



Mostly Legislative Inaction at the Capitol



May 6, 2022

Hi everyone!

I'm sorry we did not get you all a legislative update last week, but there was not a lot happening, so we decided to skip a week.

There is still no budget, the one thing the Arizona Legislature must do, and no signs of any budget agreement, so the clock continues to tick. They must act by June 30th or start shutting things down.

There is also no agreement on the governor's Water Augmentation Authority bill, but a new iteration of the bill is expected next week. So far, it seems like a bill intended to continue business as usual for water; it is focused on where to get more water rather than on conservation and limiting groundwater pumping. Tell your legislators it is not good enough and that we need a plan to conserve and better limit groundwater pumping.

There are still several anti-democracy/anti-voter bills floating around, but nothing has advanced in the last week.

Last week, as expected, Governor Ducey signed both [HB2411 coal combustion residuals program](#), allowing the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to pursue implementing the coal ash program from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and [HB2101 electric energy; reliability; public policy](#), repealing provisions in the law that create parameters for retail competition of electricity and that could negatively affect community choice aggregation

of electricity which allows cities to purchase or generate electricity for their residents, as well as rooftop solar in Salt River Project (SRP) territory. While this was not unexpected, it is still disappointing.

[HB2181 Now: game and fish; taking wolves](#) (Cook) passed out of the Senate 17-9-4 on Monday and is on the governor's desk. It forbids the Arizona Game and Fish Commission from prohibiting any person from killing a wolf that is actively threatening or attacking a person (unnecessary as anyone can kill an animal if they feel threatened), livestock, or other domestic animal. While these provisions can't dictate what happens with wolves as these wolves are endangered and US Fish and Wildlife sets the policies for wolves, these provisions send a bad message about killing wolves and could invite baiting of wolves with livestock. **Even though it is a longshot, call Governor Ducey at (602) 542-1331 and ask him to veto HB2181.**

To view bills we are tracking [go here](#).

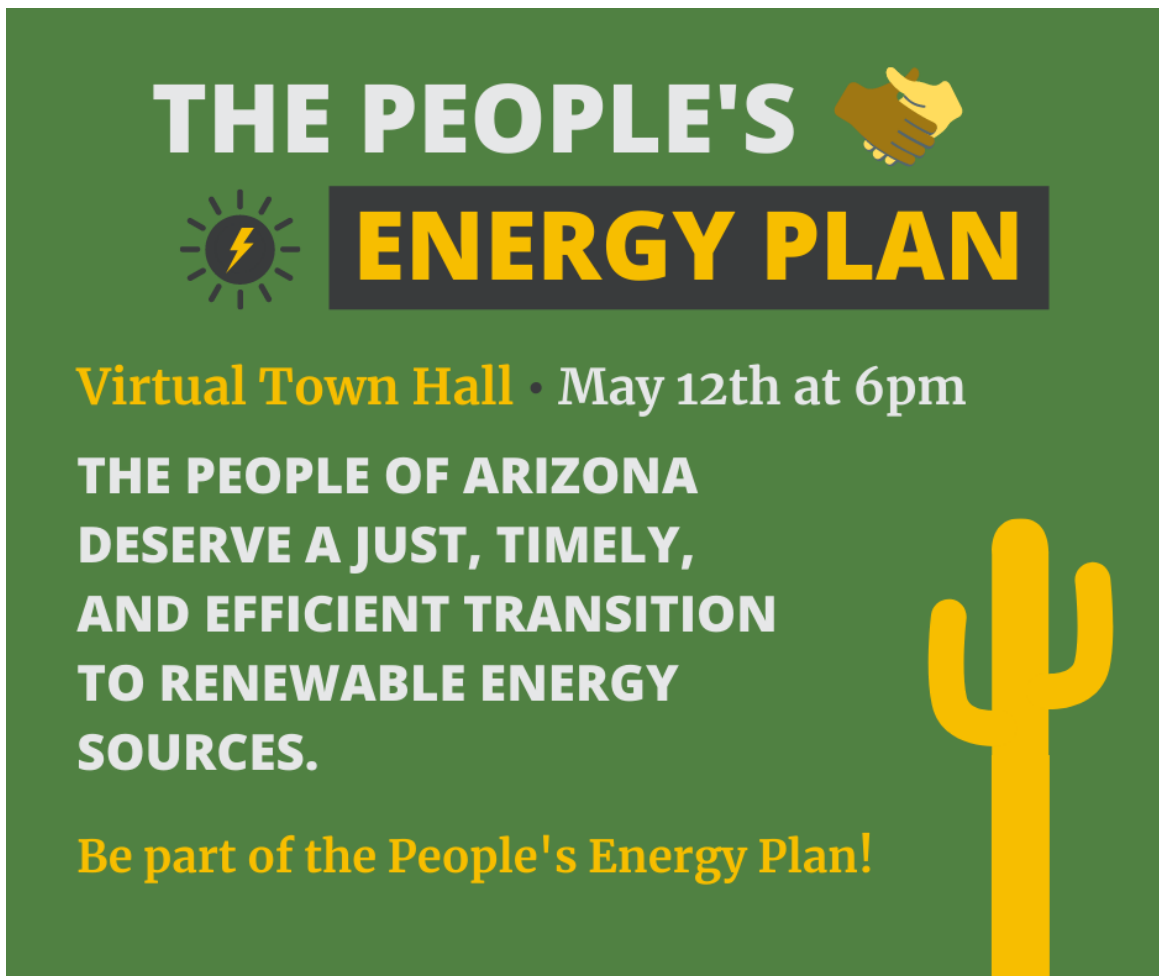
To find your legislators' email addresses and phone numbers, [go here](#).

Thank you to everyone who came out for the Earth Day rallies and film screenings on April 23rd, for the Gathering of the Clans on May 1st, for the protests against infringements on reproductive freedom this last week, and as always, thank you for caring and taking action.

All the best,



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter



THE PEOPLE'S

ENERGY PLAN

Virtual Town Hall • May 12th at 6pm

**THE PEOPLE OF ARIZONA
DESERVE A JUST, TIMELY,
AND EFFICIENT TRANSITION
TO RENEWABLE ENERGY
SOURCES.**

Be part of the People's Energy Plan!

Join Us for a People's Energy Plan Town Hall!

Arizona ratepayers deserve transparency from Salt River Project (SRP), the state's second largest electric utility. Most importantly, the people of Arizona deserve a just, timely, and efficient transition to renewable energy sources.

This could not have been made more clear when in April after months of the tireless efforts by residents of the town of Randolph, many concerned citizens, and community organizations, the Arizona Corporation Commission voted to deny SRP a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for their planned Coolidge gas plant expansion. This gas plant would have expanded fossil fuel use in Arizona and polluted the historic Black community of Randolph, where residents have long suffered the effects of environmental racism, all with a price tag of almost \$1 billion for SRP ratepayers.

Join us at the town hall to hear more about SRP's lack of transparency with ratepayers, information about the SRP board, the fight against the Coolidge expansion, and clean energy opportunities that SRP could act on today. Learn more during this discussion about how you can get involved and help us demand public accountability from SRP. Be part of the People's Energy Plan!

[RSVP and Learn More Here](#)

