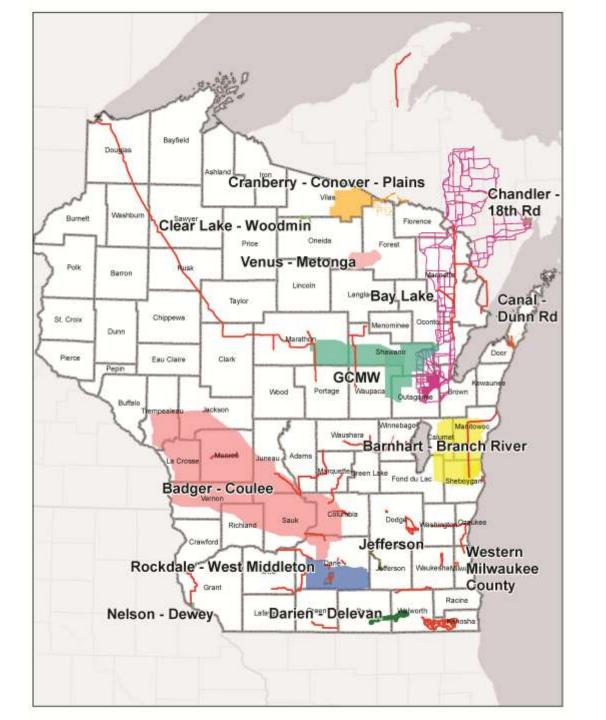
# Engineering a Winning Outcome for High Profile, High Impact Projects: The Technical Steps to Transparency

Michael White, President The Shop Consulting, Inc.



#### Overview:

- 1. All Projects are unique: Scope, Cost, Challenges
- 2. Outreach Techniques should follow one basic principal:

  Managed inclusion of stakeholders in the process will result in more success than exclusion, provided there is a clear plan & message

## Communication and Marketing Gaffes

### We're Not Always Right





Is this the right thing to do?



## Does What You Say Make Sense?



# Do Your Actions Take into Account Current Public Sentiment?

#### Tyco Party:

Used \$2 Million in company funds for wife's birthday bash on the island of Sardinia

"It's going to be a fun week, sailing on the Endeavor, tennis, golf, eating, drinking. All the things we are best known for," -former Tyco CEO Dennis Kozlowski

## Have you done the research?

#### "Come Alive with the Pepsi Generation"

**Translation:** 

## "Pepsi will Bring your Ancestors Back From the Dead"



## Know Thyself / Timing is Important

#### Timing:

- 2008 Economic Meltdown
- Banks seen as Archvillans

#### 2011 Action:

Issue a \$5 Monthly
Surcharge on Debit Cards

#### **Results:**

Loss of Customers, Stock Prices Fell, Bank Reverses Decision





## Common Sense -Think Things Through



### Do You Know Your Audience?



# Assume that Deception Will Be Revealed





### Recap: Before Proceeding

- **✓** Right Thing to Do
- **✓ Current Public Sentiment** 
  - ✓ Research
    - **✓ Timing**
  - ✓ Common Sense
  - ✓ Know Your Audience
    - **✓ Avoid Deception**

## Case Studies (In Failure and Success)



## Harrisburg, PA Incinerator

- ✓ Bad Choices & Bad Luck
  - ✓ Lack of Accountability
- ✓ House of Cards



Seattle, WA
Recycling
Program

- ✓ Least Cost Planning
  - ✓ Data
- ✓ Stakeholder Input
  - ✓ Quantify Options

### Clear Written Plan

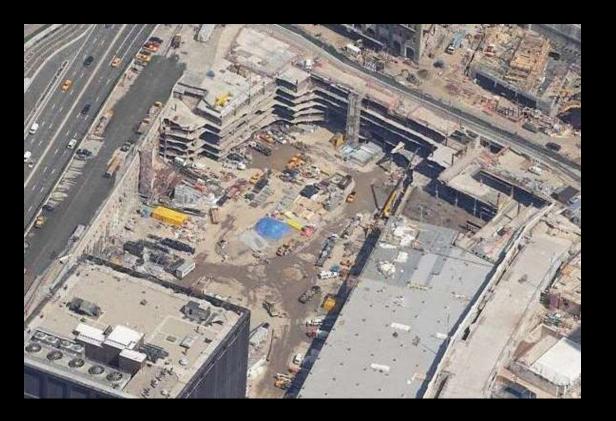
- ✓ Project
- ✓ Process
- ✓ Message
- ✓ Subject to FOIA Request

