Springfield Group Pushes Efficiency to Fill Power Needs

by Linda Chippsfeld, Ozark Sierra Executive Committee

T he August City Utilities of Springfield (CUC) will soon receive a boost in funds to finance a new 300-megawatt coal-burning plant. The CUC has announced that it is planning to use a facility and a new plant and CUC projected a third for a 208 by 2018. The Southeast Missouri Council of Ozark Sierra (SMC) has a bonus here. “We believe that if CUC were to move forward with this new energy efficiency program, demand could be reduced by renewable energy, and the potential for coal power would build a new,” says Steve VanSolte, Springfield Group Executive.

In April, the Ozark Sierra chapter sent a letter to encourage the CUC to develop a plan regarding energy efficiency. The department has also stated that the letter is intended to provide the CUC with the opportunity to build new power plants to serve the region. The letter also highlighted a March with a compact fluorescent light bulb to suggest switching to CUC by the end of 2016. The Ozark Sierra chapter is aware that the CUC is willing to work with the community on energy efficiency programs. The letter also encouraged the CUC to develop a plan that would allow for the development of new power plants. The letter also suggested that the CUC consider using off-site renewable energy sources to provide power.

Sierra Club Endorses Farmer for U.S. Senate

by Chris Hink, Ozark Sierra Political Chair

A s a three-term state representative, he is widely regarded as one of the most environmental legislative leaders in the state. As a candidate for the U.S. Senate, he believes that protecting our environment and the health of our citizens is essential to ensuring sustainable economic growth. For his commitment to environmental protection, the Sierra Club enthusiastically endorses Farmer for U.S. Senate.

This race is a priority campaign for the Ozark Sierra chapter. Farmer is one of the most anti-environmental members of the Senate, and the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) score for the last four congressional sessions is 45%. For the duration of his 18 years in the Senate, Farmer has always voted against environmental interests and financial interests. In fact, he is one of the most vulnerable Republican senators, having a primary challenge from his own party by more than 3%. It is vital that the Sierra Club take an active role in this campaign if we are to elect Farmer and defeat Kit Bond.

Various business and industry groups use the political process to buy protection for their private interests, while the expense of the public interest. Your help is continued on page 4. Sierra Club Endorses Farmer

Ozark Sierra DINN issues City Utilities a draft air quality permit. CCE will ask the DINN for a hearing for the CCE has gained much support over the past year, and signed by Mayor Sam Page in spring 2003. The group’s supporters include the American Lung Association, the Citizens' Coalition, Missouri Coalition for the Environment, Missouri Organic Growers Association, South West Group, Missouri Public Interest Research Group, New Life Force, Scenic Grass, Springfield KUO, and the American Association of University Women.

The CCE is planning another forum for July 2004.

Peabody Coal, doing business as Peabody Energy, has obtained a draft permit for building a new coal burning power plant (150 MW) about 40 miles southwest of St. Louis. It would be the site of a coal mine. The plant would emit large amounts of various types of pollution, including NOx (causing soot), SOx (acid rain), and carbon monoxide (which can kill people). The wind from the coal mine could bring dust down to the rail yard, the site of all. There is a concern that the plant would have a negative impact on St. Louis' air quality. A number of St. Louis residents spoke in opposition to the project at a recent hearing on the draft permit, including Sierra Club staff Jill Mills. The proposed Peabody plant site is approximately two miles outside the border of the St. Louis non-attainment area on the Illinois side. It may be a significant proposal by helping to control sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions from south of the non-attainment area. The Peabody Power is proposing to upgrade its Baldwin power plant to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions, which have been noted near the Peabody site. These new emissions will not have sufficient negative impact on St. Louis budget is that this change within the non-attainment area will be far too expensive to implement additional emission reduction measures to comply.
**Learn How You Can Help Stop Bush’s Attack On Our Environment**
by Roy C. Maguire

This Sierra Club has been keeping track of all the actions and the policies of the Bush Administration that weaken environmental protections. However, many Americans are unaware that the President and his associates have allowed the clean air and water, weakened the protections already in place for our national parks, national forests, and wildlife refuges, and allowed polluting industries to continue to harm public health.

The Sierra Club has endorsed Senator John Kerry for President, based on the combination of Kerry’s outstanding record on environmental issues throughout his long public service career and the Bush administration’s many anti-environmental actions. But we need to get the word out to all our members and citizens across the country about the critical environmental issues facing the United States in 2004.

Therefore, the Club is launching an ambitious public program called “Engaging Our Members” (EOM) to build conversations about Bush administration policies affecting the public health and the environment and what we can do about it. There will be a training session to be held on Sunday July 19 at 9 AM in Columbia, Missouri on holding those important dialogues with family, friends, and associates.

Please contact Roy Maguire at (573)85-8606 or roy.maguirer@sierraclub.org if you are interested in attending this training. We can make a tremendous difference in the 2004 election if we engage our members to learn about important environmental issues and how they can participate more fully in the election.

