



In non-technical language, the resolution asks the PSC and applicants to:

Tell us the economic and environmental benefits we would receive if the same millions utilities want electric customers to spend on Cardinal Hickory Creek over 40 years were spent, instead, on energy efficiency, load management and developing local renewable power.

The PSC Information Resolution was created and approved entirely by municipal governments. It was initially authored in 2011 by the Planning Committee of Vernon County with the assistance of an electrical engineer who has represented customer and land owner interests in more 100 cases. It was unanimously approved by the Vernon County Board and then reviewed by legal counsel for the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) in fall 2011. Two representatives of American Transmission Company were present during the WCA read-through and remarked that the format provided constructive criticism.

The resolution asks for useful, easy to understand information both from the transmission builders (applicants) and the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin in accordance stages of the review process. The requests apply to the current, "Public Information Phase" up to the PSC's final position document, the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would occur about 3 years from now if the applicants choose to submit application. Utilities and the PSC have not been conducting comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of non-transmission alternatives since 1998.

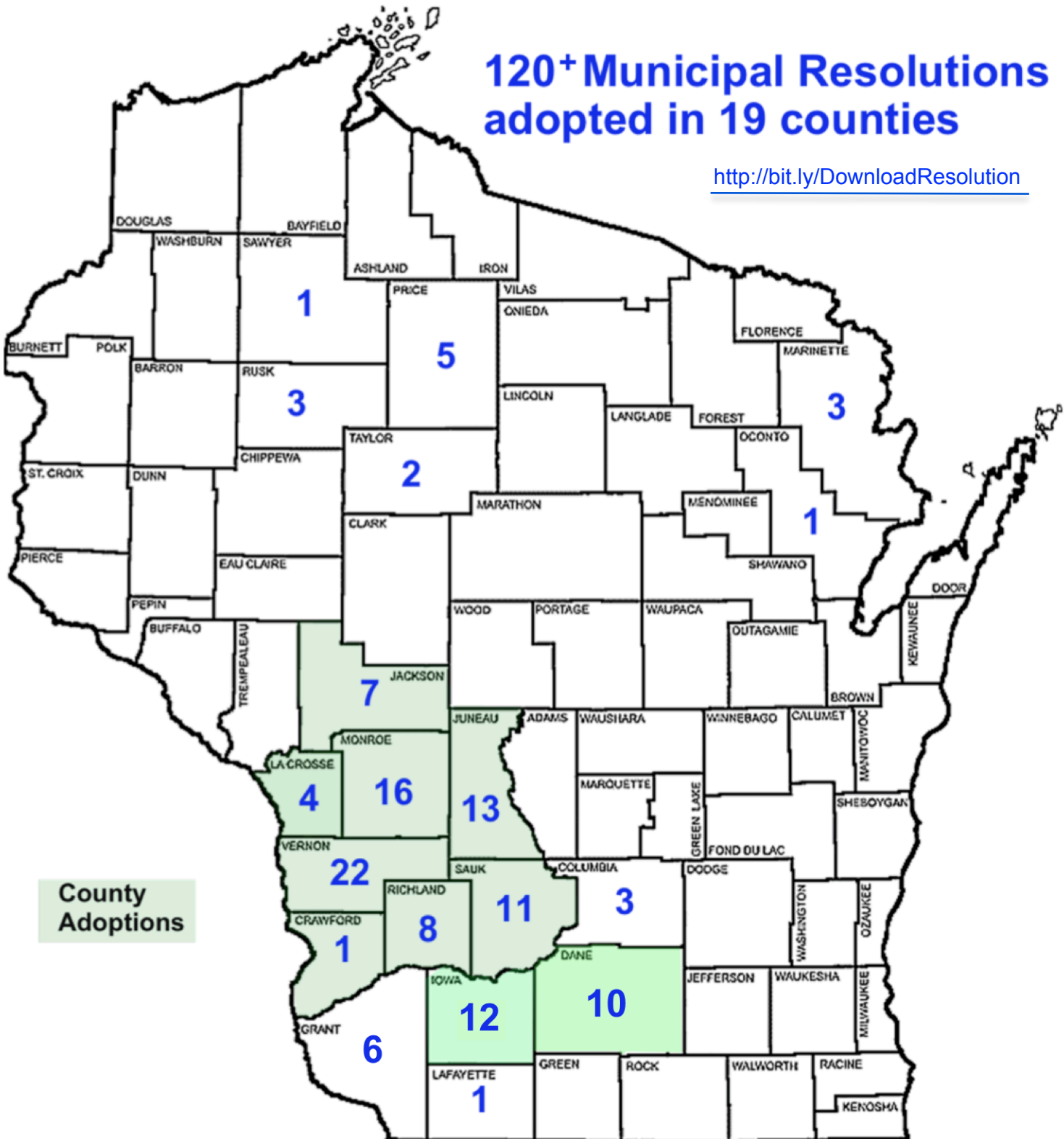
Why ask for cost-benefit analysis and comparison of benefits?

