Proposed Advisory Resolution

Whereas, member-owners of Richland Electric Cooperative own property that stands to be impacted by the 765 kV line, as proposed for construction by Midcontinent Grid Solutions (a joint venture of Transource and BHE Transmission), of the North Rochester - Columbia Project (Eastern Half);

Whereas, a transmission line of this size has never previously been proposed or built in Wisconsin;

Whereas, all Richland Electric Cooperative members would bear the cost of this proposed line;

Whereas, 765 kV transmission facilities are known to create audible noise and visible corona discharge effects, especially under high humidity or damp conditions.

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, that Richland Electric Cooperative members request that Midcontinent Grid Solutions provide the following information by May 9, 2026:

a. A high-resolution, to-scale map in digital format of the preferred and alternative routes for considered siting of the 765 kV transmission line in Richland, Crawford and Sauk Counties. Indicate all sections where facility locations would deviate from existing transmission lines.

b. Sample, detailed, maps and elevation renderings of existing infrastructure/ easement conditions and proposed 765 kV related changes that have already been delivered to directly-impacted landowners in Richland, Crawford and Sauk Counties; or, if nothing has already been delivered, specify the date by which this shall be delivered.

c. Images of all possible tower designs for use with the 765 kV transmission line in Richland, Crawford and Sauk Counties if sited alone and in combination, or with another transmission line.

d. For each possible tower design above, please include minimum and maximum height in feet that the towers could be-also specifying all potential below-ground configurations and the estimated total weight of each tower configuration, including the total weight of each above-ground configuration with the weight of each below-ground foundation.

e. 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 guide wires and all other possible protuberances.

f. 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.

g. Vegetation Management documentation and sample contracts describing practices that have been utilized by Midcontinent Grid Solutions, Transource or BHE Transmission, for previous 765 kV lines--including techniques used to prevent soil erosion on steep grades, and other accommodations for organic farming and prairie restoration.

h. Documentation of siting and other accommodations that Midcontinent Grid Solutions, Transource or BHE Transmission 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.

i. Documentation describing practices taken with prior 765 kV projects to accommodate persons, wildlife, live stock, homes and farms from the potential negative impacts of produced electromagnetic fields under high load conditions. Include in the examples accommodations made for an occupied residential dwelling located 150-250 feet from the existing transmission facility centerline.

j. Documentation providing the ages of the 69 kV or 161 kV line segments that are sited in locations that would be replaced with 765 kV lines.

k. Documentation providing the total, estimated cost to rebuild the single circuit, 69 kV or 161 kV line segments, that are sited in locations that would be replaced with 765 kV lines, using wooden poles and upgraded conductors. Subtract from these totals any funds that have been set aside for these expenses, or other credits that Midcontinent Grid Solutions would be eligible to apply, toward these expenses. Specify the total amount of any such funds subtracted from the total.

l. Documentation providing the total, estimated cost of the Midcontinent Grid Solutions' Project that ratepayers would assume over 20 years utilizing the preferred routes through Richland Electric Cooperative's service area.

m. Documentation providing detailed information about Midcontinent Grid Solutions' proposed plans to prevent, or mitigate, the infiltration of ground water directly into members' aquifers. The deep foundations of each tower create a preferential pathway for surface contaminants to reach the aquifer. By piercing the protective layers of soil and subsoil, these footings bypass the natural filtration and attenuation usually provided by the Earth's surface, posing a direct risk to members' groundwater quality.

Be it Further Resolved, that Richland Cooperative-members request that Midcontinent Grid Solutions make a presentation concerning the proposed 765 kV transmission line allowing time for group questioning and answering with Richland Electric Cooperative members.

Be it Further Resolved, that Richland Cooperative-members support gaining the opportunity to provide in-person input before the Midcontinent Grid Solutions' application is submitted to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.

Be it Further Resolved, that Richland Cooperative-members support the study, and greater implementation of member-owned and sited power generation, load management and efficiency improvements to increase member self-sufficiencies, lower electricity service costs over time and to promote local job creation and resiliency.