

Resolution 2026-17

VERNON COUNTY INFORMATION REQUEST RESOLUTION REGARDING
POTENTIAL 765 kV TRANSMISSION LINE DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Vernon County adopted an Information Request Resolution on August 16, 2011
in regard

to the proposed 345 kV Badger-Coulee transmission line (PSC REF# 171353);

WHEREAS, Representatives of Vernon County met with WI County Association lawyers and
American

Transmission Company in 2011 when it was determined that Information Request
Resolutions are

appropriate to use during the public information phase;

WHEREAS, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) has announced that
Dairyland

Power Cooperative (DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) have been granted the right to
plan and

propose a 765 kV transmission line, "Maribell" designated to pass, in part, through Vernon
County

Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, Wis Stat. §112(6) specifies that existing utility corridors are the number one
priority in

studying and proposing routes for new transmission lines;

WHEREAS, high voltage Transmission Line Filing Requirements of the Public Service
Commission of

Wisconsin require that alternative routes be investigated and provided in the application
materials;

WHEREAS, our County has at least one, eligible existing transmission line in its jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, there are a number of properties in our jurisdiction that stand to be significantly
affected

by easement expansions and other impacts;

WHEREAS, some of these potentially impacted properties have dwellings located in close-proximity to

the existing transmission line;

WHEREAS, Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) are members of

MISO and stakeholder-participants in MISO LRTP Tranche 2.1 planning;

WHEREAS, a transmission line of this size and characteristics has never been considered or

constructed in Wisconsin, to date;

WHEREAS, the cost of the 765 kV facility would be borne by ratepayers.

WHEREAS, within MISO's most recent FAQ, the regional utility interests' estimate of costs and

benefits from the Tranche 2.1 expansion lines (including a potential 765 kV project through our area)

would lead to an expense of about \$13.50 per month for an electric customer using 1,000 kWh per

month;

WHEREAS, Dr. David Patton, the Independent Monitor of the MISO wholesale electricity market has

found that MISO's Tranche 2.1 planning:

- Assumes a view of the future that is, "extremely unlikely;"
- Projects "overstated" or "invalid" benefits for customers in five of eight key categories;
- Would undermine customer-side investments in "resources, [battery] storage and other alternatives to transmission;"
- Transmission projects including 765 kV lines could be "postponed" until previously planned 345

kV transmission projects are built and their impacts on the electricity market are known.

WHEREAS, citing similar findings of Potomac Economics, the Public Utility Commissions of North

Dakota, Montana, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana filed a complaint before the Federal Energy

Regulatory Commission (EL25-109) requesting, "that FERC (i) find that MISO and the Board violated

the Tariff and (ii) direct the [MISO] Board to declassify Tranche 2.1 projects as MVPs, and (iii) order

MISO to revise its Tariff to require a filing of the business case supporting future LRTP MVP projects to

be reviewed and approved by FERC;"

WHEREAS, An Environmental Impact Statement jointly authored by the Wisconsin Public Service

Commission and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources found that smaller, 345 kV

transmission lines, "may result in negative affects to property values, tax credits and heritage tourism"

and mentions studies showing devaluations from 10 to 45% depending on proximity, visibility, size of

parcel and whether sited in an industrial or natural setting;

WHEREAS, 765 kV transmission facilities are known to create audible noise and visible corona

discharge effects, especially under high humidity and damp conditions;

WHEREAS, MISO assumes that electrical energy use will substantially increase and that Wis Stat.

§1.12(2) Wisconsin Energy Policy stipulates that a state agency or local governmental unit shall

investigate and consider the maximum of energy resources as an important factor when making any

major decision that would significantly affect energy usage;"

WHEREAS, Wisconsin does not yet have legal statute regulating the use of 765 kV transmission

lines and proposals for said regulation may be taken up by state lawmakers;

WHEREAS, now is the most opportune time for municipal governments to gain knowledge about

765 kV transmission in order to make recommendations to state lawmakers towards the realization of

suitable regulations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that

Vernon County requests Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET)

to provide the following information either in written, electronic format or through an in-person

presentation to our Board before March 31, 2026:

1. A map of eligible, existing transmission line routes for the considered 765 kV transmission

line project through Vernon, Crawford, Sauk, Richland and Columbia Counties.

