

**Rineer, Ken - PSC**

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**From:** Patricia Anderson <patch91083@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 16, 2011 9:42 AM  
**To:** Rineer, Ken - PSC  
**Subject:** proposed routes for CapX2020 in Holmen area

Dear Mr. Rineer:

It is our understanding that the Wisconsin Public Service Commission is currently taking public input regarding proposed routes for the CapX2020 line in the Holmen area. As residents in the area we support the proposed route that follows the original Q1 route for the following reasons:

The original route already exists so requires the least amount of new right-of-way. It is the most direct and shortest route so should result in the lowest cost of construction. Also, it has the fewest number of people living near it.

We appreciate the opportunity to give input.

Sincerely,

Charles and Patricia Anderson  
N7048 Birch St.  
Holmen, WI 54636

December 10, 2011

Mr. Kenneth C. Rineer  
Wisconsin Public Service Commission  
610 Whitney Way  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison WI 53707-7854

Dear Mr. Rineer,

This letter is in regards to Project 5-CE-136, the proposed CapX power line proposed for the Holmen Wisconsin area. A recent letter from the Riverland Energy Cooperative mapped the proposed three routes through the Holman area and asked that the local residents comment. After reviewing the material it becomes clearly evident that the best alternative for the Q1 route is the original planned route. This route is superior in the following ways;

- The route upgrades an existing line
- The right of way has already been established
- The route is away from majority of residential neighborhoods
- The direct route would use less material to create the power line. Less wire and towers.
- The original route goes through a swampy area that would be difficult to support any future residential and business development.

There is a perception that high voltage power lines can cause any number of ailments or maladies. Whether this is true or not the presence of the power line will detract from property values. By bringing the power line through the proposed highway 35 route or the Galesville route the line cuts through the center of existing residential neighborhoods, past an elementary or the high school and through areas slated for future development. A large high voltage line running right through these areas will have a negative impact on property values.

Currently most Holmen residents have a nice view of the bluffs to the east. Adding a high voltage line in a sight line with these bluffs will detract from this. Part of the reason a lot of people live and work in the area is because it is the most beautiful spot on earth. Being able to see nature unobstructed adds to the everyday quality of life on an almost a subliminal basis.

We all need the infrastructure to support the lifestyle we have become accustomed to but in creating that infrastructure it needs to be in a way with the least impact. The original Q1 route for the CapX line in my opinion is the best alternative.

Respectfully Submitted



Robert Buck

W7676 Richard Dr  
Holmen, WI 54636  
608-526-2332

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DEC 27 2011

Commissioners' Office

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

To The Commissioners

2011 DEC 27 A 10:22

The 345 KV Transmission Project

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I am David Brady and have a letter To your Commission already.

I want To offer To pay for your Transportation To The area That will be affected by The CAPX2020 project. Aerial photos do not do The area justice in its beauty.

In a time of budget shortfalls, and no need for The energy from dirty Coal, we oppose This project on That basis.

Local energy is a better solution. This all boils down To Big Money pushing and plowing over anything and everything in its way To Make even more money.

The people That are for This project have bloated The number of future growth and energy needs for This project.

Please accept my offer To Come here. You will always be welcom in our modest home.

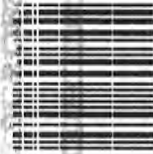
The facts are, we don't need This ugly and dangerous power line:

a concerned Citizen.  
David Brady + Family.

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To Kenneth Rineer, FIS Coordinator  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**



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HOLMEN, WI  
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To The Members of The Wisconsin Public Service Commission,

This is in reference to PSCW Docket 5-CE-136. Regardless of what the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and United States Fish and Wildlife say are the environmental impacts, the following are the real environmental impacts to ordinary families. If allowed to happen, our property values would go down. Our tourism would be hurt, which in turn hurts our local economy. We would be doubly hit in our pocketbooks by higher local electric rates and federal tax dollars to pay for this proposed power line. There are studies that show health hazards, and they should not be ignored. A couple that are very serious are various cancers and brain tumors. I am tired of the power companies down playing the risks of Electro Magnetic Fields. If the DNR and Fish and Wildlife are worried about what these proposed power lines will do to the wild life around the power lines, why would we want the power lines around our neighborhoods and schools. When asked, even the supporters of the CAP X 2020 project don't want to live near the power lines. What does that tell you!

