the use of the Mingo gym? Is that true?

I hope you will reconsider. All youth need places to go to work out their energy: what better place than a basketball court and inside gym! I have two teenage sons that love going to the rec but with that being said...most days they are turned away due to pickle ball, volleyball, ymca/rec youth basketball league etc. I also feel that the ymca should have no special privileges to the rec center. Isn't that why the ymca has their own basketball courts.

How much is this costing the city? And how can we find the money to keep this free for all?

Using our basic recreation services should not be a privilege that someone has to afford. Keep the facility free to use.

Thank you, Nina From: Brook Thomas
To: Elaine McCloskey

Subject: for Parks and Rec and Council comment **Date:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 9:31:00 AM

Dear members of the Parks and Rec Advisory Board,

I would like to state my opposition to charging a fee for the use of the Mingo gym. Please reconsider. Recreation services should be available for everyone, without being a privilege for the more fortunate. This is especially relevant in light of the fact that developers are given special perks and taxpayer money, without giving back to the community (e.g. Addison TIF and Ohio Steel Case).

Thank you for your consideration, Thomas Brook

The Desire of the Control of the Con

- Sign Power Advancements and TVO Advances ADV COUNT COMMON CONTINUES AND ADVAILED AND ADVAILED

From: Stacy B. Chaney
To: Elaine McCloskey

Subject: Re: Public comment Parks & Rec Board Date: Friday, March 24, 2023 1:43:00 PM

Ok, in that case, please enter this full exchange as public comment. Thank you

On Fri, Mar 24, 2023 at 1:37 PM Elaine McCloskey < <u>EMcCloskey@delawareohio.net</u>> wrote:

Stacy,

I wanted to update you that after speaking with our City Attorney, the email will need to be part of the record from the message received from you on March 22, 2023 and prior.

Thank you,

Elaine McCloskey

City Council Clerk

City of Delaware

1 S. Sandusky St.

Delaware, Ohio 43015

740-203-1013 office

740-203-1024 fax

www.delawareohio.net

From: Stacy B. Chaney <<u>sbchaney@gmail.com</u>> Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 3:34 PM

To: Elaine McCloskey < <u>EMcCloskey@delawareohio.net</u>>

Subject: Re: Public comment Parks & Rec Board

Thank you for the additional information. I will look into it.

I wish to cancel my original written comment.

Best,

Stacy

On Wed, Mar 22, 2023 at 1:59 PM Elaine McCloskey < <u>EMcCloskey@delawareohio.net</u>> wrote:

Yes, it was discussed during the January 17, 2023 meeting and brought up during staff comments. The goal was not for a revenue source as it was proposed at \$1 a year for residents, but to require guest to sign up to have a pass that is scanned so we are aware who is in the building and increase safety. This was just a proposal and was not in effect.

Thank you,

Elaine McCloskey City Council Clerk City of Delaware 1 S. Sandusky St. Delaware, Ohio 43015 740-203-1013 office 740-203-1024 fax www.delawareohio.net

----Original Message----

From: Stacy Chaney-Blankenship <<u>sbchaney@gmail.com</u>>

Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 8:55 PM

To: Elaine McCloskey < <u>EMcCloskey@delawareohio.net</u>>

Subject: Re: Public comment Parks & Rec Board

Thanks, Elaine.

Was this discussed at Parks and Rec Board already? I don't remember seeing an agenda item for it.

I'm curious about the facts and reasons.

Best.

-Stacy

> On Mar 21, 2023, at 4:51 PM, Elaine McCloskey < <u>EMcCloskey@delawareohio.net</u>> wrote:

>

> Thank you Stacy for the email. I have forwarded this on to the Parks Board, as well as Council for their awareness.