2. Explanation of the land owner notification process that will be utilized by Dairyland Power

Cooperative (DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) including the specified distance from the

center line of the proposed 765 kV transmission line that land owners will be notified during both the

pre-application and post application phases of their proposal.

3. Images of all possible tower designs for use with the 765 kV transmission line in Vernon County if

sited alone and in combination or with another transmission line.

4. For each possible tower design, above, please include the minimum and maximum height, in feet,

that the towers could be;

5. To-scale documentation portraying the minimum and maximum widths, in feet, of required corridors

for all possible tower designs and configurations of the 765 kV facility including guy wires and all

other potential protuberances.

6. Documentation portraying the maximum width of a non-public, construction access road that Dairyland

Power Cooperative (DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) or their subcontractors have made when

constructing a 765 kV line.

7. The name(s) of the entity or entities that would be the owner(s) of the 765 kV transmission

facility.

8. Estimated date that Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET)'s

application for the 765 kV transmission line is expected to be submitted to the Public Service

Commission of Wisconsin.

9. Estimated total cost assumed by ratepayers at large for the "Maribell" 765 kV project over 40 years.

10. Estimated total cost of regional generation additions in the Electric Generation Expansion Analysis

System (EGEAS) for MISO's Long Range Transmission Planning (LRTP) Tranche 2.1.

11. Estimated, 40 year total cost of the "Maribell" project that would be assumed by member -owners

of Richland Electric Cooperative and customers of Alliant and Xcel Energy based on an average use

of 1000 kWh per month.

12. A list, including name, location and cost information, for all existing transmission lines and

substations where pending rebuilding and/or other improvements would be avoided or delayed if

"Maribell" were to be constructed.

13. A list, including name, location and cost information, of all other reliability related issues that

"Marbell" would avoid, delay or eliminate.

14. Documentation accounting for MISO consideration and decision-making concerning the alternative use of

HVDC transmission such as the SOO Green HVDC Link instead of above ground 765 kV transmission

including the HVDC routes considered.

15. A list of the types with estimated monetary values of the "significant economic development

benefits," that the Project would deliver to local economies in Vernon County.

16. Documentation explaining MISO's calculation of a net monetary benefit for Wisconsin residential

electric customers if the estimated cost of Tranche 2.1 transmission and power plant additions, per

ratepayer, is around \$27.50 per month while, potentially, returning only \$10 to \$18, per ratepayer, in

value per month.

17. Documentation from MISO Tranche 2.1 planning estimating the percentage of electrical power

assumed to be provided from distributed solar and distributed battery storage resources in years 1,

10 and 20 under all planning futures.

18. A list with names and locations of 765 kV transmission projects that Dairyland Power Cooperative

(DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) have previously constructed outside of Wisconsin.

19. A list with names and locations of 765 kV transmission projects that Dairyland Power Cooperative

(DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) are currently proposing or constructing outside of Wisconsin.

20. Upon completion and energizing of "Maribel" and "BECI," an estimate of the percentage of the

electric power on an annual basis that would be consumed through the connection created at the

Columbia substation for all futures in Tranche 2.1.

21. Vegetation management documentation and sample contracts describing practices that have been

utilized by Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) for previous 765

kV lines including techniques used to prevent soil erosion on steep grades.

22. If not specified in above documentation, documentation describing no-spray and other easement

vegetation management accommodations that would be offered for organic farming and other

conservation activities such as prairie and forest restoration.

23. Documentation describing practices that have been utilized by Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and

NextEraTransmission (NET) for previously constructed 765 kV lines to address the presence of karst

topology.

24. Documentation describing construction practices that Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and

NextEraTransmission (NET) or their subcontractors have used in prior 765 kV projects to minimize

damage to wetland habitats.