I would like to see your committee promote a hydro electric dam on the biggest untapped and safe energy producer in our country, the Mississippi River, creating local lasting green jobs. These power lines could be subject to Foreign or Domestic Terrorism that would wipe out the entire power grid. Small local energy production is the answer.

My family has an 80 acre parcel of land near the proposed site of the new substation. This farm has been in my family for over 70 years. It is a very beautiful piece of land with many rarities of plants, shrubs, and trees. I am a disabled veteran, and it has been my families hope and dream to build affordable housing for disabled veterans in a quiet and beautiful part of this land. This substation and its towers will be a dominant

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ugly site in an otherwise beautiful part of the state, I feel the area and state does not need this project.

Thank you,

David Brady

*David Brady*

N6378 CTH Rd. XX

Holmen, WI 54636

(608)-526-4886

12-16-11

\*\*\*Please forward this letter  
to Mr. William Fannucchi  
once you have read and  
documented it.

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Mary Benusa <mбенуса@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 1:43 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Power Line

My husband and I are not in favor of the power line coming thru our area/property in Trempealeau County, Wisconsin. Our home is located within feet of the large power line, and we do not wish to have this line practically running right over our bedroom. The direct route down the river toward Madison is preferred.

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** John Banicki <jbanik@hbc.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 7:18 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** 345kv Electric Transmission Line Segment 10B2

Mr. William Fannucchi,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed construction of Segment 10B2 high voltage line through the Alma Hills Subdivision residential development area in the City of Alma Wisconsin.

After many years of searching we have purchased a very expensive lot to build our retirement home in this very picturesque and secluded location on top of the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. If proposed route 10B2 is used we will not build and will join the ranks of many other people in this country paying more for our second mortgage than our land would then be worth.

We prefer that any of the other routes (Segment 10B1, 2A1, 2A2, 2A3) are used.

Sincerely

John & Rita Banicki  
507 East 7th St.  
Winona, MN 55987

phone # 507 452 9606  
email [jbanik@hbc.com](mailto:jbanik@hbc.com)





Mr. David Bakke  
902 Western Ave.  
Holmen, WI 54636

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2011 DEC 13 A 10:11

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Kenneth C. Rineer

Wisc. PSC

610 Whitney Way

P.O. Box 7854

Madison, WI 53707-7854



From the desk of ...

David M Bakke

Kenneth C. Rineer

Dear Sir:

AFTER Reading your  
Letter and Viewing The  
Map Provided, I'm  
Recommending My choice  
Which is,

The Original Q1

Route.

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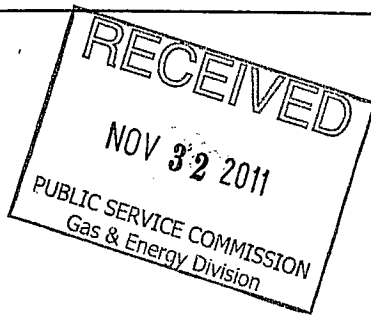
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David & Diane Bakke  
902 Western Ave.  
Holmen, WI 54636

David M. Bakke

"Still Serving America"



314 North Main Street -- PO Box 277  
Alma, WI 54610-0277  
Phone: 608-685-3330 Fax: 608-685-4935

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
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2011 NOV 23 A 10:12  
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November 18, 2011

Mr. William Fannucchi  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin Docket Coordinator  
Gas & Energy Division  
601 North Whitney Way  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

RE: 345kV Electric Transmission Line Segment 10B2 – Buffalo County, WI

Dear Mr. Fannucchi:

The Common Council of the City of Alma met on Thursday, November 17, 2011 for the regular monthly meeting. An agenda item of great importance was the proposed routes for the 345kV electric transmission line.

The City of Alma has been contacted by Secluded Land Company II, LLC – owners of the Alma Hills Subdivision regarding this matter because Segment 10B2 passes through the subdivision almost centrally.

This would affect the current property owners and prospective property owners of the subdivision resulting in a depreciation of current property and will hinder the purchase and building on the other available lots in the subdivision. The City of Alma will lose prospective increased property assessments should this route be taken.

The City has also been contacted by the current property owner at the Alma Hills Subdivision, Tamara Schrock expressing her concerns. (I have enclosed a copy of the email she submitted to the City of Alma).