## Tips for Public Engagement

- ✓ Simple
- ✓ Numbers Work
  - ✓ Consistency:
    Stay on Message

### **Engage the Public**

- ✓ Be Transparent
- ✓ Attitude: Recognize Citizens have Civic Pride
- ✓ Embrace Those with a Different Opinion
- ✓ Allow for and Implement Input from the Community



**Twin Towers Site** 

- ✓ Highly Charged
- ✓ Massive Scope
  - ✓ Transparency
- ✓ Accommodation

### Difference of Opinion Revisited: Tampa Health Care Forums "Town Brawls"



- ✓ "Best Practices" of Disruption
  - ✓ Meeting Format
- ✓ Content Irrelevant

### **Know the Likely Opponents**

- ✓ Who are they?
- ✓ What is going to be their issue?
- ✓ Be ready to address their criticism

### **Target Your Audience**

✓ Stakeholders Have Varying Interests



### Hold an Informal Open House



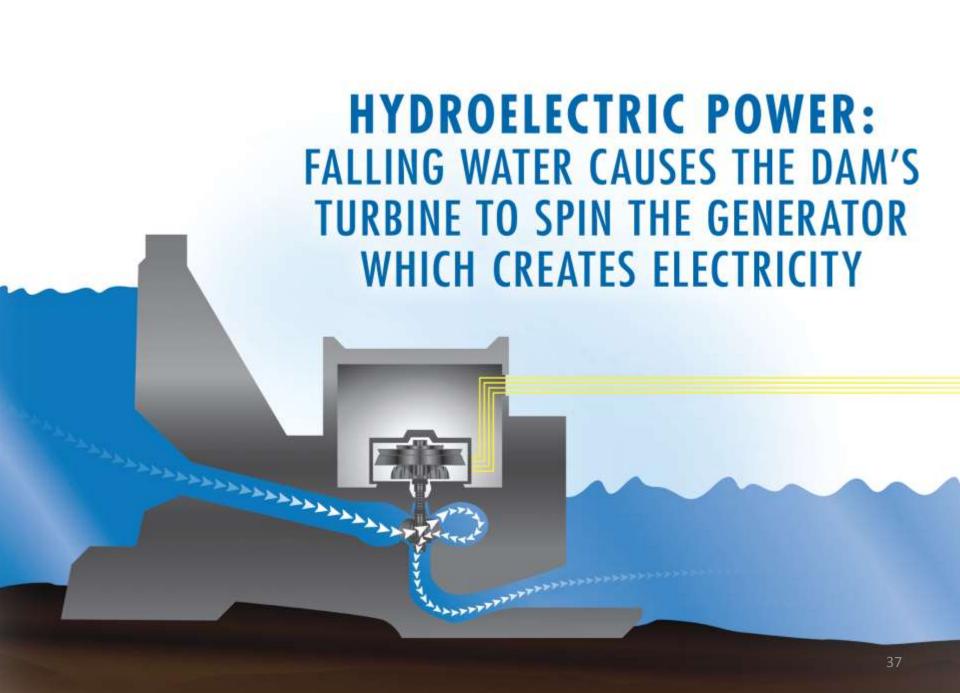
## **Utilize Existing Staff**

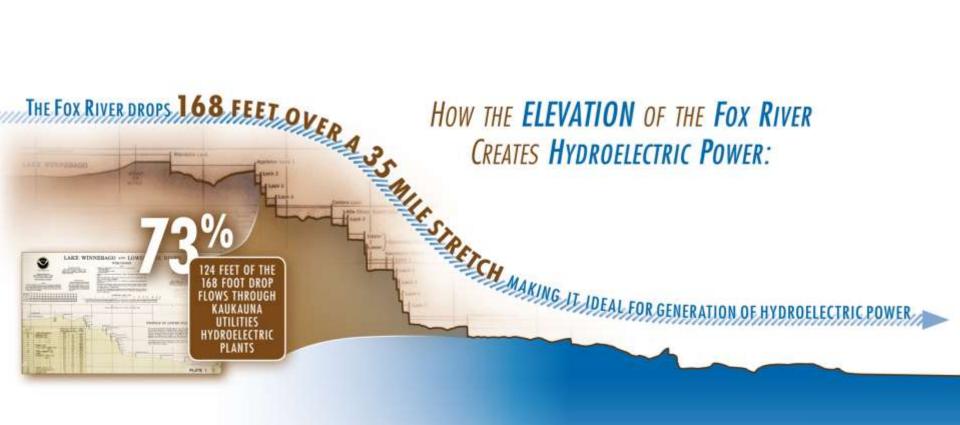


- ✓ Most Knowledgeable
  - ✓ Increase Their Stake in Project
  - ✓ Understand Where You Need Help and Where You Don't

