

A RESOLUTION TO STATE THE OPPOSITION OF THE TOWN OF LOWVILLE, COLUMBIA COUNTY, WISCONSIN, TO THE PROPOSED BECI 765-KV TRANSMISSION PROJECT AND TO FIND THAT THE NECESSITY FOR THE PROJECT HAS NOT BEEN ADEQUATELY DEMONSTRATED.

WHEREAS, The Town of Lowville is situated in the heart of southern Wisconsin and is set amidst abundant natural resources, bounteous wildlife and productive agricultural lands, woodlands, and is marked by its historical rural character and quiet quality of life; and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Lowville's mission includes preserving farmland, and protecting sensitive and beautiful natural environments; and,

WHEREAS, generations of residents have actively preserved this unique rural landscape, balancing thriving family farms and agri-businesses with protection of natural wildlife habitats, clean watersheds, and panoramic open spaces; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed high-voltage transmission line would require extensive clearing, construction corridors, and long-term maintenance that would fragment wildlife habitat, disrupt agricultural fields, clear centuries worth of woodland, and permanently threaten the viability of agricultural production, agritourism, property values, groundwater safety, the economic foundation and natural character of the Town of Lowville; and,

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Lowville's adopted Comprehensive Plan identifies the protection of agricultural lands, natural resources, environmental quality, open space, rural character, and the farming economy as important community objectives; and,

WHEREAS, the population of Lowville is comprised of farm and rural residential living; and has remained stable, and Wisconsin has shown stable/declining power needs, which does not indicate need for the 765-kilovolt transmission line; and,

WHEREAS, WI State Statutes 1.12(6) mandates that when planning new power lines, developers and regulators must follow this specific hierarchy, to the greatest extent feasible:

- **Existing utility corridors:** First choice for placing new lines.
- **Highway and railroad corridors:** Second choice, using existing transportation rights-of-way.
- **Recreational trails:** Third choice, but only if the facilities are built underground and do not harm sensitive environmental areas.
- **New corridors:** Last resort, used only when higher-priority options are not feasible; and,

WHEREAS, the Town has not been provided project-specific evidence or sufficient documentation demonstrating how Midcontinent Grid Solutions, LLC (MGS) has evaluated existing utility corridors, highway and railroad corridors and other potential alternatives in accordance with the corridor priorities established under Wis. Stat. 1.12(6); and,

WHEREAS, Midcontinent Grid Solutions, LLC and the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) have not demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Town of Lowville that the proposed BECI 765-kilovolt transmission project is necessary to meet the electric needs of Wisconsin or the communities that would be affected by the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Town of Lowville, Columbia County, WI, declares the preservation of the natural beauty, rural character, agricultural economy and tourism industry of the Town be of the utmost importance; and,

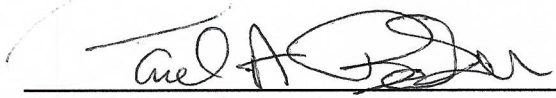
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Lowville, Columbia County, Wisconsin, formally and unequivocally opposes the proposed BECI 765-kilovolt transmission project because the scale and permanent impacts of the project present an unacceptable risk to the Town's unique, fragile and economically essential agricultural, environmental, scenic and community resources; and,

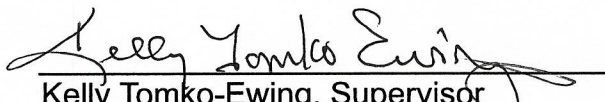
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Lowville, Columbia County, Wisconsin, formally and unequivocally opposes the proposed high voltage transmission lines, as the known and potential harm from those lines would not be offset by any identified benefit; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lowville Town Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this resolution to Columbia County Board, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Governor's Office, all members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly that represent any part of the proposed 765kV transmission line project, as well as the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin at the appropriate time.

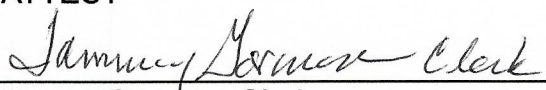
Adopted this 2nd day of September, 2026.


Brad Schack, Chairman


Paul Becker, Supervisor


Kelly Tomko-Ewing, Supervisor

ATTEST


Tammy Gorman, Clerk