



2012 | 2013
Annual Report

Letter from the CEO



Dearest friends and supporters,

We are excited to share with you our accomplishments from another great year. We worked very hard to keep bills affordable across the state and to keep pollution out of our communities. As a result, we have held the line on our costs and made our environment a little cleaner.

To keep rates affordable, we fought Entergy over a \$72 Million rate increase. The company decided to look into the feasibility of building a new nuclear power plant near the Mississippi River. After spending \$72 Million to study the costs, they decided building a new nuclear reactor would be too expensive. I could have told them the exact same thing and only charged 'em for a cup of coffee. Fortunately for the ratepayers, Entergy did not get pre-approval from the Louisiana Public Service Commission (LPSC) to spend this money. Drawbacks of being a regulated monopoly! Along with the large industrial customers, we filed a complaint with the Administrative Law Judge. The Judge determined that Entergy was not entitled to recover costs from rate payers on a project the LPSC had not approved. \$72 Million saved!

Our years of work on energy efficiency finally paid off. After a dramatic battle with the LPSC over Energy Efficiency rules, we finally won. Phase I of Energy Efficiency rule-making was approved by the LPSC by a vote of 3-2. Entergy Louisiana, Entergy Gulf States, Cleco, and SWEPCO will create and implement energy efficiency rebate programs by October 2014. The program is projected to Invest \$30 Million over 3 years and reach 800,000 customers. Now that's progress!

The right to produce your own energy and jump off the monopoly train is under siege. We were able to defend against the attacks but it did deplete our resources. At the Louisiana Legislature, there was an intense push to cut the budget and the solar tax credit was in the crosshairs. We argued that all tax credits should be put on the table, including the \$1.3 Billion credits afforded to the oil and gas industry. Working with the Gulf States Renewable Energy Industry Association, we struck a compromise to sunshine the credit in 2017. Unfortunately, the LPSC tried to yank the rug out from under residential solar. By a vote of 3-2, solar net-metering was saved but the Issue is not over. Louisiana continues to be a battleground state for independent solar generation.

Transparency and good government were vividly improved this year. Members of the public are now guaranteed an opportunity to speak to the Commission before a vote is taken on an agenda item. Our regulators are now complying with state public meetings laws. Hurray!

The Alliance remains a trusted voice for the people of Louisiana. We could not do this work without your support. Thank you and we look forward to another great year!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Casey DeMoss".

Casey DeMoss
Chief Executive Officer



About Us

Founded in 1985, the Alliance for Affordable Energy promotes fair, affordable, environmentally responsible energy. From the start, we have advanced a philosophy that there is no conflict between lower energy costs and lower pollution, between good jobs and regulation, or between serving the public interest and making a reasonable profit. Because we are both a consumer watchdog and environmental advocacy organization, our policy work meets at the crossroads of social justice, sustainable economic development, and environmental protection.

In order to achieve our mission, the Alliance has three programs: Energy Efficiency, Clean Energy, and Consumer Protection and Education. Our recent accomplishments within each area demonstrate the important synergies between our technical policy work and community organizing. The Alliance for Affordable Energy is committed to promoting a new vision for energy policy in Louisiana, from an “energy state” to a “clean energy” leader in the South.

SOLUTIONS EXIST





Board

Julianna Padgett, Ph.D., LCSW, Board President, is Assistant Dean, Tulane School of Social Work. She serves on the Boards of Community Mediation Services and Uptown Shepherd Center and has been active in shaping the proposed Citizen Participation Program. She has been a member since the early days of the Alliance, served on the Alliance Advisory Committee for 15 years, and was appointed to the Board in May 2009 and has also served as Secretary.

John Williams, AIA, NCARB, Board Treasurer, is founder and owner of Williams Architect, a leading architectural firm in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast with a focus on Sustainable Design, which includes historic preservation, historic restoration, and new construction. He serves as a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the Board of Advisors for the Tulane School of Architecture, the Governors Committee on Coastal Protection, the Board of Longue Vue House & Gardens, the Historic Advisory Review Committee and is Chair of the Louisiana Chapter of the USGBC Residential Committee. His board term began in 2011.

