



WISCONSIN STATE SENATE
DALE W. SCHULTZ

December 5, 2013

Phil Montgomery, Chairperson
Eric Callisto, Commissioner
Ellen Nowak, Commissioner
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 7854
Madison WI 53707

Dear Chairperson Montgomery and Commissioners Callisto and Nowak,

I join several units of government and residents in the senate district I represent in asking you to do an independent cost/benefit analyses for proposed high voltage transmission lines and other options for our electric energy future before you act on Badger-Coulee or other lines.

Our request is warranted considering the projected billions of dollars in Wisconsin ratepayer cost share for several planned high voltage transmission lines in this and other Midwest states.

According to the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), 17 high voltage transmission lines with a \$5.2 billion price tag are planned for the Midwest (January, 2012 MVP (multi-value projects) Portfolio Analysis). Discussion of need and consideration of other options as part of the proposed Badger-Coulee line application would be a wholly inadequate substitute to your conducting comprehensive cost/benefit analyses of multiple options before committing billions to a course of action.

The rate of increase in energy use has declined to nearly flat and Wisconsin has a robust enough electrical grid to supply the state's needs. My constituents and I reasonably want an independent answer to whether proposed lines are warranted for in-state energy reliability. It is reasonable to question whether the benefits of lines are commensurate with the full scope of impacts ratepayers, residents and communities would suffer.

SOUL is placing this letter in Docket # 05-CE-142.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale W. Schultz", written over a faint circular stamp.

Senator Dale Schultz



KATHLEEN VINEHOUT

STATE SENATOR

May 6, 2014

Commissioner Phil Montgomery, Chair
WI Public Service Commission

Commissioner Eric Callisto
WI Public Service Commission

Commissioner Ellen Nowak
WI Public Service Commission

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to convey the concerns of constituents in my district surrounding the Badger-Coulee high-voltage transmission line (PSC Docket #05-CE-142). Specifically they request the Public Service Commission to perform an impartial cost-benefit analysis of this high-voltage transmission line.

These projects have great impact on Wisconsin rate payers, not only in terms of available and reliable power, but also in terms of development costs borne by rate payers. I appreciate your willingness to discuss issues surrounding the proposal and request that you respond to the following constituent concerns:

- Examine in-state energy reliability and study all options before approving high-voltage transmission lines. Constituents have noted that additional high-voltage transmission capacity and energy is not needed due to lower consumption, increased renewable energy use and an already robust electrical grid supplying the state's own energy needs.
- Assess the benefit to in-state ratepayers versus the benefit to out-of-state customers.
- Conduct a review of how other states are investing in demand-side management and local energy generation instead of centralized energy production and long distance transmission.

I request that you respond to these requests so that I may share the information with my constituents. Additionally, please submit this letter to PSC Docket #05-CE-142. I appreciate your consideration of this request and please contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kathleen", is written over a horizontal line.

Kathleen Vinehout
State Senator
31st District



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

December 11, 2013

Commissioner Phil Montgomery, Chair
WI Public Service Commission

Commissioner Eric Callisto
WI Public Service Commission

Commissioner Ellen Nowak
WI Public Service Commission

Dear Commissioners,

We are writing on behalf of constituents and municipalities in our districts who have requested that the Public Service Commission (PSC) perform an impartial cost-benefit analysis of high-voltage transmission line proposals in Wisconsin and, should the PSC determine it has the authority, also in the Midwest. As you are aware, on November 21, 2013, the PSC asked the applicants of the Badger-Coulee high-voltage transmission line proposal (PSC Docket #05-CE-142) to provide more information regarding the project and an explanation of the need for the project and a consideration of other options.

High-voltage transmission line proposals are of deep importance to Wisconsin ratepayers who share in the cost of transmission development. We appreciate your willingness to discuss issues surrounding the proposal and request that you respond to our offices regarding the following constituent concerns.

1. Examine in-state energy reliability and study all options before approving high-voltage transmission lines.
 - Constituents have noted that additional high-voltage transmission lines and energy is not needed, noting lower energy consumption levels, an increased use of renewable energy sources, and an already robust electrical grid supplying the state's energy needs. We request an assessment of the in-state benefit versus the benefit to out-of-state customers and a review of how other states and countries are investing in demand-side management and local energy generation instead of centralized energy production and long distance transmission lines.
2. Determine the cost to Wisconsin ratepayers for financing the development of high-voltage transmission lines.
 - Municipalities in our districts and across the state have passed resolutions requesting that the PSC determine the cost to Wisconsin ratepayers for their share in financing the development of high-voltage transmission lines across the Midwest compared to alternative investments within the state.
3. Determine if the PSC has the authority to compare options in regards to not only Wisconsin lines but also lines in other Midwest states that are part of the multi-value project for which Wisconsin taxpayers would share the cost.
 - Concerns have been raised that a shared-cost analysis of the proposed Badger-Coulee line would be incomplete if it does not include an evaluation of the state's liability for all shared-cost projects in the Midwest region.

