

**TOWN OF SUN PRAIRIE
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-08-25**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SUN
PRAIRIE, ESTABLISHING FORMAL REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC
OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED BELL CENTER–COLUMBIA–SUGAR
CREEK–ILLINOIS STATE LINE (BECI) 765-kV TRANSMISSION
LINE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Midcontinent Grid Solutions (MGS), a joint venture of Transource Energy and BHE Transmission, has proposed the construction of a 190-mile, 765-kilovolt (kV) transmission line infrastructure project, known as the BECI Project, which identifies potential study segments routed through the Town of Sun Prairie; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project outlines a 250-foot-wide right-of-way corridor and transmission towers reaching up to 200 feet in height, presenting substantial land-use conflicts with the Town of Sun Prairie's natural ecosystems, local topography, and the Mauneshia River watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Sun Prairie features highly productive agricultural soils, and the current routing segments present material risks of fragmenting active farming operations, restricting the operational use of center-pivot irrigation systems, and introducing potential stray voltage concerns to local livestock operations; and

WHEREAS, initial documentation indicates the BECI Project operates primarily as an interstate transmission facility designed to transport electricity across state lines, lacking a currently demonstrated local reliability or economic benefit to the residents, businesses, or municipal utility ratepayers of the Town of Sun Prairie; and

WHEREAS, the proposed multi-billion-dollar project construction cost impacts Wisconsin ratepayers, and the developer's compressed seven-month study timeline restricts the comprehensive, transparent public and environmental review required for a project of this scale;

WHEREAS, the Town of Sun Prairie Comprehensive Plan, adopted pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.1001, explicitly mandates the permanent preservation of the Township's prime agricultural land base and enforces strict conservation protections over the Mauneshia River watershed, meaning the proposed BECI project directly conflicts with the Town's legally adopted, long-range land-use planning goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Sun Prairie, as follows:

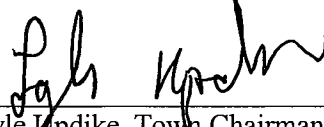
1. **Formal Expression of Concern and Objection:** The Town of Sun Prairie formally registers its objection to the current proposed routing of the BECI 765-kV Transmission Line Project within the Township based on unresolved agricultural, environmental, and local economic impact concerns and notes that the project stands in direct contradiction to

the goals, objectives, and statutory land-use maps of the **Town of Sun Prairie Comprehensive Plan**.

2. **Rigorous Enforcement of Local Authority:** The Town Board directs all departments, engineers, and staff to strictly review, scrutinize, and enforce the maximum extent of the Town's regulatory authority regarding road right-of-way permits, weight limits, drainage district protections, and local land-use ordinances to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.
3. **Intermunicipal Cooperation:** The Town of Sun Prairie will actively share information and coordinate regulatory review efforts with neighboring municipalities, including but not limited to the Town of Bristol, the Town of Medina, and the Village of Marshall, to evaluate regional infrastructure impacts. The Town of Sun Prairie authorizes the Town Chair/and or Town Supervisor to confer with other municipalities to seek intervenor financing and to intervene in the pending Public Service Commission process.
4. **Demand for More Time:** The review and comment period on this major proposal is extremely short. The deadline for responding appears to be September 7, 2026. The proposal primarily affects farms, small towns and small communities which lack resources to respond quickly to major proposals. In the interest of a fair process, the response deadline should be extended at least six months.
5. **Legislation Need:** This proposal is the latest in a large number of proposed solar collectors, wind farms, power lines and other utility projects which are being forced on communities which have no effective voice in the process. The preemption of local zoning approval is outdated and needs to be repealed. The Town of Sun Prairie calls for legislation to repeal Wis. Stats. sec. 196.491 (3)(i).
6. **Distribution:** A copy of this resolution shall be transmitted immediately to Midcontinent Grid Solutions, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC), Congressman, Mark Pocan, State Senator Melissa Ratcliff (Senate District 16), State Representative Andrew Hysall (Assembly District 48), Dane County Board Supervisor Paula Brandmeier (County District 20), Dane County Board Supervisor David Peterson (County District 36) and Dane County Executive Melissa Agard to ensure the Town's objective regulatory concerns are formally entered into the preliminary project record.

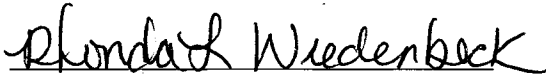
Adopted this 25th day of August, 2026

Ayes 3 Noes 0 Absent 0



Lyle Updike, Town Chairman

ATTEST:



Rhonda Wiedenbeck, Clerk