

Resolution 1815-01 Update OF Town of Arena, Iowa County **RESOLUTION**
REGARDING UTILITY APPLICATION #5CE146 INCLUDING A 345 kV TRANSMISSION
PROJECT AND ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is currently considering a transmission proposal with a 345 kV high voltage option from Middleton, Wisconsin to Dubuque County Iowa known as, "Cardinal Hickory Creek" and other potential transmission expansion projects have been announced to the PSC.

WHEREAS, these projects are being proposed for high capacity regional transfer increasing the demand for additional high voltage transmission investments in Wisconsin and regionally; and,

WHEREAS, the final costs for these projects including financing costs and maintenance over 40 years would reach into billions of dollars and place significant financial burden on all Wisconsin ratepayers in addition to those in other states; and,

WHEREAS, use of electricity in Wisconsin and adjacent states has been in decline over the last six years and utilities in ATC's service area have projected flat load growth through 2020 in the most recent PSC planning documents; and,

WHEREAS, there are other means of meeting any need claimed by the applicants that must be considered including comparable investment in accelerated energy efficiency/conservation, load management and local power options (including solar) before high-capacity transmission is determined; and,

WHEREAS, average ratepayer investment in energy efficiency in the U.S. tripled from 2007 to 2012 to lower end user costs and emissions while investment in energy efficiency dropped in Wisconsin over the same period; and,

WHEREAS, our responsibilities include protecting and enhancing natural and local economic assets, including scenic beauty and development potential that would be adversely impacted by 110 to 180 foot steel or concrete poles of high voltage transmission; and

WHEREAS, high-profile transmission additions tend to reduce of property values due to view shed and perceived health harms with adverse effects on local and state tourism and the general economy and non-transmission alternatives tend to produce positive impacts; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 1.13(2) encourages local governmental units to define their energy planning priorities and SS1.11(2) encourages the WI PSC to study, develop, and describe appropriate alternatives to recommended courses of action for full public consideration before the scoping stage of utility applications and for preparation of the Impact Statement; and,

WHEREAS detailed explanations of the perceived need for regional transmission expansion has not been combined with a comprehensive comparison of long-term investment costs and returns for all energy investment options and provided for Wisconsin ratepayers in clear terms as monthly, average potential savings, long-term job creation and carbon emission impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that

1. The Town of Arena in Iowa County requests that all efforts made to develop or enhance the energy system upon which our community relies adhere to these energy investment priorities:
 - a. Maximize cost-effective conservation, efficiency, and load management;
 - b. Rely to the greatest extent possible on local renewable generation;
 - c. Support local ownership of energy generation that includes dispersed renewable energy to support the local economy including the creation of sustainable jobs;
 - d. Minimize the size, scale, voltage and environmental impacts of electric transmission and generation.

2. The Town of Arena in Iowa County is without sufficient means to evaluate the current proposal in terms of these priorities.

3. The Town of Arena in Iowa County requests the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to ask the applicants to provide potentially impacted landowners and Wisconsin ratepayers clear, consumer-friendly descriptions of the cost-benefit analysis the applicants are conducting concerning all energy investment options in materials made available in open houses during the public outreach phase of this proposal and on the internet during the same time period.

4. Upon receipt of the application, the Town of Arena in Iowa County requests Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to ensure that the applicants provide a clear, consumer-friendly, comprehensive, cost-benefit analysis incorporating comparisons of comparable investments in accelerated energy efficiency, load management, distributed generation (on site/community and other local, non-fossil fuel generation). The dollar amount applied to each of these non-transmission investment options should be no less than estimated total Wisconsin ratepayers would assume for the proposed project, with financing, maintenance and operation costs over 40 years. We ask that this analysis provide summaries of these comparisons with estimated, averaged impacts on typical monthly electric bills for residential and commercial customers in Wisconsin accommodating all costs.

5. Upon receipt of the application, the Town of Arena in Iowa County requests Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to ensure that the application evaluates the economic outcomes on directly affected local economies for the high voltage transmission option, the low voltage transmission option and the non-transmission options, We ask that application include analysis of total carbon emission impacts over time for the same energy investment options.

6. Upon receipt of the application, the Town of Arena in Iowa County requests Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to ensure that the above application information be complete and fully accessible to all potentially impacted landowners, all municipal governments in all potentially impacted counties and state wide media outlets for all affected ratepayers at the same time Notice of Proceeding is made and before the public scoping process is initiated.

The below clerk is authorized to transmit this resolution and other appropriate documents to Wisconsin Public Service Commission on docket #05CE146.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the _____ Town _____ of _____ Arena _____ Board hereby approves the resolution ADOPTED this _____ 5th _____ day of _____ May _____, 2015.

Signed by Don Loney _____ (chair)

Attested by Cathy Ackee _____ (clerk)
on this 5th day of May, 2015.

Clerk's email address townofarena@mhtc.net