## Data Visualization A Picture Says a Thousand Words







# **Engage Local**Newspapers

- ✓ Widely Read
- ✓ Great Opportunity to Focus Your Message





#### **KU proposing \$37 million hydro project**

By Brian Hoebke Editor

Man-made things dur't hast forever, and that's very true of hydroelectric generating plants, and the four Kaukanna Utilities generating units that are now around 100 years old are reaching the end of their speedul life.

After 10 years of study, staff at Kaukauna Utilities unveiled their proposal Wednesday afternoon at a public information session to spend \$27 million to rebuild their hydroelectric ficilities in downtown Kaukauna.

The recommendation is to build a new Badger powerhause containing two generating units to produce 7.2 MW of power, replacing four old generatory - which are 85 and 103 years old --- with a total capacity of 5.6 MW. Along with that, they are required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commussion to improve recreational facilities, namely at Hydro Park, and to protect the envirooment.

KU produces 20 percent of its energy from its hydroelectric plants, allowing them to have the third lowest rates in the state.

At the heart of the decision to eve-

which would keep rates from rising as much over the course of 50 years due to this project. If the plant was retired, rates are projected to rise 15. percent higher than current rates In year 2060.

"Over time, the regiocement energy has the grustest impact," Financial Manager Miler Kujawa said. The hydron over time, have a declining rate because we're autoally earning a return and naving three dollars."

Kujirwa suid KU san produce energy at a cost of a penny per kilowart hour as opposed to purchasing it for seven cents a kilowatt hour unthe wholesale market.

"We're going to replace four gener-





Kashrana Utilities illustration

This chart shows the costs of various options studied by Kaukauna Utilities along with the particulars of the proposed hydroelectric plant, KU staff is recommending approval of a new plant to the Kaukauna Utilities Commission, to be voted at the Dec. 21 meeting. The project would increase capacity of the hydro plants, rebuild the power canal, and improve Hydro Park.

increase support IN percent,"

General Manager Jeff Felift said. for another 100 years, making this 1942 when they built the city plant plants. After they're paid off, h's a a long-term investment.

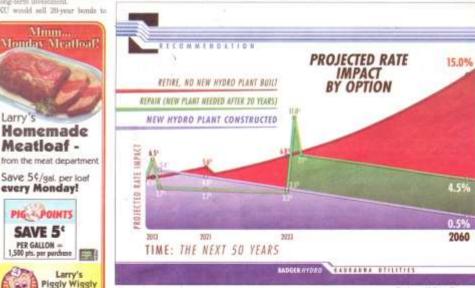
KU would sell 20-year bonds to

Kaukauna &

Little Chute

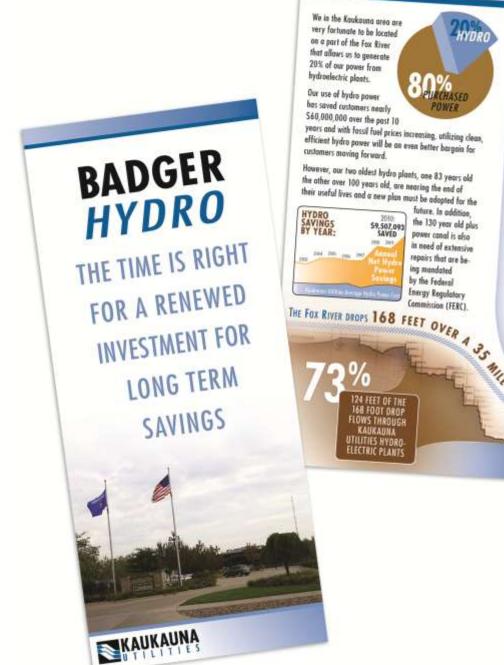
stors with two generators and finance the project. "Once you pay and had to make that expenditure, long-term benefit." the hands off is when you really reap or in 1988 when they built the the benefits of the hydro," Feldt said. Combined Locks plant where they KU plans to have the new units. "It's not unlike 100 years upo or in. had to take out bends to build those

Those decisions made many years ago have allowed Kaukauna Utilities customers, which include See Holm page 5



Kardyness Unitries (Hustration

This chart shows the projected rate impact by the three options studied by Kaukauna Utilities in regard to the hydroelectric plant. Long term, building a new plant will be the lowest cost option for customers.