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**Mark Twain National Forest in for Another Rough Ride**
by Caroline Ohio

Forest Service plans for more OHV trails

If cursed forest land, the smell of motors and the smell of exhaust is not your idea of a natural forest, then you need to gear up to speak up about OHV Highway Vehicles (OHV’s), in the Mark Twain National Forest (MTNF). The Forest Service is planning additional OHV trails for the eastern part of the national forest. The trail system would include some old logging roads and undeveloped forest system roads.

If this is a problem of people wanting the MTNF and ask to be put on the mailing list for the OHV study. You may write to: Forest Products Ranger District OHV study PO Box 188 Potosi MO 65676

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**Earth Share Raises Funds for Sierra Club Foundation**

Funding and networking building on behalf of the Sierra Club Foundation and 71 other diverse environmental organizations, the Earth Share of Missouri now represents other citizen-run smart and simple ways to care for our air, land, and water. As Missouri’s only environmental federation, Earth Share of Missouri helps businesses and employees to support 71 leading environment groups that work to make our state a better place to live.

Earth Share of Missouri now represents 34 local and regional organizations plus 37 national and international organizations. Earth Share of Missouri represents familiar names such as Sierra Club, Audubon, Missouri Appleseed, and Friends of the Earth. For a list of partnering businesses and member charities, visit www.earthsarcomo.org or call (314)715-6266 or 1-800-368-2584 toll free in Missouri.

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**Dover Concertgoers Brave Tornado Wether**
by Scott Howie

Minutes of truth of up to 200 miles an hour didn’t seem to prevent a crowd of Sierra Club members and Concerned Citizens of Plato County from turning out in force for a potluck picnic concert featuring Como Dross at The Red Bean in Warsaw May 21.

Your concert report was due north until tornado warnings ended, as was usual for outdoor clear to low in heavy of tornadoes appearing.

She arrived in February, as announced by Dover’s clear voice. Beyond Dover, through the Red Bean’s open doors were quite a mixture and the supplemental spices of Plato County’s gently rolling hills. Dover under his 35-minute concert with an ethereal voice.

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**Clean Sierra**
July/September ’04

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Outings Continued

Osage Group

Tom Hart Benton Group

June 22–27 (Sat–Sun) Car Camping at Walnut State Park, Cameron. We’ll load our tents next to our vehicles in the campgrounds, then choose from six different trails to explore. Ellen Brennerman, (314)274-8032 (m), (314)273-2415 (j), elleenbrennerman@missouri.sierraclub.org.

July 7 (Sat) Starry Partnership Meeting, Missouri Outdoor School, Lee’s Summit. Please join us for great fun, educational opportunities, and stargazing and hiking. Call Suzanne Smith, (314)429-4352.

Aug 14 (Sat) Starry Partnership Meeting, Missouri Outdoor School, Lee’s Summit. Please join us for great fun, educational opportunities, and stargazing and hiking. Call Suzanne Smith, (314)429-4352.

Aug 21 (Sat) pre-dawn Wildlife Trip with Martha Hoffman, Missouri Outdoor School, Lee’s Summit. Start hiking pre-dawn looking for birds. Call Suzanne Smith, (314)429-4352.

Outings

July 2 (Fri) Call for Info on our Friday outing. Suzanne Smith, (314)281-4762.

July 4 (Fri) 20 mile hike near Saline County, MO. This is our main trail hike of the year. It’s fun and a great opportunity to make new friends in the Sierra Club! Join us for a few hours making and selling fresh flowers to and from the trailhead. Call Dave Patton, (314)411-0931, dave.patton@missouri.sierraclub.org.

July 7 (Sat) Dayhiking BigBluffs Conservation Area, Buchanan County, MO. About one hour north of downtown KC. After we’ve finished hiking all the scenic views, we’ll head to the trail’s end, Mike Hardin, (618)281-4762.

July 9 (Mon) call for info on our Monday outing. Suzanne Smith, (314)281-4762.

July 16 (Fri) Hike the Loess Hills on the Missouri – Iowa border with the beautiful Loess Hills! Call Mike Hardin, (618)281-4762.

July 18 (Sun) Afternoon walk, The Kansas River. We’ll explore Klondike Park, one of 31st. Chelan’s newest parks. Dinner to follow. Jim Rhodes, (314)821-7756.

July 23 (Fri) Over the Bridges of Madison County. A bike riding we will go! Suzanne Smith, (314)281-4762.

July 24 (Sat) Call for info on our Saturday outing. Suzanne Smith, (314)281-4762.

Aug 1 (Sat) 10 mile hike near Saline County, MO. This is our main trail hike of the year. It’s fun and a great opportunity to make new friends in the Sierra Club! Join us for a few hours making and selling fresh flowers to and from the trailhead. Call Dave Patton, (314)411-0931, dave.patton@missouri.sierraclub.org.

Aug 14 (Sat) GPS Class, Shawnee Mission Park, Lenexa, KS. If you have a GPS but don’t know what to do with it, come considering buying one, this class is for you. Dave Patton, (913)467-4205.

Aug 7 (Sat) call for info on our Saturday outing. Suzanne Smith, (314)281-4762.

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