Credible, third-party messengers are often more effective than developers at educating communities about renewable energy project benefits and fostering constructive support. See how Clean Grid Alliance is doing so through our 101 Educational Series.

Clean Grid Alliance (CGA) Wind/Solar/BESS 101 Event Series



CGA's 101 Series is a 'ground-softening' education initiative that:

- Engages Midwest communities in learning about utility-scale renewable energy technologies and project benefits
- Gauges community receptivity and fosters neutral-to-positive sentiment prior to advanced development
- Leverages CGA's brand and expertise, collaborating with partners and subject matter experts to address local concerns
- ACP sponsored program; funded by ACP and industry support

Methods

- Survey development activity and public sentiment in the MISO footprint
- Identify suitable counties and locally relevant topics of interest
- **Prepare** to address specific local issues (e.g., hunting and waterfowl near wind) and develop new fact sheets as needed
- Partner with state/local organizations and SMEs to speak at events
- Run ads in local newspapers and radio stations two weeks prior (event is free and open to the public)
- Follow up post-event for additional engagement and feedback

Results

- 15 events completed across 6 states in the MISO footprint
- 13 developers have requested and participated in selected events
- 9 local and state organizations have partnered as presenters
- 38+ local decision-makers attended
- 400 + community members have attended

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Discussion

Early Stage
Community
Outreach and
Education

From a 3rd Party
Validator with Rightof-Center
Credentials

More Effective in
Forming Sentiment
and Discerning
Community
Receptivity than a
Developer

Shaping Positive and Neutral Sentiment to Renewable Energy Projects in Local areas

Reducing Local
Opposition and
Providing Better
Permitting
Outcomes

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Scan here to learn more