We request that you respond to our offices regarding these concerns and submit our letter to PSC Docket #05-CE-142. We appreciate your time and consideration of this request, and if you should have any questions about this issue, please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Shilling
State Senator
32nd Senate District

Steve Doyle
State Representative
94th Assembly District

Jill Billings
State Representative
95th Assembly District



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TERESE BERCEAU

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

77TH DISTRICT

January 7, 2014

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Dear Public Service Commission Members,

I am writing today to express my support for resolutions from Save Our Unique Lands (SOUL) calling for the Public Service Commission (PSC) to conduct a comprehensive cost/benefit analysis comparing proposed high-voltage transmission lines with non-transmission alternatives such as energy efficiency measures and renewable sources of energy. I understand that more than ninety communities and over two thousand Wisconsin residents also support this request.

I believe such a study is needed because Wisconsin ratepayers would be responsible for a significant portion of the billions of dollars it will cost to build the high-voltage transmission lines planned for this state and those that utilities and transmission companies want to build in other Midwest states. According to the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), seventeen high voltage transmission lines expected to cost \$5.2 billion are planned for the Midwest (January, 2012 MVP (multi-value projects) Portfolio Analysis). My constituents are among the Wisconsin residents who want the PSC to conduct a careful and thorough study of all options before committing their money to pay for such a huge and potentially avoidable expenditure.

Energy use in Wisconsin is basically flat and our electrical grid is already robust enough to supply the state's needs. Given those factors, it is reasonable and prudent to question whether the proposed lines are truly needed for in-state energy reliability. Wisconsin residents should not have to pay for transmission lines that would merely pass through our state without providing them commensurate benefit, especially if viable alternatives are available.

If in-state reliability concerns do indeed exist, the PSC needs to take into account the fact that many Wisconsin residents and businesses are investing in energy efficiency measures, which would make the proposed lines even less necessary. I am also aware that other states and countries are investing in local generation rather than centralized energy production and long-distance transmission lines.

On November 21, 2013, the PSC asked the applicants proposing the Badger Coulee transmission line for more information including an explanation of need and consideration of other options. I believe this must include comparing the cost to Wisconsin ratepayers for

- page two -

our share in financing the total build-out of high-voltage lines in Wisconsin and other Midwest states to alternative investments within the state.

I ask that you consider the SOUL resolutions asking for this study before making any decision regarding the proposed new high voltage transmission lines. I understand that SOUL is placing my letter of support in Docket #05-CE-142.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Terese Berceau".

Terese Berceau
State Representative
77th Assembly District



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CHRIS DANOU

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

92nd DISTRICT

May 12, 2014

Commissioner Phil Montgomery, Chair
WI Public Service Commission

Commissioner Eric Callisto
WI Public Service Commission

Commissioner Ellen Nowak
WI Public Service Commission

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to convey the concerns of constituents in my district surrounding the Badger-Coulee high-voltage transmission line (PSC Docket #05-CE-142). Specifically, they request the Public Service Commission to perform an impartial cost-benefit analysis of this high-voltage transmission line.

These projects have a great impact on Wisconsin rate payers, not only in terms of available and reliable power, but also in terms of development costs borne by rate payers. I appreciate your willingness to discuss issues surrounding the proposal and request that you respond to the following constituent concerns:

- Examine in-state energy reliability and study all options before approving high-voltage transmission lines. Constituents have noted that additional high-voltage transmission capacity and energy is not needed due to lower consumption, increased renewable energy use and an already robust electrical grid supplying the state's own energy needs.

- Assess the benefit to in-state ratepayers versus the benefit to out-of-state customers.

- Conduct a review of how other states are investing in demand-side management and local energy generation instead of centralized energy production and long distance transmission.

I request that you respond to these requests so that I may share the information with my constituents. Additionally, please submit this letter to PSC Docket #05-CE-142. I appreciate your consideration of this request and please contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Danou".

Chris Danou
State Representative
92nd Assembly District

Serving Buffalo, Jackson and Trempealeau Counties

State Capitol: P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708 ♦ (608) 266-7015 ♦ Toll-free: (888) 534-0092 ♦ FAX: (608) 282-3692

E-mail: rep.danou@legis.wi.gov ♦ Printed on recycled paper. ♻



January 2, 2014

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Phil Montgomery, Chairman
PO Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Commissioners:

I write you after being contacted by constituents of mine concerned with the proposed Badger Coulee high voltage transmission line project proposed by ATC. As you are aware, this project would impact many Wisconsin residents not only with the massive power lines but the potential for rate increases.