>

> This item will be a topic for discussion at the March 27, City Council meeting so that staff can provide more details and background information on the program and look for guidance on moving forward.

```
> Thank you,
> Elaine McCloskey
> City Council Clerk
> City of Delaware
> 1 S. Sandusky St.
> Delaware, Ohio 43015
> 740-203-1013 office
> 740-203-1024 fax
> https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.delawareohio.net%2F&data=05%7C01%7CEMcCloskey%4
<u>0delawareohio.net%7C1120917e12a042eeb85408db2a700a1f%7Cda103913fbeb464899c</u>
559030d13bf65%7C0%7C0%7C638150432934927258%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3
d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3
D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6QWDXOOIGHt75qBDTVxAjGXggzZauz220ce4qg
U0pvA%3D&reserved=0
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Stacy Chaney-Blankenship <<u>sbchaney@gmail.com</u>>
> Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 8:00 AM
> To: Elaine McCloskey < <u>EMcCloskey@delawareohio.net</u>>
> Subject: Public comment Parks & Rec Board
> Dear members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Thank you for your
commitment to our City's health and recreation.
> I have heard that the City is considering charging for the use of the Mingo gym? Is that
true?
> I hope you will reconsider. All youth need places to go to work out their energy: what
better place than a basketball court and inside gym! It's my understanding that some
residents use this to walk inside during cold or bad weather days. What a great community
resource!
> How much is this costing the city? And how can we find the money to keep this free for
all?
> Using our basic recreation services should not be a privilege that someone has to afford.
Keep the facility free to use.
> Thank you,
> Stacy Chaney-Blankenship,
> 943 Executive Blvd, Delaware, Ohio
```

From: Jennifer Young
To: Elaine McCloskey

Subject: 615 Hills Miller Rd Delaware Ohio

Date: Monday, March 27, 2023 4:13:02 PM

This is Jennifer Young (T & J Farm). I'm not available to attend the meeting tonight & I'm giving Dr Jack & Susan McGrail to speak on behalf of me. I'm sending them with a utility cover that I found in my farm pond two days ago that came from all the rushing water into the pond along with other items floating in the pond that is a danger to my flock & fish. I have several ducks that use the pond everyday & I don't want all the debris from the new Addison project coming into my pond. There needs to be some type of barrier put up so that this will not be a problem in the future. If you need a picture of the utility cover please let me know at your earliest convenience, because I will be away from home tonight, but I am sending the item with the McGrail's. I threw the rest of the debris in the trash. We didn't have these issues prior to the Addison project & I want to make it known what is happening now.

Jennifer & Howard Young 615 Hills Miller Rd Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

From: Tony Bonofiglio
To: Elaine McCloskey

Subject: Re: Response to City Council Public Comment - TIF

Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:46:20 PM

Public Comment Submission

My name is Tony Bonofiglio and I reside at 321 Kensington Dr., Delaware, OH 43015

Elaine,

I would like to thank you and the city staff for the response to my prior questions from the City Council meeting on March 13, 2023. I have included that email string so other residents of the city can see the responses as well.

I do have a few follow-up questions in relation to the March 22, 2023, staff response:

- Based on the city's response from January 26, 2023 to my public records request regarding the copies of information provided to the Delaware City School District relating to the TIF and NCA, why are the estimated TIF revenues net present values being calculated over a 30 year period when the TIF duration is supposed to be 10 years?
- What was the discount rate used to calculate the NPV?
- I know the response provided by the staff indicates that the City has not estimated the amount the schools would not receive. Essentially isn't that the estimated NPV amount of \$27,724,754 the TIF will be collecting? If that is not the amount please provide an explanation of what the estimated amount may be?

As previously mentioned in my prior communications to the city, I am opposed to the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) being proposed in Ordinance 23-02, 23-03 & 23-09 for the Addison Development, as well as the previously mentioned TIFs for Rutherford Acres, Lucy Ridge, and Parkview. Typically, developers absorb the costs of the development and then the city picks up the cost of maintaining the infrastructure in the years to come.

TIFs rarely pay off for either the schools or the citizens of the community. Since property tax dollars are being diverted from the schools to reimburse the developers for their costs, this will have an impact on the overall community. These developments will bring additional students to our schools. Currently our city schools have little to no room for additional students and they are landlocked. There is a high probability that new schools may need to be built, this will involve added costs for land, building construction, ongoing operations, and staffing. This also means more school levy requests and added school district taxes for the overall community. There seems to be a lack of concern for the overall community and solely a concern with repaying the developer for the Merrick/Heritage Road construction and the overpass development.

