



FACTSHEET

Power Plants to Parklands Project

ELPC's Power Plants to Parklands + Renewable Energy (P2P+RE) project works to transform coal plant sites into natural and clean energy community assets after they have shut down. Usually these sites sit idle, as fenced-off brownfields along rivers and lakes, however there is an opportunity here to turn these sites into public park lands, expanded wildlife refuges, solar energy projects, and energy storage development. Starting in Michigan, ELPC is engaging with utilities, community stakeholders, and policymakers to strategically analyze specific sites where this vision could be especially effective.

Regional Vision

There are approximately 100 coal plants in the Midwest. We estimate about 2/3 are retired or will retire in the coming years. With the help of ELPC and our partners, utilities and communities have the unique opportunity to build new assets by:



Taking advantage of existing grid connection to develop renewable energy, which accelerates timelines & reduces costs.



Restoring public access to waterfront parklands, where coal plants were historically located, & connecting them to adjacent natural areas.



Next Steps

ELPC is starting with a set of coal plants in Michigan that are slated for closure or have recently closed. Turn the page to learn about the Campbell, Karn, and Trenton sites. As this project grows, ELPC is reviewing potential new projects across the Great Lakes region, prioritizing:

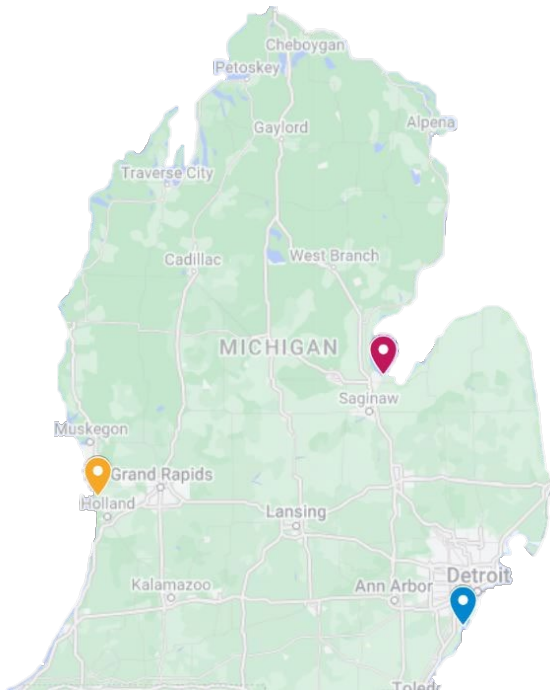
- Sites along Great Lakes shorelines and/or where adjacent parks can be connected
- States and utilities that have supportive clean energy and climate plans
- Utilities with clean energy commitments or climate plans





Current P2P+RE Sites in Michigan

ELPC is currently working with partners on 3 coal plant site restoration processes in Michigan, where we have strategic opportunities to create benefits for generations to come.



Dan E. Karn Power Plant

Essexville, MI – Bay County

Owned by: Consumers Energy

Partner: Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy

- 2,400 acres
- Closed two coal units in June 2023; converted to natural gas & fuel oil units & run as a peaker plant until May 2031.

Future Plans:

- 80 MW solar generation (220k panels)
- 45 MW battery energy storage facility
- Conservation, including along the Saginaw River & Saginaw Bay/Lake Huron
- Public path connecting to Soehnel Nature Trail

J.H. Campbell Generating Plant

West Olive, MI – Ottawa County

Owned by: Consumers Energy

Partner: Ottawa County Parks and Recreation

- 2,440 acres
- May 2025 retirement delayed by Trump Administration

Future Plans:

- 750 MW battery energy storage facility
- 1,500 ft of restored Lake Michigan frontage & 12,500 ft of Pigeon Lake & River System lands

Trenton Channel Power Plant

Trenton, MI – Wayne County

Owned by: DTE Energy

Partner: The PEA Group

- 458 acres
- Closed in 2022; demolition completed in 2024 and 2025

Future Plans:

- 220 MW battery energy storage facility
- Greenway path, construction starting end of 2025
- 225 acres of open fields, woods, ponds, and sound berms
- 185 acres of critical dunes





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