It is my belief that the PSC should insist on an impartial cost/benefit study comparing proposed high voltage transmission lines with options. The lines that will be situated in Wisconsin would be utilized as pass-through supply for electrical grids supporting other Midwest energy reliability. The energy-saving measures that Wisconsin businesses and residents have undertaken should be considered when focusing on the need for, the costs and benefits to Wisconsin utility ratepayers. I urge the PSC to fully consider all options before committing Wisconsin ratepayer money to pay for a potentially avoidable expenditure.

Thank you for considering my request. I would appreciate you adding my letter of concern to the Badger Coulee Application Docket #05-CE-142.

Sincerely,

Dianne Hesselbein
State Representative
79th Assembly District

DCH/sam



PSC REF#: 205661

SONDY POPE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
80TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
RECEIVED: 06/03/14, 5:06:54 PM

June 3rd, 2014

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Commissioners Phil Montgomery, Eric Callisto and Ellen Nowak
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854

Dear Commissioners:

I have been aware of the rapid growth and expansion of high-voltage transmission lines throughout Wisconsin for many years. I write to request that the Public Service Commission heed the advice and requests of many Wisconsin citizens to seek, at the very least, an impartial and factual cost/benefit study which would include consideration of the many other options available to meet the real energy needs of our state.

Having been involved in the issues associated with ATC lines through my district for the past 12 years, it is my continued belief that PSC is moving ahead on projects without due consideration to the actual needs for increased energy transmission and the many options available as it continues to expand lines across the state.

There is little doubt that energy usage has changed over the years as more energy efficient buildings as well as appliances and devices are put to use and as consumers become increasingly aware of the importance of energy conservation. There is little doubt that the centralized nature of energy production and transmission is ill-advised when local generation is an option. There is little doubt that Wisconsin does not receive appropriate benefit for the risks and costs involved in this expansion.

What seems to hold steady is the relentless push by the PSC to continue on a path of expansion regardless of the opinions and objections of the citizens who are paying the cost.

Again, I ask that before any proposed new high voltage transmission lines are considered or approved, an impartial cost/benefit study be completed.

Sincerely,

Sondy Pope
State Representative
80th Assembly District



EDWARD BROOKS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

December 11, 2013

Mr. James Lepinski
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Mr. Lepinski,

I write to you as the State Representative of a district that will be affected by the proposed siting of ATC's Badger-Coulee Transmission project. Both proposed routes would bring the lines through the 50th district, and as such, I wish to express some thoughts on the process going forward.

Over the past year, I have conducted nearly thirty listening sessions in my district. The ATC proposal has been a topic of discussion at a majority of these gatherings. People want there to be a demonstrable need for increased energy access before any projects are approved. Currently, the proposed ATC route will disrupt the lives of many of my constituents, and they want to know that their lives are not being interfered with casually. Impartially conducted scientific studies should be produced to demonstrate the rationale for taking action.

Additionally, if an energy need is proven to exist, my constituents and I insist that alternative options to high voltage transmission lines be carefully considered. Again, given the disruptive nature of these lines, it is my belief that they should not be constructed casually.

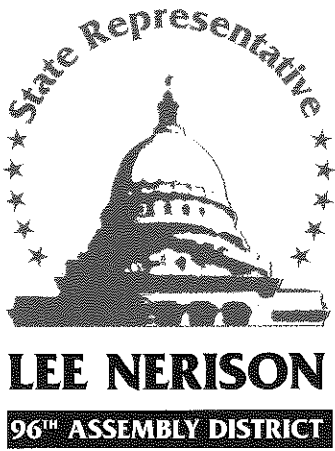
Should the PSC determine that these lines are a necessity, I believe the majority of my constituents prefer the northern route that follows the interstate (Alternative Route P-East). This route would disrupt the least amount of farm land and would follow the PSC's policy of utilizing existing corridors.

Earlier this year I distributed a legislative survey that asked a question about streamlining PSC oversight processes. The answers that I received to this question revealed a mood of concern among the people of the 50th Assembly District. People have felt that their voices have little effect on PSC decision making. By following the steps described above, I believe the PSC can alter this perception.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Brooks".

Rep. Ed Brooks



July 15, 2014

Phil Montgomery, Chairperson
Eric Callisto, Commissioner
Ellen Nowak, Commissioner
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Chairperson Montgomery and Commissioners Callisto and Nowak,

Capitol:

Post Office Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

(608) 266-3534

Toll-Free: (888) 534-0096

Fax: (608) 282-3696

Rep.Nerison@legis.wi.gov

District:

S3035 CTH B

Westby, WI 54667

(608) 634-4562

I am writing in regard to the Badger Coulee Transmission Line Project which proposes a high-voltage transmission line through the 96th Assembly District that I represent in western Wisconsin. I am writing to convey my constituents' and my own concerns over the impact this line could have on our way of life.

