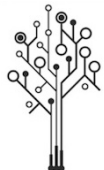


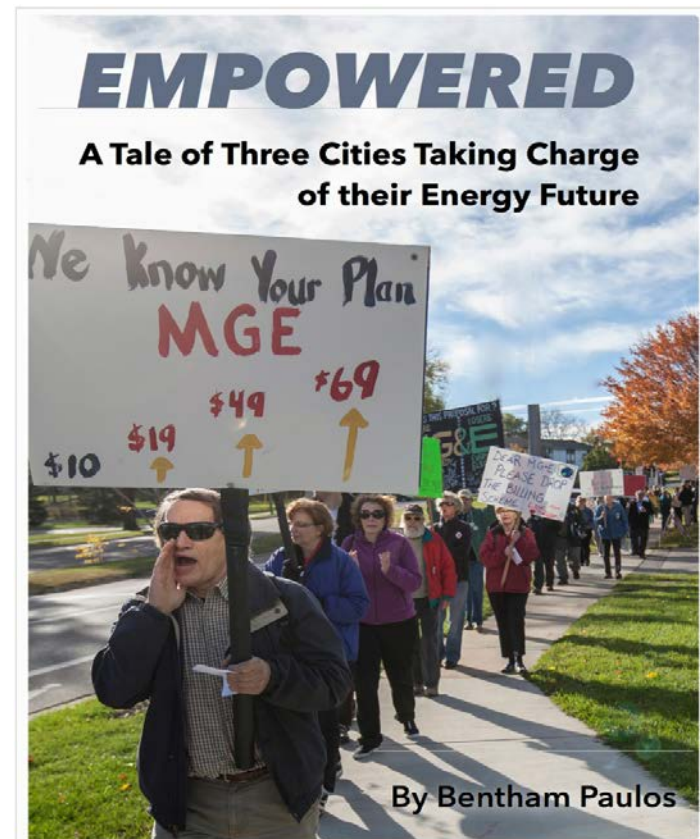
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energy policy, technology and trends





# Context

- ▣ Global warming = coal
- ▣ National political battles
- ▣ New technologies
- ▣ Utility war on solar – “disruptive challenge”
- ▣ State politics



# Boulder – “municipalization!”

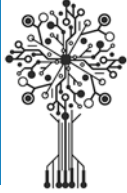


- Driven by climate action plan
- Four ballot initiatives and much <expensive> litigation
- Mayor -- "We many times asked Xcel if they would work with us, if there could be a shorter franchise, if there could be opt-out provisions, and they said no, no, no."



# Minneapolis – “options!”





## Minneapolis Energy Options

TAKING CHARGE OF OUR ENERGY FUTURE

- Took advantage of franchise agreement renewal to align utility with city climate goals
- Launched by green NGOs, joined by local activists
- “Options” included municipalization, which Xcel was facing in Boulder.
- Outcomes:
  - Short franchise
  - Partnership between city and utilities
  - TBD





# Madison – ?





- ▣ Citizen group formed to fight **fixed charge** proposals
- ▣ Tactics: social and earned media, organizing events, research, mobilized public
- ▣ PSC decision was rubber stamped...
- ▣ Demanding options from MG&E
  - ▣ Reduce/repeal fixed charges
  - ▣ 25% renewables
  - ▣ Tie executive bonuses to carbon reductions



# A little history



*MGE acquired a power plant from the Madison City Railway Company in 1896. The streetcar company became MGE's largest electric customer. Streetcars operated until February 1935. (King Street Photograph Courtesy of the*







# Some options

- ▣ Local financial and regulatory tools
- ▣ Influence MGE
- ▣ Influence state policy (PSC and legislature)
- ▣ Community choice aggregation
- ▣ Municipalization



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**A Tale of Three Cities Taking Charge of their Energy Future**