Another important factor is the scenic beauty of the City of Alma. One of the main industries in the City of Alma is tourism. Thousands of tourists visit the historic and natural beauty that the City of Alma provides. One of the city's most scenic attractions is Buena Vista Park. Buena Vista Park is visited from people around the United States for it's natural, scenic views.

In closing, the City of Alma strongly opposes route Segment 10B2 and supports the southern routes, 1, 2A, 2A2, 2A3, and Segment 10B1 will have little to no impact on the City of Alma's property values.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Corey Hanson', with a stylized, flowing script.

Corey Hanson  
Mayor  
City of Alma

lmt/ch



Linda Torgerson &lt;cityalma277@gmail.com&gt;

## cap X 2020 lines

2 messages

Tamara Schrock <tamaraschrock@yahoo.com>

Fri, Nov 11, 2011 at 1:21 AM

Reply-To: Tamara Schrock <tamaraschrock@yahoo.com>

To: "cityalma@hbci.com" <cityalma@hbci.com>

Hi City of Alma Staff Members, the city council and Mayor,  
 Thank you for your letters of information about the Cap X 2020. I strongly agree that any power lines should be placed outside of the city limits. As a new person to town It is a eye sore to see all the power lines on the street as I drive down toward main street on E. Any more powerlines and especially high tower power lines would definatly decrease home values and discourage new home construction and home sales in the city of Alma. I have sent out emails to several people not just the ones you listed in your letter, concerning the powerline going through Alma Hills. I am most certian It would decrease our home values and I have spoken with other landowners who are waiting to build up here, and we know 2 people who would buy land to build on up here who will not, until after a decision is made. If we would have known the powerline was considered to go near our property through the middle of Alma hills we most certianly would have chosen a different building site or not built at all. We have placed on hold all expansion and landcaping plans until a decision is made as well as business plans we have for the Alma area unitl a decision is made, hopefully to go around the city. So we can move our business location to Alma. We also wanted to purchase the lot across from us and next to us however the lots have been taken off the market due to a proposed building of a High powered line in close proximity to our home. The other concerns we have are not only the EMF's but the magnetic fields that the lines create which I read in detail about can reach up to 1200 feet at dangerous levels, to humans. Yes, It is controversial and research is still being conducted however it is still a concern to us that children exposed to high levels of EMF's can develop Cancer, Heat Disease, and other heath concerns living in close proximity to these lines. Would any of you want to risk this with your children? We have 3 young girls. Adults too are at risk Cancer and Heart disease develop in adults too. So, Its not ok for the lines to be placed near schools, nursing homes, parks, ect, but its ok to go near homes. how interesting! Oh, and stray electricity? Wow! So, if we are out walking (which we love to do), the kids want to go play with the denzingers, our dogs get out of their electric fence, wander under or close to these lines, they or we might die? Certainly, I would not feel comfortable with this. My next concern is the beauty of this area is breathtaking. The animals and bird habitat up here will more than likely get injured, hurt, or disappear shall these towers go up. It would be sad to see the "Wings over Alma" no longer be. Also, the damage to the natural bedrock and beauty of the forest cutting down of the trees up here, damage to the natural prarie grasses and plants, would be a disgrace to the preservation of the Great River Road and Wisconsin Mississippi Bluff Ridges, not only will it look bad, it would be a eye sore. Most certianly we are not preserving our land (or city). Will nearby rocks be disturbed and possibly travel down towards the highway, if they use explosives to "foot" these High towers? No one could stop a loose 1,000 lb boulder rolling down the hill. Under our home the veins of the bedrock are from 4 to 10 feet. Most likely explosives would be needed. Il realize the city would be paid a yearly compensation and a one time fee. Please ask yourselves is this

