

**TOWN OF BRISTOL  
RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 02**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED BELL CENTER-  
COLUMBIA-SUGAR CREEK-ILLINOIS/WISCONSIN STATE LINE  
(BECI) 765-kV COMPETITIVE TRANSMISSION PROJECT THROUGH  
THE TOWN OF BRISTOL, DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Bristol, Dane County, Wisconsin is a predominantly rural and agricultural community characterized by prime farmland, family farms, wetlands, woodlands, open space, rural residences, and natural resources that contribute substantially to the Town's economy, environment, and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO) has approved the Bell Center-Columbia-Sugar Creek-Illinois/Wisconsin State Line 765-kV Competitive Transmission Project (BECI) as part of its Long-Range Transmission Planning portfolio, and Midcontinent Grid Solutions has been selected to develop the project; and

**WHEREAS**, the BECI Project is proposed to consist of approximately 190 miles of new single-circuit 765-kV transmission facilities extending across Wisconsin to an interconnection at the Illinois/Wisconsin state line, and a final transmission-line route has not yet been selected; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed BECI 765-kV transmission project is intended to serve regional transmission needs and would provide little or no direct benefit to the residents, farms, businesses, or taxpayers of the Town of Bristol while imposing significant local burdens; and

**WHEREAS**, construction of a new 765-kV transmission corridor through the Town could require substantial rights-of-way, clearing of vegetation, installation of large transmission structures, construction access, and permanent restrictions on the use and development of affected property; and

**WHEREAS**, such a corridor could reduce property values, limit the use and enjoyment of private property, fragment productive farmland, interfere with farming practices and drainage systems, compact soils, cause crop losses, and reduce the productivity and long-term agricultural value of farmland; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Bristol's rural scenery, agricultural landscape, natural resources, and community character contribute to tourism, recreation, local businesses, and the overall attractiveness of the area, and large-scale transmission infrastructure could discourage tourism and negatively affect these economic activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed corridor could affect wetlands, woodlands, waterways, wildlife habitat, environmental corridors, and other natural resources, while permanently altering the rural landscape, agricultural heritage, scenic character, open space, and residential quality of the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board finds that the potential loss of property value, agricultural productivity, tourism activity, local economic development, tax-base stability, and use of local land

and natural resources would result in an overall negative impact on the Town's economy, revenues, residents, and resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board believes transmission planning and routing decisions should fully evaluate alternatives that avoid or minimize impacts on established rural communities, productive agricultural lands, residences, environmentally sensitive areas, and private property, with meaningful participation by affected municipalities and landowners.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bristol, Dane County, Wisconsin, formally and unequivocally opposes the routing and construction of the proposed BECI 765-kV high-voltage transmission line through the Town of Bristol, finding that the project would provide little or no direct benefit to Bristol residents while place disproportionate burdens upon the Town through potential reductions in property values, loss of productive farmland, impacts upon agricultural operations, deterrence of tourism and recreation, disruption of the rural landscape, and negative effects upon the Town's local economy, revenues, natural resources, and quality of life. The Town Board further urges Midcontinent Grid Solutions, MISO, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, and all other agencies and entities involved in the planning and approval of the project to select a route that avoids the Town of Bristol and minimizes impacts upon agricultural lands, rural residences, private property, tourism, environmentally sensitive areas, and local economic resources.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that nothing in this Resolution is intended to conflict with or supersede any applicable state or federal law or the lawful jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin or any other governmental agency. The Town Clerk is authorized to transmit this Resolution to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, Midcontinent Grid Solutions, MISO, Dane County, the Town's state and federal representatives, the Governor of Wisconsin, and other appropriate officials.

Submitted to the Town Board for consideration this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2026.

Adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August 2026.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD

By: Brian L. Willison  
Brian L. Willison, Chairman

By: Ben Grove  
Ben Grove, Supervisor

By: Charles Kvalo  
Charles Kvalo, Supervisor

By: Kimberly M. Grob  
Kimberly M. Grob, Clerk