David Dalia, J.D., Board Secretary, is a lawyer with a diverse civil practice including individual and small business representation, Intellectual property issues, as well as settlements, trials, and appeals of LHWCA cases, contracts and contractual disputes, engineering issues, successions, miscellaneous civil litigation, real estate and insurance disputes, and some select personal injury cases, many of which are relevant to litigation spawned by Hurricane Katrina. He has been a Board member since May 2009.

Thomas Lowenburg is co-founder and the former Research Director of the Alliance. He is owner of "Octavia Books," a successful Independent bookstore in uptown New Orleans. He has served on the Board since 1985. He also currently serves on the boards of the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance and the New Orleans Gulf South Booksellers Association.

Heather Guidry, MPA, Fundraising Chair, is Assistant Director of Cameron College. Her undergraduate degree is in landscape architecture where she won the American Society of Landscape Architects, "Student Award of Honor in Communications." Ms. Guidry became interested in the Alliance as part of the recent Junior League non profit training "Get On Board." Her board term began in 2011.

Sandra Cabrina Jenkins Sandra is a graduate of Southern University Law Center, JD; Louisiana State University, B.A., Political Science; and a graduate of Southern University Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, MPA. In 2010, she joined the faculty of Xavier University of Louisiana, as an Assistant Professor where she teaches pre-law courses. In May 2012, she began planning, developing, and organizing a green janitorial and facility Management Company, S.A.G.E. Commercial Cleaning, LLC.

T. Sueng Hong is Director of the Department of Human Services for New Orleans and former chief of staff for Councilwoman Shelley Midura. He has also served as Senior Staff Director at Transition New Orleans and was Communications Director at Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana.

Monica Ramsey is owner of Canal Street Bistro (formerly EcoCafe) and Canal Street Inn B & B. She had the first Life City "green" business in NO and is a winner of a Green Nattie award.



Staff

Casey DeMoss, Chief Executive Officer:

Ms. DeMoss Roberts brings fifteen years of experience in non-profit management. From her work in the United States Peace Corps to the Gulf Restoration Network, she has spent her career working to solve human health, economic, and other problems related to poor environmental management.

Ms. DeMoss Roberts brings with her an impressive list of contacts from her work as a progressive energy policy leader both locally and nationally. She is a highly sought after speaker following the successful talk at the TEDxOilSpill conference. She earned her Master's in Public Health, focus in Biostatistics from Tulane University. A Louisiana native, Ms. Roberts is dedicated to the principles of fair, affordable, environmentally responsible, community-based energy for all Louisiana residents.



Jessica Netto, Chief Operating Officer:

Jessica brings 13 years of non-profit experience in fundraising and program administration. From her work as Development Director for Gulf Restoration Network, Program Administrator for Second Harvest Food Bank, an independent fundraising consultant, and most recently as the Chief Operating Officer for the Alliance for Affordable Energy, Jessica is committed to the development of sustainable organizations by ensuring the integrity of programming through process evaluation, establishing and implementing long term fundraising goals, and controlling for financial transparency and accountability.



Forest Bradley-Wright , Utility Policy Director:

Forest is responsible for the Alliance's efforts to expand investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy through Integrated Resource Planning efforts at the city and state level, while working to pass a renewable portfolio standard, protect net metering rules, and intervene on behalf of consumers in municipal and statewide rate-making cases.

Forest created New Orleans' monthly Solar Roundtable and Rater Roundtable industry meetings and sits on the boards the Gulf States Renewable Energy Industry Association and the Louisiana Green Corps workforce training program. He was a leading force in the creation of Energy Smart, an \$11 million city-wide energy efficiency program in New Orleans and spearheads the ongoing effort for approval of similar programs statewide through the Louisiana Public Service Commission. Forest is a graduate of Tulane University, where he studied sustainable development and tourism.



