

TOWN OF DEKORRA

TBR-2026-03: A Resolution Stating the Opposition of the Town of Dekorra, Columbia County, WI, to the Proposed BECI 765-kV Transmission Line.

WHEREAS, the Town of Dekorra, Columbia County, Wisconsin, is beautifully situated in the heart of southern Wisconsin set amidst abundant natural resources and productive farmland marked by its rural character; and,

WHEREAS, the Town is bound by the scenic waters of the Wisconsin River and Lake Wisconsin, and holds within its borders priceless ecological treasures, including threatened and endangered species of flora and fauna, abundant natural areas which include class I and II trout streams uniquely inhabited by native trout species, woodlands, and forests, and a rich Native American history that includes effigy mounds, which have been preserved to this day; and,

WHEREAS, generations of residents have actively worked to preserve this unique rural landscape, balancing thriving family farms with the protection of native wildlife habitats, a clean watershed, and panoramic open spaces; and,

WHEREAS, the MidContinent Grid Solutions' (MGS) proposed BECI 765-kV high-voltage transmission line would require extensive clearing, construction corridors, and long-term maintenance that would fragment wildlife habitat, disrupt agricultural lands, and permanently alter the natural character of the Town; and,

WHEREAS, the agricultural economy depends on undisturbed natural productive farmland, livestock operations, and regenerative farming systems that would be adversely affected by land fragmentation, easement restrictions, soil disruption, and concerns regarding electromagnetic field (EMF) exposure to livestock and people; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Dekorra's Comprehensive Plan aims to preserve its agricultural lands, and protect its rural and scenic character along with its natural and cultural resources while planning for and directing necessary and reasonable growth; and,

WHEREAS, the construction of massive industrial transmission towers has the potential to permanently drastically alter the viewsheds along Lake Wisconsin, the Wisconsin River, and throughout the rural landscape, which threatens the Town's tourism economy that is driven by its scenic beauty, outdoor recreation, and rural character; and

WHEREAS, MGS has proposed a 765-kV high-voltage transmission line project, with multiple proposed routes that would slice directly through greenspaces rather than existing corridors in the Town, which is in direct violation of Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes § 1.12 (6)(a)-(d) states that:

[I]t is the policy of this state that, to the greatest extent feasible, that is consistent with economic and engineering considerations, reliability of the electric system, and protection of the environment, the following corridors should be utilized in the following order of priority:

- (a) Existing utility corridors.
- (b) Highway and railroad corridors.
- (c) Recreational trails, to the extent that the facilities may be constructed below ground and that the facilities do not significantly impact environmentally sensitive areas.
- (d) New corridors.

WHEREAS, MGS has not provided convincing independent evidence nor sufficiently demonstrated to the Dekorra Town Board via resources available on their website or at their open house held in Poynette on August 25, 2026 that the claimed benefits of the BECI Project outweigh the aforementioned impacts and risks, leaving the Board unconvinced that the project is necessary at all;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Dekorra, Columbia County, WI, declares the preservation of natural beauty, rural character, agricultural economy, and tourism industry of the Town to be of the utmost importance and strongly opposes the proposed greenfield routes for MGS's BECI 765-kV transmission line siting as too great a risk to the Town's unique, fragile, and economically essential environmental and aesthetic resources; and

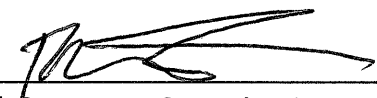
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dekorra Town Board formally and unequivocally opposes the proposed high voltage transmission lines within the Town of Dekorra, finding that this area is not suitable for such development and that the project poses substantial risks to public health, safety, and welfare, as well as to environmental integrity, agricultural viability, economic stability, and cultural resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dekorra Town Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Governor's Office, all members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly that represent any part of Dekorra, and all MGS project managers whose contact information can be obtained.

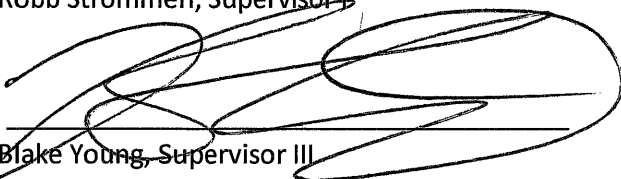
Passed and signed this 1st day of September, 2026 by a vote of 5 Ayes, and 0 Nos.



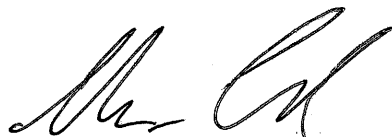
Kyle R. Knuteson, Chair



Robb Strommen, Supervisor I



Blake Young, Supervisor III



Chris Crawford, Supervisor II



Michelle, Hartley, Supervisor IV

Attest,


Holly J. Piske - Dekorra Town Clerk