25. Documentation of siting and other accommodations that Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and

NextEraTransmission (NET) have made in prior constructions to minimize noise and light pollution

associated with corona discharge from a 765 kV transmission line under high humidity and high

transmission load conditions;

26. Measurement documentation from an existing 765 kV transmission line that Dairyland Power

Cooperative (DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) or their assigned subcontractors have constructed accounting for average Sound Pressure Levels [Leq, dB(A)] at specified distances from

the center line (feet), under specified humidity/precipitation conditions (relative humidity %) and at

specified transmission loads (megawatts);

27. Documentation from a proposed or existing 765 kV transmission line that Dairyland Power Cooperative

(DPC) and NextEraTransmission (NET) or their assigned subcontractors have made accounting for

magnetic field strength readings (in mG) at specified distances from the center line (in feet) and at

specified transmission loads (megawatts).

28. Documentation of all siting and other accommodations that Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and

NextEraTransmission (NET) or their assigned subcontractors have made to reduce waterfowl, raptor,

grassland bird and songbird collisions with a 765 kV transmission line.

29. Documentation of all siting and other accommodations that Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and

NextEraTransmission (NET) or their assigned subcontractors have made to reduce risk of electric arching

from a 765 kV transmission line igniting fires in grasslands and forests.

Submitted to the County Board for consideration this 4th day of March 2026

_____Aye 4 Nay 0 Absent 1 Abstain 0 .

Alycann Taylor, General Government Committee Chair

VERNON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Aye: _____ Nay: _____ Absent: _____ Abstain: _____

Office of the Vernon County Clerk

I, J. Pedretti, County Clerk of Vernon County, Wisconsin DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above is a true and correct copy of the action taken by the Vernon County Board of Supervisors at the meeting of March 19, 2026, as indicated in transcription taken personally by me.

_____03/19/2026

/s/ J. Pedretti, Vernon County Clerk

Resolution 2026-18

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WHEREAS, Representatives of Vernon County met with WI County Association lawyers and American

Transmission Company in 2011 when it was determined that Information Request Resolutions are

appropriate to use during the public information phase;

WHEREAS, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) has announced that Transource

Energy (TE) has been granted the right to plan and propose a 765 kV transmission line, "BECI"

designated to pass, in part, through Vernon County Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, Wis Stat. §112(6) specifies that existing utility corridors are the number one priority in

studying and proposing routes for new transmission lines;

WHEREAS, high voltage Transmission Line Filing Requirements of the Public Service Commission of

Wisconsin require that alternative routes be investigated and provided in the application materials;

WHEREAS, our County has at least one, eligible existing transmission line in its jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, there are a number of properties in our jurisdiction that stand to be significantly affected

by easement expansions and other impacts;

WHEREAS, some of these potentially impacted properties have dwellings located in close-proximity to

the existing transmission line;

WHEREAS, Transource Energy (TE) is a member of MISO and a stakeholder-participant in MISO

L RTP Tranche 2.1 planning;

WHEREAS, a transmission line of this size and characteristics has never been considered or

constructed in Wisconsin, to date;

WHEREAS, the cost of the 765 kV facility would be borne by ratepayers.

WHEREAS, within MISO's most recent FAQ, the regional utility interests' estimate of costs and

benefits from the Tranche 2.1 expansion lines (including a potential 765 kV project through our area)

would lead to an expense of about \$13.50 per month for an electric customer using 1,000 kWh per

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transmission lines, "may result in negative affects to property values, tax credits and heritage tourism"

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discharge effects, especially under high humidity and damp conditions;

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investigate and consider the maximum of energy resources as an important factor when making any

major decision that would significantly affect energy usage;"

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lines and proposals for said regulation may be taken up by state lawmakers;

WHEREAS, now is the most opportune time for municipal governments to gain knowledge about

765 kV transmission in order to make recommendations to state lawmakers towards the realization of

suitable regulations.

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written, electronic format or through an in-person presentation to our Board before March 31,

2026:

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line project through Vernon, Crawford, Sauk, Richland and Columbia Counties.

2. Explanation of the land owner notification process that will be utilized by Transource Energy including

the specified distance from the center line of the proposed 765 kV transmission line that land owners

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4. For each possible tower design, above, please include the minimum and maximum height, in feet,

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for all possible tower designs and configurations of the 765 kV facility including guy wires and all

other potential protuberances.

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Energy (TE) or their subcontractors have made when constructing a 765 kV line.

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facility.