worth it? Finally, I read the Draft EIS, It left me thinking common sense..this whole Cap X2020 confuses me. Why is this power that is generated by wind not used in the area that its generated in. For example, the gigantic wind towers west of Rochester, Mn. Tthe power is not used there locally either the power those windmills produced is delivered to Florida. The funny thing is that technology has developed wind towers smaller and more efective that can generate power from wind already. So many other options are available for cities that are suffering a energy crisis. It costs around 1200-2000K to obtain a DYI solar kit to power most of one's home. We also are on the verge of a energy transformation that will re vamp these lines and the way we produce energy for our homes, hot water, heating and cooling, and portable decices, in the next 20 years using grafitte fiber optics and so many other promising technologies. Technology does change with a little time. The VCR came out affordably in 1986, look how far we have come. It would seem to me that this is a last hurrah for the power company to get more money out of its customers, by raising our energy bills 15% in the next few years. Some reports say energy levels are incereasing so maybe we all need to look into using alternative forms of light, heating and cooling, electricity, and powering of our portable devices. The "Go Green Movement" our country is saying it supports should not be in the form of High Voltage Lines. It should be in Alternative forms of energy. For example the school, uses those big lights out front and they are on every evening I beleive they use at least 400 watts a piece, how about a donation from the community members and have the science department work with the seniors and juniors and make those lights solar. I am sure the city lights could also be solar too with a city-school project. We all as parents and older adults need to set a example to our children and encourage alterative forms of energy. Let our children be the front runners of technology and put it to use in our schools and communities. We will be trying to go off the grid or very low on the grid by the end of next year and I think many homeowners should do the same. Thank you for your time in reading my thoughts on Cap X 2020 and my disapointment of the proposed High Voltage lines going up through the middle of Alma Hills. It really does not make any sense, Please continue to support the powerline outside of Alma, we already have enough lines in this town. Most Sincerly, Tamara Schrock, Alma Hills Homeowner.

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Linda Torgerson <cityalma277@gmail.com>  
To: Corey Hanson <corey.hanson@tdstelcom.com>

Mon, Nov 14, 2011 at 11:53 AM

[Quoted text hidden]

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## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Bob & Gretchen Chalsma <bgchalsma@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 4:03 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** PROJECT 5-CE-136

Mr. Fannucchi,

We have about 3/4 mile of land effected by the Q1 Galesville Route of this proposed project. Our land is East of Highway 53 just North of Highway 35.

It is obvious that the alternate original Q1 routing is the best because:

- 1) It is the lowest cost and therefore the smallest effect on all taxpayers
- 2) It requires the least amount of new right-of-way therefore the smallest impact on the land
- 3) It impacts the fewest number of person now and potentially in the further, therefore minimizes peoples concerns.

Please consider these facts as it is a significant project for our area and it will be part of our community for many years.

Sincerely,

Bob and Gretchen Chalsma

## **Rineer, Ken - PSC**

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**From:** Bob & Gretchen Chalsma <bgchalsma@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 4:00 PM  
**To:** Rineer, Ken - PSC  
**Subject:** PROJECT 5-CE-136

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It is obvious that the alternate original Q1 routing is the best because:

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- 2) It requires the least amount of new right-of-way therefore the smallest impact on the land
- 3) It impacts the fewest number of person now and potentially in the further, therefore minimizes peoples concerns.

Please consider these facts as it is a significant project for our area and it will be part of our community for many years.

Sincerely,

Bob and Gretchen Chalsma

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Randy Campbell <rscampbell57@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 8:11 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** capx2020 comment

I am writing this to strongly oppose the proposed route for the capx2020 transmission line through fox coulee, more particularly across the road from my home. The current plan for this route would mean that I would have a 150 foot tower within 100 FEET of my home. I have 3 disabled children, 2 have autism. While neither side of the EMF issue can claim to know exactly what health issues are associated with high levels of emf, I would hope you would error on the side of caution. This also does not factor my property value plummeting.

My farm is basically all the retirement I have. How will I sell it somewhere down the road with the line running past my house only 100 feet away? Lets put this outside your picture window and say it's for everyone's benefit. Don't think you'd like it either. Also, the person I talked to at a public meeting in Centerville, said by state statute, the first choice should be the existing route along the Mississippi and Black River bottoms area. The DNR should not have the power to deny what the law says is the primary choice for the new line. Excel has offered to build the line using helicopters to minimize any construction damage, and it would save over 30 MILLION dollars of public money. Don't tell me it's because of the potential environmental danger to birds. I have birds in my valley too. Please use the existing corridor and save us 30 MILLION dollars of additional costs that don't have to be spent in these hard economic times. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Randy and Betty Campbell  
N20578 Hovell Lane  
Galesville, WI.