I share the concerns of homeowners and business owners whose land value and businesses will likely be adversely affected by this project in both a monetary and intrinsic sense. For those reasons, I am asking you to do an independent cost/benefit analysis for the proposed high voltage transmission lines and investigate all other energy options before any decision is made on the Badger-Coulee Transmission Line Project.

As you know, both of the proposed routes currently being considered run through the area that I represent. Should an independent cost/benefit analysis show the need for a high-voltage transmission line in this area, it is my opinion that it should follow a route that has the least impact on the environment and landscape, property owners, and agriculture. I urge you to strongly consider these factors and the concerns voiced to you by the many people who have attended listening sessions and wrote letters and emails.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Lee Nerison
State Representative
96th Assembly District



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
81st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

PSC REF#:197248

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
RECEIVED: 01/10/14, 3:24:51 PM

January 6, 2014

Phil Montgomery
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Chairperson Montgomery,

Cities, villages, towns and constituents in the 81st Assembly District that I represent are among more than 90 municipalities and 2,000-plus Wisconsin residents asking for an impartial cost/benefit study comparing proposed high voltage transmission lines in Wisconsin with other alternatives to address our energy needs.

I believe this is a reasonable and prudent request because Wisconsin ratepayers will share in the cost of high voltage transmission lines planned for this state, as well as those that utilities and transmission companies want to build in other Midwest states.

According to the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), 17 high voltage transmission lines with a \$5.2 billion price tag are planned for the Midwest (January, 2012 MVP (multi-value projects) Portfolio Analysis). Wisconsin ratepayers would share the cost of those lines and singularly pay for additional in-state transmission expansion.

My constituents are among the growing number of Wisconsin residents deeply concerned with the growing dependency on large transmission projects that do not seem to be warranted by current or future needs. We strongly urge the PSC to carefully study ALL options before committing their money to pay for such a huge and potentially avoidable expenditure.

According to the PSC's own Strategic Energy Assessment, the rate of increase in energy use in Wisconsin has declined to nearly flat, and we have a robust enough electrical grid to supply the state's needs. My constituents question whether proposed lines are for in-state energy reliability, and they do not want to pay for lines that would pass through our state without providing them commensurate benefit. And if in-state reliability concerns indeed exist, they know that many Wisconsin residents and businesses are investing in energy efficiency measures, which would make the proposed lines even less necessary. Other states and countries are instead successfully investing in local generation without the need to invest in capital intensive centralized energy production and long distance transmission lines.

On Nov. 21, the PSC asked applicants proposing the Badger Coulee transmission line for more information including explanation of need and consideration of other options. I ask that you join my constituents in supporting the resolutions asking for this study before any decision is made on any proposed new high voltage transmission lines. I understand that SOUL is placing my letter of support in Docket # 05-CE-142.

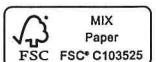
Sincerely,

FRED CLARK
State Representative
81st Assembly District

State Capitol: P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708 ♦ (608) 266-7746 ♦ Toll-free: (888) 534-0081 ♦ FAX: (608) 282-3681

E-mail: rep.clark@legis.wi.gov ♦ Web: <http://clark.assembly.wi.gov> ♦ Printed on recycled paper.

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
81st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

January 6, 2014

Ellen Nowak
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

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JAN 07 REC'D
Commissioners' Office

Commissioner Nowak,

Cities, villages, towns and constituents in the 81st Assembly District that I represent are among more than 90 municipalities and 2,000-plus Wisconsin residents asking for an impartial cost/benefit study comparing proposed high voltage transmission lines in Wisconsin with other alternatives to address our energy needs.

I believe this is a reasonable and prudent request because Wisconsin ratepayers will share in the cost of high voltage transmission lines planned for this state, as well as those that utilities and transmission companies want to build in other Midwest states.

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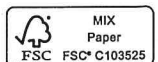
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On Nov. 21, the PSC asked applicants proposing the Badger Coulee transmission line for more information including explanation of need and consideration of other options. I ask that you join my constituents in supporting the resolutions asking for this study before any decision is made on any proposed new high voltage transmission lines. I understand that SOUL is placing my letter of support in Docket # 05-CE-142.

Sincerely,

FRED CLARK
State Representative
81st Assembly District





STATE REPRESENTATIVE
81st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

January 6, 2014

Eric Callisto
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

RECEIVED

JAN 07 REC'D

Commissioners' Office

Commissioner Callisto,

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Sincerely,

FRED CLARK
State Representative
81st Assembly District