An argument can be made that the prior TIFs the city has engaged in have not panned out and are contributing to the financial predicament we are currently experiencing today, as we can see from the information pulled together by the "Financial Review Task Force Report and Recommendation". The city's overall finances are suspect and one of the task

force's recommendations is to increase the city's income tax rate from 1.85% to 2.25%, with no change in the current 50% tax credit paid to other cities. This would amount to an income tax increase of 21.6%.

The citizens of our community will most likely have a higher overall property tax burden and hear from the city in the very near term that we need to have a 21.6% income tax increase, in spite of reported city income tax revenue increases of 24.6% from calendar year 2021 to calendar year 2022.

In closing I am opposed to these TIF ordinances and feel that it will harm the overall community, in particular the schools, and should not be considered. Liability for residential developments should lie with the developer and not be a community partnership.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

On Wed, Mar 22, 2023 at 3:21 PM Elaine McCloskey < <u>EMcCloskey@delawareohio.net</u>> wrote:

Mr. Bonofiglio,

Below is the response from staff referencing the questions you asked during the recent City Council meeting. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out.

How much will be collected from the TIFs?

The estimated Net Present Value (NPV) for each area over the next 30 years in the models as of early February is below. It is important to note that TIF revenues are not guaranteed to occur as projected based on many factors including but not limited to construction schedule, future property valuations, and/or future laws which may change the way property is valued and/or taxed in Ohio.

Parkview: \$6,756,098
Lucy Ridge: \$7,918,732
Addison: \$13,049,924
Total: \$27,724,754

How much will be collected over the life of the NCA?

The NCA will have the authority to collect up to 7.50 mills against eligible property, however, the currently estimated NCA charge is 4.00 mills. The 4.00 mills includes an

allocation to the schools, an allocation for debt repayment, and an allocation for maintenance costs associated with some of the infrastructure improvements. The NCA is proposed to go on indefinitely for the maintenance cost. The NPV calculated (across the same 3 developments as the previous question) over the next 30 years is \$6,051,316. This includes the amount earmarked for the schools.

Is it fair to say, excluding the 1.5 mills earmarked for the schools, the remaining amount of TIF and NCA dollars will not be going to the schools?

Based on current estimates, plans are to use the TIF and NCA dollars per the TIF reimbursement and NCA agreements, after payment to the schools, to support the repayment of the debt incurred to build the public infrastructure and its ongoing maintenance. At this time, no final decision has been made on the distribution of excess TIF revenue funds, however, early discussions support the use of excess TIF to be redistributed to the agencies or the TIF can be dissolved early.

The NCA millage will only be used to help offset school costs, for administrative and maintenance costs, and potentially, though highly unlikely, as a backstop for the railroad bridge debt. The NCA board may determine that a greater millage amount be allocated to the schools.

Has the city estimated the amount not going to the schools?

The City has not estimated the amount that the schools would *not* receive. Instead, the City has worked with the schools to identify how much the schools would like to receive related to these developments. The City's calculations took a rough average of these calculations on a cost per student basis. This gave a target amount for the NCA millage, which was determined to be approximately 1.5 mills.

The NPV of the total amount going to the schools (through 2034) from the TIFs and the NCA is estimated to be \$19,144,812.

As the NCA board is developed, the City will recommend a representative for the schools be required to have a seat on the board. This will ensure that any unforeseen costs to the school can be brought before the board when the millage is set on an annual basis.