Annie Williams, Community Outreach Manager:

Annie hails from Cincinnati, Ohio. Her mother is originally from New Orleans, giving her long established roots in the city. After volunteering post-Katrina, she decided to move back to the city to live full time. She is an aunt to two little girls and three boys. Annie received her Masters in Public Administration at the University of New Orleans, in May of 2014. She is a member of the Public Administration Student and Alumni Association as well as the American Society for Public Administration. She first came to the Alliance for Affordable Energy as the Office Outreach Intern, but now works as the Volunteer & Intern Coordinator.



Julia Michaels, Energy Education Director:

Julia Michaels came to the Alliance as member of the Avodah Service Corps. Before her move to New Orleans, Julia was an environmental leader at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, where she founded a campaign called the Green Fund to increase sustainability on campus. She participated in the College of the Environment Think Tank, studying Biology and Environmental Studies. As an Avodah Corps member, she created the Alliance's Energy Education program, developing it from a model to a full curriculum with interactive teaching tools to engage school children in the study of energy.





Programs: Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency programs are a win-win because they help families and businesses lower energy bills and reduce harmful pollution for everyone. Through the Alliance's Energy Efficiency Program we advocate for energy regulatory policy and programming that maximize our current energy resources and minimize demand on energy infrastructure. By reducing our consumption of resources we are not only helping utility customers save on their bills, we are protecting our environment through conservation and the reduction of harmful greenhouse gasses. An added benefit of energy efficiency is the reduction of demand on energy infrastructure. By reducing demand on the grid we can maximize our communities' resources. Being able to meet more of our energy needs without the need to spend more on infrastructure helps keep our utility rates low. Establishing policy objectives for the responsible use of those energy resources and infrastructure ensures better use of resources which has a real impact on our economy, our environment, our health, and our communities.

Efficiency
WORKS





Programs: Clean Energy

The Alliance's Clean Energy Program seeks to identify opportunities for and support the growth of clean energy resources in Louisiana. To preserve our culture and economy, the Alliance for Affordable Energy works on policy solutions that decrease global warming pollution and harmful toxic emissions. Policies that promote clean energy will help us prevent the worst impacts of global warming and secure our future.

Through our work, we promote the use of sound science and technical expertise to determine the true cost and benefit of proposed energy policies and projects. The Alliance works with members in the renewable energy sector to help grow the industry and create good paying, local jobs in Louisiana.

Local investment in clean energy production is needed to give cleaner energy choices to Louisiana citizens. The Alliance is working to open up the energy market to allow citizens and businesses to become their own power producers. The Alliance is working tirelessly to ensure that we have the right to invest in energy independence, lower our bills, and decrease our carbon footprint.

Our commitment to transforming the utility and energy regulatory environment at the most fundamental levels ensures Louisiana will not stand idly by as the effects of climate change ravage our communities and our coastline.





Programs: Consumer Protection & Education

The Consumer Protection and Education Program is where policy meets people. The Alliance is the only group representing the public's interest at the policy making table. From providing the public with opportunities to get engaged in the democratic process to educating youth about the importance of the production and consumption of energy resources, we give the people of Louisiana a voice on the issue.



Our work gives a voice to individuals and small businesses, thereby protecting the interest of the most vulnerable in our society: seniors on a fixed income, low-income families, and at-risk populations. Working to ensure energy rates are fair and affordable protects the disadvantaged from having to make choices between paying the energy bill or buying food and medicine. In doing this work, the Alliance is building stakeholder relationships to help influence progressive energy policy decisions and help us move our work forward by giving us access to resources be it funding, volunteer work or further relationship-building.

Energy Education:

Our Energy Education Program focuses on teaching young students about energy sources and conservation.

The goal of our program is to introduce young students to the concepts of clean vs. dirty, renewable vs. non-renewable energy sources, and to instill a sense of why energy conservation is important. We know that getting children physically engaged helps them understand big ideas. Our program uses interactive teaching tools, including a bicycle generator that students can ride to create electricity designed to teach about energy science, sources, conservation, and ways to save energy at home and school. The bicycle, connected to a small appliances and a variety of light bulbs, demonstrates the concepts of energy flow, and the power of efficient technology. Children from Kindergarten through 12th grade take part in this three-part curriculum, consisting of original, interactive lesson plans that meet state GLE and STEM requirements.