Because transmission expansion *guarantees* no benefits. In contrast, investment in energy efficiency, load management and local power called (non-transmission alternatives), guarantee savings and CO2 reductions. Transmission expansion planning assumes CO2 emissions will continue to rise even if remote wind power resources were increased five fold. In the PSC's "contested case" hearing process, the information request resolution improves legal standing of the non transmission spending options with lower costs and better benefits-- whether the applicants and the commission choose to conduct the analysis or not.

If a municipal unit chooses to also oppose the transmission option now, can it adopt both types of resolutions? Yes, but note that resolve #7 in the *PSC Information Request* resolution provides a important work-around to a key PSC technicality. In prior transmission cases, the PSC has refused to legally acknowledge resolutions received before the Public Hearing stage ruling them, "out of order." The hearing stage occurs late in the process after the agency's legally binding Environmental Impact Statement has been finalized. A simple opposition resolution is not as effective at increasing applicant or PSC accountability, it is more of a political statement. Both resolution types can be adopted if desired.

120+ Municipal Resolutions adopted in 19 counties

<http://bit.ly/DownloadResolution>



County Adoptions

More than 110 of the Resolutions are *Information Request* type asking applicants and the PSC to conduct cost-benefit analysis of *Non-Transmission Alternatives* including energy efficiency, load management and local renewable power. Applicants are asked to conduct the analysis *during the public information stage* for inclusion in their application and sharing with local governments for statutory energy planning consideration and making informed feedback. The PSC is requested to independently conduct the analysis and include its study in the EIS of current and future 345 kV transmission proposals. see EIS Table G1-1, PSC REF#:223845

Additional Municipal Government Resolutions in or near the Cardinal Hickory Creek Transmission Study Area

Municipality	County	Year/Version	PSCW Docket Link
Town of Ellenboro	Grant	2012	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=171349
Town of So. Lancaster	Grant	2012	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=173000
Town of Spring Green	Sauk	2012	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=172976
Town of Wingville	Grant	2012	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=164153
Town of Wyoming	Iowa	2012	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=172976
Town of Eden	Iowa	2014	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=210169
Town of Mineral Point	Iowa	2014	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=200524
Town of Ridgeway	Iowa	2014	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=229678
Town of Ridgeway	Iowa	2014	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=296841
Town of Arena	Iowa	2015	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=210169
Village of Ridgeway	Iowa	2015	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=229681
Town of Arena	Iowa	2016*	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=285866
Town of Belmont	Lafayette	2016*	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=292900
Town of Cross Plains	Dane	2016*	Not yet posted on PSC docket
Town of Lima	Grant	2016*	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=290186
Town of Mifflin	Iowa	2016*	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=294253
Town of Platteville	Grant	2016*	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=293075
Town of Vermont	Dane	2016*	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=287631
Town of Arena	Iowa	2017***	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=297443
Town of Arena	Iowa	2017**	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=297449
Town of Brigham	Iowa	2017**	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=297137
Town of Ellenboro	Grant	2017**	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=295366
Town of Ridgeway	Iowa	2017**	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=296842
Town of Vermont	Dane	2017**	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=296071
Town of Wingville	Grant	2017*	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=297500
Town of Wyoming	Iowa	2017**	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=294792
Town of Dodgeville	Iowa	2017^	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=303706
Village of Spring Green	Sauk	2017^	Not yet posted on PSC docket

