**Reports for Green Sanctuary Meeting – March 20, 2022**

ReImagine Appalaachia. As I mentioned last month, the Washington County Commissioners have denied my request to endorse the ReImagine Appalachia Resolution. On February 21 I sent them a long letter asking the question: if they do not want to adopt the ReImagine Appalachia Resolution, what vision do they have for economic development and job creation in the county? I offered several research-based items (using information from the Ohio River Valley Institute) to demonstrate that the fossil-fuel industry has not provided the promised job creation and economic growth in the region and offered the case study of Centralia WA as an example of a community that has moved away from fossil fuels with many positive economic, health, and environmental outcomes. On March 5 as part of the Climate Corner series in the Parkersburg News & Sentinel I had an op-ed entitled, “Job Creation from Fossil Fuels: Where’s the Beef?” In that article I pointed out that capital-intensive industries like oil & gas extraction and injection wells do not provide jobs for the region.

 Mahoning Valley (Youngstown area) is trying to transform itself from a steel city to a “voltage” city for the development and manufacturing of batteries for renewable energy products. The mayor of Youngstown is a strong advocate for this transformation.

Citizens Climate Lobby. CCL has just announced an expanded focus—beyond their limited attention to carbon fee and dividend legislation. As part of this effort, the CCL leadership is inviting feedback from volunteers, climate scientists, environmental groups and others about what form this expanded focus might take. I have submitted my views (i.e., a focus on regional and local issues such as what we are doing in Appalachia) and would encourage others to submit their ideas to Tony Cirna, Vice President of Organizational Strategies at CCL:

 tony@citizensclimate.org

 Dave Ballantyne, Bob Chase and I met with Sam Hattrup, Congressman Bill Johnson’s staff member on February 23. We talked about the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on congressional activities and on energy policy, natural gas into the future, hydrogen and nuclear as energy options, and rare-earth metals needed for production of renewable energy products.

 CCL-Ohio is holding its first in-person meeting in two years in Columbus at the Byrd Polar & Climate Research Center April 2.

 CCL-National in-person conference is June 11-13 in Washington, D.C.

Injection Wells.

I just learned that the ODNR public meeting scheduled for March 24 at Marietta College has been canceled. We are speculating that ODNR has asked Deep Rock to modify their application—this may be a response to our several comments against their proposal for these four wells. Stay vigilant – we’ll be alert for the next public meeting.

George Banziger