Policy Update

Energy Efficiency Rules:

Our greatest achievement was the passage of the energy efficiency rules in December 2012. And our biggest disappointment was having the EE rules vacated just two months later. We painstakingly analyzed what went wrong. Back in December, we had all the intervenors on board – the utilities, the large industrials, residential ratepayers, commercial interests, the staff, and three of the five Commissioners. After the December meeting Commissioner Skrmetta told our Executive Director to “Enjoy your victory while it lasts, I’ll have 3 votes come January,” implying that the new Commissioner Scott Angelle would not support Energy Efficiency.

Robert’s Rules of Order (RRO) became a matter of great attention for us. Commissioner Skrmetta cited RRO to legitimize bringing the docket back up for a new vote. We were not familiar with this parliamentary rule and decided to consult Rod G. Davidson, a professional registered parliamentarian and credentialed by the National Association of Parliamentarians. According to Mr. Davidson, a vote for reconsideration must take place at the proceeding meeting, which would have been January. When the EE rules were not on the agenda for the January meeting, we celebrated. Alas, two days before the February meeting, we learned that the EE rules would be reconsidered. We rallied the troops, and were able to bring 20 people to the LPSC meeting.

When the docket came up on the agenda Commission Chair Skrmetta called for a vote on the reconsideration and refused to allow public comment. Commissioners Campbell, Boissiere, and the public voiced strong objections. The public was called out of order and the vote as taken. This action was in direct violation of Louisiana’s open meetings law.

In response to this extremely bizarre and illegal procedural maneuver and to prevent the PSC from setting a very dangerous precedent for disallowing public comment, the Alliance, the League of Women Voters, the Sierra Club, and Louisiana Environmental Action Network filed a lawsuit asking the court to vacate the reconsideration vote. We worked the press and were able to get excellent coverage including nationally syndicated Associated Press articles, local TV and newspaper stories, and a blog post by Forbes.com titled “Energy Luddites Win in Louisiana”. The LPSC realized their mistake and without having to go to court, agreed to re-reconsider the EE rules once again at the June meeting.

Our work paid off. In June, the reconsideration vote failed and the rules were reinstated. Commissioner Angelle took the time to read and understand energy efficiency from a pocketbook standpoint and voted with Campbell and Boissiere to bring the EE rules back!

Long-term resource plans called “Integrated Resource Planning” start in New Orleans:

This policy directs utility companies to figure out how much energy we are going to need for the next 20 years and how best to meet that need. Usually this process is done behind closed doors, but IRPs allow the public to participate. IRPs look at everything including renewable energy. The modeling puts energy efficiency on equal footing with typical forms of energy production, like coal plants. The IRP in New Orleans has dramatically increased transparency and enabled regulators to shift towards cleaner ways of generating energy while keeping bills affordable for families.

Renewable Energy Pilot Program: The Alliance succeeded at the LPSC with the approval of the Renewable Energy Pilot Program in 2010 that directed Louisiana's utility companies to bring on 350 megawatts of new renewable energy generation (2% of the total supply for our state). SWEPCO knocked it out of the park! The Commission directed SWEPCO to invest in 28MW of new renewable energy but the Wind energy they found in Kansas was cheaper than natural gas production. They decided to voluntarily increase their investment to 31MW to lock in 20 years of savings for their ratepayers.

Net Metering:

We won a major victory for solar power and grid independence. This year, the PSC proposed a rule that would have undermined independence of the electric grid. The change would force anyone producing solar energy to sell their power to the utility companies at a fraction of its value (approximately \$0.04/kWh). The utility would then sell that same energy to other customers at full retail prices (\$0.08/kWh).

Under existing Louisiana law, and all across America, solar energy belongs to the person who produced it and can be used at any time to meet a customer's own energy needs. The existing net metering rules promote lower bills, energy independence, a cleaner environment and economic growth – that's what make Solar Energy the right choice for Louisiana.