Thank you,

Elaine McCloskey

City Council Clerk

City of Delaware

1 S. Sandusky St.

Delaware, Ohio 43015

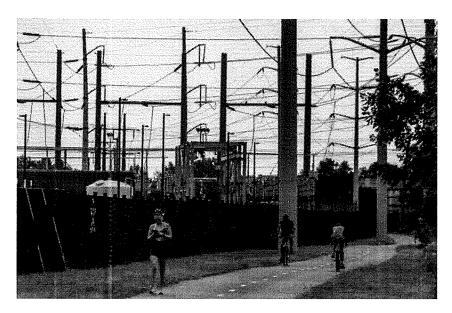
740-203-1013 office

740-203-1024 fax

 $\underline{www.delawareohio.net}$

Listen to article

The Editorial Board Feb. 26, 2023 at 4:47 pm ET



The PJM report forecasts power supply and demand through 2030 across the 13 eastern states in its territory covering 65 million people. Its top-line conclusion: Fossil-fuel power plants are retiring much faster than renewable sources are getting developed, which could lead to energy "imbalances." That's a delicate way of saying that you can expect shortages and blackouts.

PJM typically generates a surplus of power owing to its large fossil-fuel fleet, which it exports to neighboring grids in the Midwest and Northeast. When wind power plunged in the Midwest and central states late last week, PJM helped fill the gap between supply and demand and kept the lights on.

That's why it's especially worrisome that PJM is predicting a large decline in its power reserves as coal and natural-gas plants retire. The report forecasts that 40,000 megawatts (MW) of power generation—enough to light up 30 million households—are at risk of retiring by 2030, representing about 21% of PJM's current generation capacity.

Newsletter Sign-up

Morning Editorial Report

All the day's Opinion headlines.

Most projected power-plant retirements are "policy-driven," the report says. For example, the steep costs of complying with Environmental Protection Agency regulations, including a proposed "good

neighbor rule" that is expected to be finalized next month, will force about 10,500 MW of fossil-fuel generation to shut down.

At the same time, utility-company ESG (environmental, social and governance) commitments are driving coal plants to close, the report notes. Illinois and New Jersey climate policies could reduce generation by 8,900 MW. Do these states plan to rely on their good neighbors for power?

Many states have established ambitious renewable goals, and the Inflation Reduction Act lavishes enormous subsidies on wind, solar and batteries. But the report says the "historical rate of completion for renewable projects has been approximately 5%," in part because of permitting challenges. In an optimistic case, the report estimates 21,000 MW of wind, solar and battery storage capacity will be added to the grid by 2030—about half as much as the expected fossil-fuel retirements.

There's another problem: Demand for electric power will increase amid the growth in data centers and the government's push for the electrification of vehicles, heating and everything else. Loudoun County, Va., boasts "the largest concentration of data centers in the world," the report notes.

S.O.S for the U.S. Electric Grid - WSJ

The report doesn't say this, no doubt owing to political reticence, but the conclusion is clear. The left's green-energy transition is incompatible with a growing economy and improving living standards. Renewables don't provide reliable power 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and the progressive campaign to shut down coal and gas plants that do will invariably result in outages.

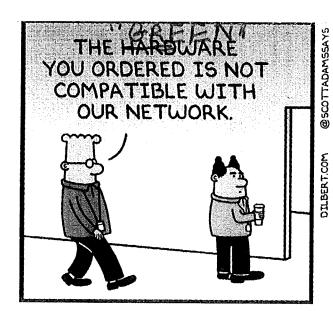
During an arctic air blast this past December, PJM ordered some businesses to curtail power usage and urged households to do the same. PJM narrowly avoided rolling blackouts as some generators switched to burning oil. But will happen when those power plants shut down? A power shortage at what will happen when those power plants shut down? A power shortage at PJM has the potential to cascade across much of the U.S.

Government officials have been raising alarms about the risks of cyber and physical attacks on the grid. But what about the accelerating danger from climate policy?

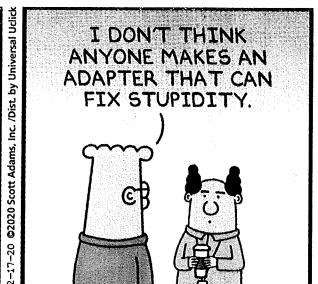
Advertisement - Scroll to Continue

Journal Editorial Report: Tim Scott gives an impressive speech in Iowa. Vivek Ramaswamy is in. Images: AP/EPA-EFE/Shutterstock Composite: Mark Kelly

9 Page 3 pt - Page







and John Show