HYDRO WE HAVE THREE OPTIONS: RETIRE REPAIR OR REPLACE THE EXISTING

BADGER PLANTS

WHY NOT RETIRE EXISTING BADGER PLANTS:

WHY NOT REPAIR EXISTING BADGER PLANTS:

Mend to preclaim implemental popular to offset output from Bodger plants Explorations power would be from both fuel ar other non-manwable recessor

Differential cost to purchase replacement power is currently more from \$2 endlors

Deplacement power subject to thing feel costs.

lete recent is significantly more than other absenution, especially knowner.

Power casel required to be remainfunded even if plants on repoint

reports by of 20 years Rate instance required would be підпійскийу яког на Істроста

conducted after 20 years

#### OUR RECOMMENDATION

After researching and evaluating options for more than 10 years, we've determined that the savings provided by replacing the existing plants will far outweigh the costs.

#### HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

future. In addition

the 130 year old plus

power canal is also

in need of extensive

repairs that are be-

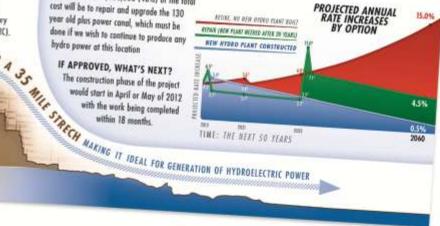
ing mandated by the Federal

The total cost of our recommendation is \$37,000,000. Of this about \$15,000,000 (40%) of the total cost will be to repair and upgrade the 130

year old plus power canal, which must be done if we wish to continue to produce any hydro power at this location

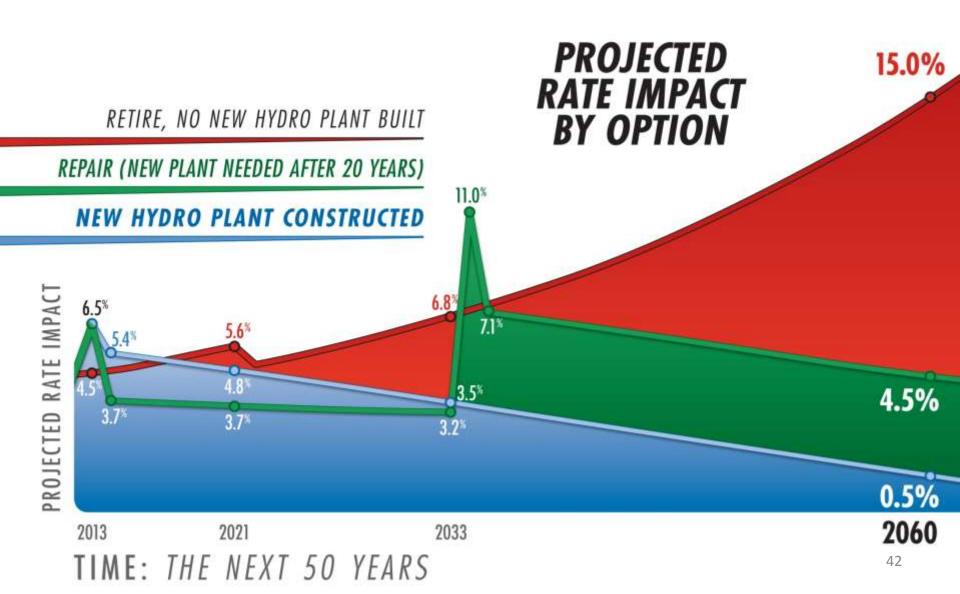
#### IF APPROVED, WHAT'S NEXT?

The construction phase of the project



#### **Be Transparent Regarding Costs & Benefits**

✓ Should be a Major Component of Overall Plan & Messaging



## **Engage Social Media**



### **Final Thoughts**

- ✓ Have a Plan
  - ✓ Be Honest
- ✓ Follow The Plan