Dane County	Dane	2017**	http://bit.ly/DaneCounty_Resolution_May2017
Iowa County	Iowa	2017^	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=303831
Town of Clyde	Iowa	2017**	http://apps.psc.wi.gov/pages/viewdoc.htm?docid=328507

Village of Mount Horeb Dane 2017^ Not on docket yet

Village of Montfort Grant 2017** Not on docket yet

* Additionally specifies cost-benefit analysis at two stages of PSCW HVT review process including, initially, by applicants during the public information stage to permit informed input capable of affecting the energy planning goals and scope of the application. Applicants notified of all adoptions by mail.

** Additionally requests inclusion of the resolution, in whole, in the PSCW EIS.

*** Addendum supporting resolution with citizen signatures/contacts.

^Opposes the Cardinal Hickory Creek Transmission Proposal without requesting Cost-Benefit Analysis.

**A RESOLUTION TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
CONCERNING APPLICATION #5CE146 FOR A 345 KV POWER LINE, THE CARDINAL-
HICKORY CREEK PROJECT, PROPOSED BY THE AMERICAN TRANSMISSION
COMPANY, ITC, AND DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE, AND CONSIDERATION OF
ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS**

WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is currently expecting a joint utility application containing an option for a 345 kV high-capacity transmission line from Middleton, Wisconsin to Montfort, Wisconsin to Dubuque County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, high-capacity transmission expansion projects increase the likelihood of additional transmission and electric customer investments in Wisconsin and regionally; and,

WHEREAS, the final cost of expansion projects including financing, operation and maintenance over 40 years can reach into billions of dollars and place significant financial burden on all Wisconsin ratepayers in addition to those in other states; and,

WHEREAS, demand for electricity in Wisconsin and adjacent states has been flat or in decline in recent years and utilities in affected service areas have projected no or minimal load growth in planning documents submitted to the PSC; and,

WHEREAS, other means of meeting energy demand claimed by the applicants must be considered, including comparable investment in accelerated energy efficiency, conservation, load management, and local renewable power options before high-capacity transmission is approved; and,

WHEREAS, average ratepayer investment in energy efficiency in the U.S. tripled from 2007 to 2012 to lower end-user costs and harmful emissions while investment in energy efficiency in Wisconsin dropped over the same period; and,

WHEREAS, our responsibilities include protecting and enhancing natural and local economic assets, including scenic beauty and development potential that would be adversely impacted by 110 to 180 foot steel or concrete poles and wires for high voltage transmission; and

WHEREAS, high-profile transmission lines tend to reduce property values and tourism due to their prominent visibility and perceived negative health effects creating adverse impacts on local economies in contrast to non-transmission alternatives such as energy efficiency, load management and local solar which tend to produce positive economic impacts; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 1.13(2) encourages local governmental units to define their energy planning priorities and State Statute 1.11(2) encourages the WI PSC to study, develop, and describe appropriate alternatives to recommended courses of action for full public consideration before the scoping stage of utility applications and for preparation of the Impact Statement; and,

WHEREAS detailed explanations of the perceived need for regional transmission expansion have not been combined with a comprehensive comparison of long-term investment costs and returns for all energy investment options and provided for Wisconsin ratepayers stated in clear terms of monthly, average potential savings, long-term job creation, and carbon emission impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that

1. The _____ in _____ County requests that all efforts made to develop or enhance the energy system upon which our community relies and adhere to these energy investment priorities:
 - a) Maximize cost-effective conservation, efficiency, and load management;
 - b) Rely to the greatest extent possible on local, renewable generation;
 - c) Support local ownership of energy generation that includes dispersed renewable energy to support the local economy, including the creation of sustainable jobs;
 - d) Minimize the size, scale, voltage, and environmental impacts of electric transmission and generation.