608-539-2701

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Coughlan, Mary <MCoughlan@winona.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 9:22 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse transmission line

December 22, 2011

To the Public Service Commission:

I am writing to oppose the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse transmission line. We do not need such electrical lines as proposed by the CAPX 2020 project. People in our rural counties cannot afford to pay for such a project that we do not need. To plan for the future when we may need more electrical power, the money to construct such a line should be put into creating the energy locally. This would bring jobs to the areas where the electricity is used. If the money spent to build such lines was given to local solar, wind and hydro projects, there could be a far better result.

I have not heard of any comprehensive alternative plans to create power locally in the future. Once such a large amount of resources are committed to these power lines, it will be unlikely to change course and have to have smarter alternative methods to bring power to customers. These lines will be transporting energy from burning coal. This is a dirty way to create energy. Spending this much money on an old non-renewable energy source will not be a beneficial way to solve future energy needs.

Also, our landscape is one of our resources to bring tourists to our area. Such power lines will ruin our scenic view. The lines will also by-pass some farmers who are growing organic crops and organically raised cattle. This will compromise their ability raise their food with out being in the path of the lines. The maintenance on the taller lines will include a wider swath of spraying which will be harmful to the environment and destructive to the production of organically grown food in our area. It will also impact the wildlife in the area.

More thought and study needs to go in finding an alternative to this proposal, both for including alternative energy production and an environmental impact study of installing such large power lines.

Sincerely,

Mary Coughlan  
W10304 Farm Lane  
Ettrick, WI 54629

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 220  
Galesville, WI 54630

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

2011 DEC 23 A 9:37

W7649 Fieldstone Court  
Holmen, WI 54636  
December 20, 2011

Kenneth C. Rineer  
Wisconsin PSC  
610 Whitney Way  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

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I am writing to voice my concerns for the proposed CapX2020 line through the Holmen area.

I would like the line, if it's built, to go through the original Q1 route for several reasons:

There is already a power line there with an existing right-of-way in place. The line that is there would need upgrading in the near future and it could be done all at once saving money in the long run.

The Q1 route is the hypotenuse of a triangle—shorter is less expensive.

The Q1 route is less populated. No matter what animal rights people say about going through the marshland, it's better to put it there than in more heavily populated areas where there is risk to people and a certain loss to property values.

If this project moves forward, I sincerely hope the choices made consider what is best for the people of the area.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Doescher



**Mr. William Fannucchi**  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
Docket Coordinator  
Gas and Energy Division  
610 North Whitney Way  
PO Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

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2011 DEC 13 A 10: 07

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

December 9, 2011

Dear Mr. Fannucchi:

This letter is being sent with regard to the **proposed power line routes for the Alma WI area**. As a landowner in the Alma Hills area, the proposed route selection will have a dramatic affect on my property value and future plans for retirement to that area.

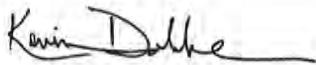
I am currently a Minnesota resident and am paying Wisconsin taxes on my property in the Alma Hills project. I am currently planning on building a retirement home there in my upcoming retirement as a college professor in Minnesota.

**If Segment 10B2 is selected as the route, I plan on selling the property and will not retire in Wisconsin as a protest.** My future property taxes to Wisconsin will be forever lost. **I strongly urge that Segment 1, 2A1, 2A2, 2A3 be the selected route.**

It is inconceivable to me that 10B2 be selected in that it will pass directly though the middle of the Alma Hills development, a development that is an important expansion project for the city of Alma. The state would be both impeding potential tax-base development to the state and devastating a major development for the city of Alma. I urge you to recommend the Segment 1, 2A1, 2A2, 2A3 route.

I would be happy to speak with anyone on behalf of this project.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kevin Dobbe  
1428 Century Point Lane NE  
Rochester, MN 55906  
[kdobbe@mac.com](mailto:kdobbe@mac.com)

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2011 DEC 13 A 10: 07

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Joanne DeMaster <denimdiva2day@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 4:01 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CapX2020

Mr. Fannucchi,

I am a resident of the Town of Trempealeau in Trempealeau County, WI. The proposed Cap X powerline creates a great deal of concern for my family, my community and myself.

