



SOLUTIONS FOR ENERGY POVERTY IN MEMPHIS

Relieve Energy Burdens through energy savings programs for our neighbors most in need

Memphis leads the region in many measures of poverty and ill health. Low incomes and a historic lack of investment in efficiency leave Memphians with the highest energy burden, the share of income spent on energy, of US cities.

Memphis needs more funding for initiatives that improve homes and health by cutting energy use, such as Memphis Light Gas and Water's (MLGW) Share the Pennies bill round-up program. At this rate it would take over 100 years to retrofit all the homes in need.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) that supplies MLGW's electricity has a long history of underfunding energy savings programs. Energy savings for Memphians have been declining in recent years when they should be going up.

MLGW should band together with other local power companies and insist that TVA step up funding to fix up homes, save customers energy, and create green jobs in our cities.

Allow Memphians to choose cleaner, cheaper energy

Memphis has a city-owned utility, MLGW, which is in a long-term contract to purchase 100% of our electricity from TVA.

Solar energy is now a cheaper alternative to TVA and can help cut CO₂ emissions to address the climate crisis.

For our current communities and future generations, Memphis must insist that TVA either supply cleaner, cheaper, job-creating energy from sources like solar, wind, and energy efficiency, or allow Memphians to be energy independent and choose our own energy supply.

We support Memphis' ongoing evaluation of other power supply options, but the city ought to be skeptical of unrealistic promises offered by the incomplete Bellefonte nuclear plant and think carefully about the ability and cost to build power lines across the Mississippi.

Keep the "public" in public power

Both MLGW and TVA are public, meaning they are meant to serve people, not profit.

TVA should be more transparent and listen to ALL of their customers, not just large industrial ones.

TVA should stop rate changes that hurt smaller energy users while cutting deals with big industry.

TVA needs to properly clean up its leaking, unlined coal ash pits across the Valley. Groundwater at the Allen Fossil Plant in Memphis was in the top ten in the nation for arsenic. As a public power entity, TVA should be doing more on environmental justice, not less.

Join the movement at MemphisHasThePower.org