2. The _____ is without sufficient means to evaluate the current proposal in terms of these priorities during the public information phase when informed input can affect the scope and goals of the proposal and alternatives.

3. The _____ requests the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin require the applicants to provide potentially impacted land owners within 1500' of potential corridors and Wisconsin ratepayers clear, consumer-friendly description of the cost-benefit analysis and assumptions they will utilize in assessing the economic and environmental benefits of non-transmission alternatives including accelerated energy efficiency, load management, distributed generation (on site/community and other local, non-fossil fuel generation) at the open houses and on-line in electronic form during the pre-application, public information stage of this proposal.

4. Following receipt of the application, the _____ requests that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin ensure that the applicants develop this analysis into comprehensive, easy to understand, cost-benefit comparison of the economic and environmental benefits that would result from investments in accelerated energy efficiency, applications of load management and distributed generation (on site/community and other local, non-fossil fuel generation). The dollar amount applied to each of these non-transmission investment options, alone and in optimized combination, should equal the estimated total amount ratepayers would assume for the comprehensive costs of the proposed high voltage transmission project over 40 years including construction, financing, operation and maintenance. We ask that this analysis include clear, easy to understand charts comparing the monetary and CO2 emission impacts for the non-transmission alternatives and transmission alternatives on average monthly electric bills for Wisconsin residential and commercial customers calculated in present dollars/tons and for year 10, 20, 30 and 40, subsequently.

5. The _____ requests that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin require the applicants to incorporate the above requested information in their application materials before the agency deems the application complete and before Notice of Proceeding is given. The town requests that the applicants' analysis of non-transmission alternatives be made available at EIS scoping meetings and its availability mentioned in press releases to media outlets in order to notify potentially affected electric customers.

6. The _____ requests that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin conduct an equally comprehensive analysis and presentation of the economic and environmental impacts of non-transmission alternatives alone and in optimized combination and include this in the agency's draft and final Environmental Impact Statements. In addition to environmental impacts, we ask the EIS assess and compare the impacts on typical rural economies along the potential routes created by the non-transmission alternatives and transmission configurations.

7. The _____ requests the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to record this document in the public record of Docket 05-CE-146 and to include it, in entirety, in the Appendixes of the PSC's Environmental Impact Statements for this proposal.

The person/agent below is authorized to transmit this resolution and other appropriate documents to Wisconsin Public Service Commission on docket #05CE146.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the _____ Board hereby approves this resolution ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Signed by: _____
(chair)

Attested by: _____
(clerk)

on this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Filing agent's email address _____

===== Do not include this page when filing =====

Resolution Filing & Notification Instructions

Filing with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin requires a .pdf copy of the signed resolution which is then uploaded to the correct docket (05 - CE- 146) on the PSC's website via their electronic filing method, "ERF." The process requires an active email account to register and to receive confirmation.

1. Step-by-step-instructions can be accessed here: <http://bit.ly/ResolutionFilingSteps>

2. To directly notify the applicants of your request, also mail physical copies of the adopted resolution to:

American Transmission Company
Attention 05 CE 146
2 Fen Oak Court
Madison, WI 53718

ITC Midwest
Attention 05 CE 146
100 East Grand Avenue, Suite 230
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dairyland Power Cooperative
Attention 05 CE 146
3200 East Avenue South
P.O. Box 817
La Crosse, WI 54602-0817

3. To notify your state legislators, it is recommended that you mail physical, signed copies. Their addresses can be accessed here: <http://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/>