I live on the prairie near the Q1 Galesville route, this proposed route runs within a city block of my home. Another proposed route runs right through the Wildlife Refuge, Perrot State Park and other ecologically sensitive areas. I have lived in this area for 30 years and I am deeply concerned that these powerlines will destroy everything that my community holds close to heart and utilizes for livelihood as well as damaging the health of children, adults and livestock.

The people of Trempealeau County pride themselves on living off the land and therefore have a great deal of respect for the treatment of that land. It seems clear to me that the impact of these powerlines will threaten much of what makes this community a community that thrives on the farming and tourist industries. I have neighbors who will likely lose the farms that have been in their family for generations. With these powerlines in place, the natural beauty of the Mississippi Valley will be destroyed. And with it many of the families that call this area "home."

I plead with you to demand more information about the necessity of these powerlines. Does that "necessity" outweigh the irreversible damage they will create?

On the land itself?

On property values?

On natural resources?

On the agriculture?

On tourism?

On socio-economics?

On the citizen's health?

On the citizen's pocketbook?

On the future of renewable and environmentally-friendly energy?

There is no need for the CapX2020 powerline. As stated in the DEIS, (page XVI of the executive summary) "It is not clear that there will be sufficient population growth in the La Crosse/Winona area to justify the projected increase in demand for electricity presented in the CPCN application." As a result of the lack of need for the powerline, my choice is the "No Action Alternative" for the project.

I do not want the PSC to approve CapX2020 powerline project until there are objective studies by an independent body demonstrating that the energy from the powerline is needed for the communities in the Alma-No. La Crosse area and there is no other way to provide that energy through efficiency programs and locally produced and distributed energy systems.

It is absolutely essential to diligently evaluate both the short- and long-term effects of this endeavor! It seems it

is a project that carries too many uncertainties. Let's be SURE that the proposed "benefits" that the power companies claim outweigh the significant CONSEQUENCES.

Sincerely,

Joanne M DeMaster  
N14739 Wright Rd  
Galesville, WI 54630

--

Joanne DeMaster  
See my shop @  
<http://www.etsy.com/shop/DenimDiva2day>

**From:** [Philip DeMaster](#)  
**To:** [Fannucchi, William - PSC](#)  
**Subject:** CapX2020  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2011 4:07:19 PM

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Mr. Fannucchi,

I am a resident of the Town of Trempealeau in Trempealeau County, WI. The proposed Cap X powerline creates a great deal of concern for my family, my community and myself.

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On the future of renewable and environmentally-friendly energy?

There is no need for the CapX2020 powerline. As stated in the DEIS, (page XVI of the executive summary) "It is not clear that there will be sufficient population growth in the La Crosse/Winona area to justify the projected increase in demand for electricity presented in the CPCN application." As a result of the lack of need for the powerline, my choice is the "No Action Alternative" for the project.

I do not want the PSC to approve CapX2020 powerline project until there are objective studies by an independent body demonstrating that the energy from the powerline is needed for the communities in the Alma-No. La Crosse area and there is no other way to provide that energy through efficiency programs and locally produced and distributed energy systems.

It is absolutely essential to diligently evaluate both the short- and long-term effects of this endeavor! It seems it is a project that carries too many uncertainties. Let's be SURE that the proposed "benefits" that the power companies claim outweigh the significant

CONSEQUENCES.

Sincerely,

Philip DeMaster  
N14739 Wright Rd  
Galesville, WI 54630



## Fannucchi, William - PSC

---

**From:** Maureen Freedland <maureenfreedland@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 11:58 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse transmission line comments

I am an elected, fourth-term County Board Supervisor in La Crosse, County. To prepare for the County Board's December 15, 2011 resolution Opposing and Requesting Additional Information Regarding CapX2020 and the ATC Applications for a 345 kV Transmission Line Project (this resolution was overwhelmingly passed), I reviewed my files on CapX2020.

My file goes back to the early fall of 2008 – over 3 years ago, before CapX2020 was approved in MN.

I recalled the routing open meetings that I attended at the La Crescent American Legion, and also in Centerville, WI. I attended debates and other informational meetings, and spoke with several Xcel scientists.

I've taken the time to seek out and to listen to landowners, farmers, parents, and I have been concerned by the devastation they feel imminent as the lines impact on their homes, their investments, the health of their children and their animals, their future.

