Growing the Communities that have Powered the Midwest
Virtual Quarterly Meeting | July 21, 2022 at 9:30 am CDT

The focus of this event is “Show Me the Money” and will highlight financial incentives and how the incentives are being utilized by Midwestern states. We’ll also be announcing the release of the MGA’s Publication “Empower Midwestern Communities: Helping Communities Impacted by the Energy Transition”, which provides strategies and advice to help prepare Midwestern Communities that are facing a power plant closure.

9:30 am Welcome and Introductions
▪ Jesse Heier, Executive Director, Midwestern Governors Association

9:40 am Publication Announcement - Midwestern Governors Association Initiative: Growing the Communities that have Powered the Midwest
▪ Sasha Bergman, Assistant Chief of Staff for Federal and Policy Affairs, Office of Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan

9:45 am Scholarship Announcement - MGA-Western Governors University
▪ Alison Bell, Regional Vice President, Western Governors University

9:50 am Update from the Federal Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization.
▪ Brian Anderson, Executive Director, Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization

10:10 am Panel Discussion: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Spending on Energy Transition Issues
Federal Government participants will discuss funding mechanisms and programs that support states and communities via funding opportunities from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.
▪ Stephanie Sykes, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure Implementation, White House
▪ Jon Grosshans, Senior Advisor, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
▪ Kate Gordon, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy
▪ Moderator: Briggs White, Deputy Director, Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization

11:10 am Panel Discussion: State Bipartisan Infrastructure Programs and Spending on Energy Transition Activities
State participants will react to the Federal panel, as well as provide insight on how states are utilizing the Federal funding and programs. Examples will be provided to show how impacted communities are deploying the new resources.
▪ Kevin Lee, Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Commerce
▪ Carmen Wells Quigg, Project Manager, University of Michigan Economic Growth Institute
▪ Larry Steckelberg, Administrator, Division of Community Services, Michigan Department of Treasury
▪ Emily Wilbur, PE, Deputy Director, Division of Energy, Missouri Department of Natural Resources
▪ Moderator: Heidi Binko, Executive Director & Co-founder, Just Transition Fund

12:10 pm Discussion of Next Steps
▪ Jesse Heier, Executive Director, Midwestern Governors Association

12:15 pm Adjourn

The Midwestern Governors Association would like to thank the Western Governors University for their support and sponsorship of this initiative.