

SYNOPSIS: Resolution Opposing the Bell Center-Columbia-Sugar Creek-Illinois (BECI)765-kV Transmission Line and Requesting Midcontinent Grid Solutions Delay Certification of Public Convenience and Necessity Application
INTRODUCED BY: Executive Committee

WHEREAS, Columbia County residents have expressed strong concerns and opposition to Midcontinent Grid Solutions' (MGS's) plan to install the Bell Center-Columbia-Sugar Creek-Illinois (BECI) 765-kV transmission line through Columbia County; and

WHEREAS, our constituents have overwhelmingly expressed their opposition to this project and have written, called, and spoken at public meetings regarding their fear, confusion, and outrage at the proposed locations, scope, speed, and perceived lack of information surrounding the BECI project; and

WHEREAS, the MISO data reveals that the combination of proposed and completed Megawatts (MW) of solar, wind, and BESS projects is greater in Columbia County than all other counties in Wisconsin, and this has impacted some of the most productive agricultural land in the world on the Arlington Prairie and in other areas of the county;

WHEREAS, an interstate project of this nature with federal, regional, and state levels of involvement and involving the highly complex and specialized industry of energy transmission and delivery reasonably requires extra time for potentially affected residents and local governments to learn about the scope and complexities of this project, identify the entities involved, understand the need for the project, clarify where the route will go and how it might impact them, figure out the project timeline, get their questions answered about why this may be needed, make property-specific requests, and develop and share thoughtful feedback; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the ~~28~~ ^{supervisor} Columbia County Board hereby states its opposition to the Bell Center-Columbia-Sugar Creek-Illinois 765-kV transmission line as proposed, and stands with the residents, landowners, and communities of Columbia County who oppose the **proposed** siting of this line through our county; respectfully asks MGS, on behalf of the Board and the concerned constituents of Columbia County who own or live near the land where the proposed line is sited, that MGS postpone the CPCN application filing with the PSC until after a third round of open house meetings in the spring of 2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we ask MGS to fulfill their stated goal to be a “good neighbor” and provide a feedback window of time until at least May 2027. During that time, we would encourage MGS to do more to reach out to our County Board and the affected communities, share information, listen to people’s perspectives, and see first-hand how the project would impact our constituents. We appreciate

57 MGS's thoughtful consideration of this request and invite MGS to reach out to Columbia County with any
58 questions or information; and

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60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to transmit certified copies of
61 this resolution to Midcontinent Grid Solutions, the Public Service Commission, all other counties affected
62 by the proposed transmission line, the Governor of Wisconsin, and state legislators representing Columbia
63 County.

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65 Fiscal Note: N/A

66 Fiscal Impact: N/A

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71 **STATE OF WISCONSIN**
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA
72 **CERTIFIED COPY**

73 I certify that this is a true and exact copy
74 of the original of which I am legal custodian
75 for the County Clerk of Columbia County.

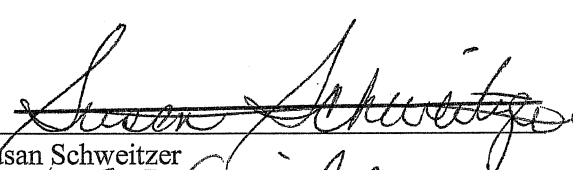
76 Signed by

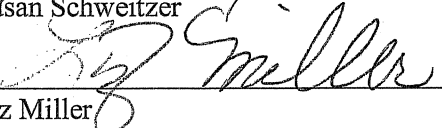
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78 County Clerk or Deputy County Clerk

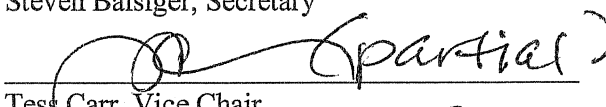
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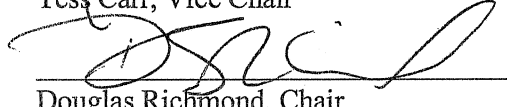
80 Date

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Susan Schweitzer


Liz Miller


Steven Balsiger, Secretary


Tess Carr, Vice Chair


Douglas Richmond, Chair

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE