

Energy Affordability Report Ranks 31st, Warns Of "Burdensome" Mandates

By Jim Talamonti | *The Center Square*
According to a new report on energy affordability, burdensome mandates are making Illinois more expensive.

The American Legislative Exchange Council's Energy Affordability Report ranks Illinois 31st out of 50 states.

Lora Current, ALEC's senior manager of the Energy, Environment & Agriculture Task Force, says Illinois has severe policies that will increase costs.

"We found that states who are just flat out more expensive in energy electricity, the common denominator is they have more burdensome mandates," Current told *The Center Square*.

Current said Illinois gets 54% of its energy from nuclear generation, but the percentage may drop due to the state's renewable portfolio standard of 100% by 2050.

"So that's already going to put a cap on how much you can invest in nuclear energy. So those are just a couple of the things that Illinois really needs to be thinking about if you're wanting to up your ranking and just lower the cost of electricity, of power, of energy in general for people in Illinois," Current said.

The General Assembly passed

legislation last fall to lift the state's moratorium on large nuclear projects.

Current said state governments want to shut down coal and natural gas plants to meet renewable portfolio standards.

"We can look at clean energy such as wind or solar as a great energy source, but is it going to produce enough to cover, let's say, a shut down coal plant? Is it going to produce enough to cover all of this 54% of nuclear that Illinois currently produces? And that's where the math just doesn't work," Current said.

The ALEC report rankings are for the lowest average retail electricity prices in 2024.

Current said the report did not specifically address the impact of battery storage or data centers. She said the report also did not project numbers based on the U.S. conflict in Iran and a recent spike in fuel prices.

Current said lawmakers need to implement an Affordable Reliable Clean Security Act to consider energy source affordability.

"That really is the first step. If consumers can't afford it, who cares how great it is? So is this an affordable solution? Is this then a reliable solution?" Current said.

Speak Up Students

(From Lacon Front Page)



PAWS: Torrinn Plummer



Pre-K PM Arowen Davis

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April Events



Lacon Area Community Center

April 8-Wed.	11:00 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Lutheran Church Service Sparland Baptist Bible Study Card Players (call for more info.)
April 11-Sat.	10:00 am	Scrapbooking Crop
April 13-Mon.	9:00 am	Luminous Unveiled Homeschool Co-op
April 14-Tues.	3:45pm 6:00 pm	Youth Art Class LACC Org. Meeting
April 15-Wed.	11:00 am 6:00 pm	Lutheran Church Service Card Players (call for more info.)
April 16-Thurs.	9:00 am	Marshall Co Democratic Convention
April 20-Mon.	9:00 am	Luminous Unveiled Homeschool Co-op
April 22-Wed.	11:00 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Lutheran Church Service Sparland Baptist Bible Study Card Players (call for more info.)
April 27-Mon.	9:00 am	Luminous Unveiled Homeschool Co-op
April 29-Wed.	11:00 am 6:00 pm	Lutheran Church Service Card Players (call for more info.)

For more information about any of these programs, other activities and building rental use please contact us: (309)246-4050 Laconcommunitycenter@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.

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MARSHALL COUNTY DEMOCRATS

Meeting & Town Hall
Thurs. April 16th 6:00pm

Lacon Area Community Center
405 N. Washington St.
Lacon, IL 61540

16th Congressional Candidate
PAUL NOLLEY
will join via Zoom.

marshall.co.il.democrats@gmail.com
MARSHALL COUNTY ILLINOIS DEMOCRATS

Sponsored and paid for by the Marshall County Democratic Committee.
This is NOT a fundraising event!

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PETS OF THE WEEK

For more information call The A.R.K. 477 State Route 26, Lacon, at 309-246-4275, or email us at arkanimalshelter@yahoo.com.

Shaun
Shaun is a wonderful two-year old boy. He weighs only 23 pounds, knows basic commands and is house trained. He is a bit shy at first, but warms up quickly and brings lots of terrific companionship in a small-ish package! Shaun is neutered, micro-chipped and current on all his shots.

Nellie
Little Nellie is only four months old and she is as sweet as her picture. Playful, affectionate and fun-loving, she is the perfect kitten. She is also already spayed, micro-chipped and current on all her shots.

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