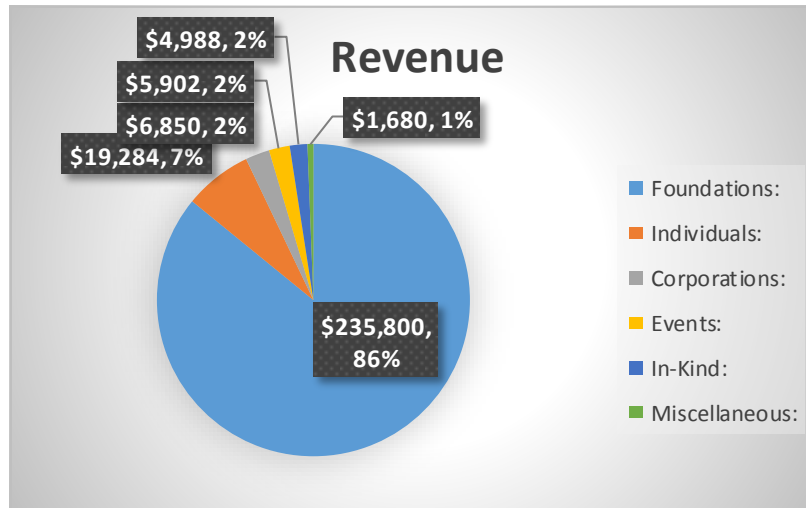
The rule changes were not factually justified. In fact, studies around the country have shown that having more solar on the grid is good for all customers. To date, the PSC has failed to even conduct a proper cost / benefit analysis. This issue was been brought up for a vote 3 times and each time public support made the difference.

Voices of Solar gives you a chance to connect with real Louisiana citizens and their experiences with solar power. People from all income levels and backgrounds discuss the very real impact solar power has had on them and their lives. <http://www.voicesofsolar.org>



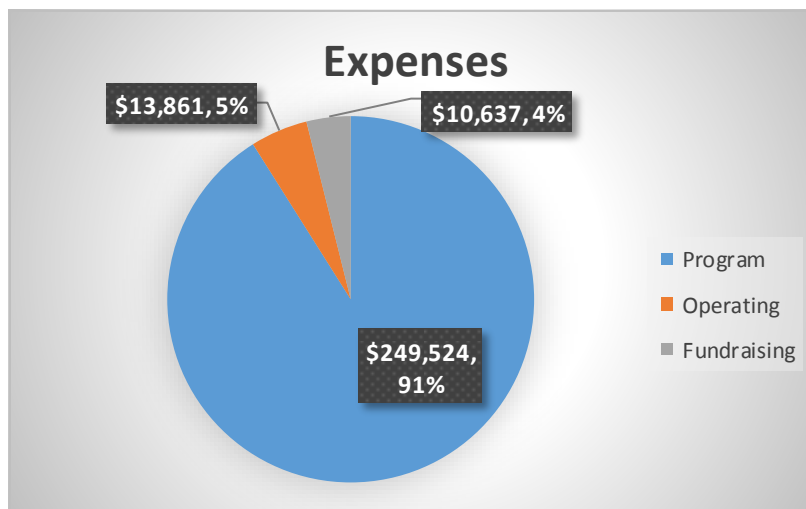


Financials



Revenue:

Foundations	\$235,800
Individuals	\$19,284
Corporations	\$6,850
Events	\$5,902
In-Kind	\$4,988
Miscellaneous	\$1,680
Total Revenue	\$274,504



Expenses:

Program	\$249,524
Operating	\$13,861
Fundraising	\$10,637
Total Expenses	\$274,022



Major Donors

FOUNDATION

Arkansas Community Foundation
Energy Foundation
Captain Planet Foundation
New Orleans Musicians Assistance
Foundation

CORPORATE

PosiGen
Core USA
Solar Universe
Nu-Cell Technologies
Anzelmo, Milliner, & Burke, LLC
Alternative Sustainable Energy
EcoPro

INDIVIDUAL

Anne Lowenburg
Z.E. Smith
Maria Wickstrom
Julianna Padgett, Ph.D
Harley Winer and Esther DeJong
Monica Ramsey

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

Winston Churchill

In the Community





2372 St. Claude Ave, 300A
New Orleans, LA 70117

O: 504.208.976

F: 504.684.8429

www.all4energy.org