And for much of this time I can honestly say that there has been some uncertainty, some small nagging voice in my mind that has questioned whether high voltage transmission lines might indeed be needed for our future. Surely, as our nation grows, our energy needs grow too.

Isn't it against scientific and economic growth evidence to say we do not need more power, and doesn't the big picture demand that we accept reality, pitch in for the good of the nation or at least for the East Coast, and accept these lines even if they go through our beautiful county?

The answer to this -- is NO.

More and more, I read reports including the Nov. 8, 2011 WI PSC Environmental Impact Statement, that convince me that energy efficiency is working! People are getting the message to reduce energy consumption, and use more efficient home and industrial equipment. Reports of lowered energy consumption that are quite independent of the economic recession continue to come out. Energy demand is dropping or at least flat in the La Crosse/Winona area and throughout WI and region in all sectors – residential, industrial, agricultural and commercial.

But make no mistake. What we were called on to vote about on December 15, 2011 was not a mere argument of one set of numbers or predictions about the future against another's. What we were called to weigh in on is a vision -- a call to action. If we do not act in favor of ambitious and achievable energy goals and ultimately take a firm commitment that we will transform our electrical system to renewables, then we fail in our obligation to the future, in the long term.

We fail even in the short term if we do not do this -- we fail in our opportunity to create good Wisconsin jobs and Wisconsin economic growth.

A new interstate high-voltage transmission network is not a pre--requisite to future energy independence. It is prescription for coal, to national security risks, to inefficiency, to high rates paid by consumers, to overbuilding, to pitting neighbors against neighbors, communities against communities.

I urge you to evaluate and analyze all environmental and other impacts as they will clearly demonstrate that we can do without the Hampton--Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV power line project.

Thank you.

--

Maureen Freedland  
County Board Supervisor, La Crosse County  
2641 Schubert Place  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
Home: (608) 796-1076  
Fax: (608) 796-0772

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Bill & Tera Faschingbauer <wfasching@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 12:59 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CapX2020 public comment

I'm in favor of keeping the existing routes when possible. It's less toll on the environment.

Thanks,

Bill Faschingbauer  
W8005 August Ave  
Holmen, WI 54636

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

---

**From:** Mark Greyla <mtgreylak@centurytel.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 8:14 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Capx20

Dear Sir,

We choose to live in western Wisconsin adjacent to the Van Loon wildlife refuge along the Black River. This is an area of great natural beauty, and an outstanding place for outdoor recreation. The proposed power line would have an extremely negative impact on this area, and I am deeply opposed to it.

Sincerely,

Mark Greyla  
W19658 Sawmill Rd  
Galesville, WI 54630

Sent from my iPad

Joan G. Greshik  
S2663 Prairie Moon Rd.  
Cochrane, WI 54622

November 15, 2011

Kenneth Rineer, EIS Coordinator  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

**Re: CapX2020**  
**Land Owner Comments**

RECEIVED  
2011 DEC 19 A 10:21  
WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Dear Public Service Commission Members:

Greshik Farms, submits this letter to the Public Service Commission based upon the notice dated November 7, 2011 relative to the draft Environment Impact Statement. Greshik Farms is a family farming operation on land owned and leased south of Cochrane, Wisconsin over which the proposed CapX2020 Transmission Line will cross if the route other than heading to Arcadia is chosen. Greshik Farms is owned and operated by Joan Greshik and her son Keith Greshik and some of the real estate in question is co-owned by Joan Greshik's daughters in a family limited partnership.

The Greshik family makes the following comments with respect to the proposed CapX2020 project (Project):

1. If the CapX2020 lines follow the Q1 power line along the river bluffs from Alma to just above Fountain City, the lines will be detrimental to the enjoyment of the land, specifically the scenic characteristics because at some places it will be at the base of the bluff line and others near the top of the bluffs. The Great River Road is designated a national scenic highway and the section of the Great River Road from Alma to Fountain City is one of the most scenic portions. Placing the poles of the size described by the power company will mean clearing most of the bluff in some places.
2. The area south of Alma to where the Q1 Dairyland power line leads the river valley and heads inland, is within the Mississippi Migratory Bird Flyway and the Project would be harmful to populations of wildlife and migrating birds in that vicinity.
3. The Greshik family also opposes the transmission line for the reason that the power lines will have a negative impact on property values because of the harm and damage to the scenic values of their property along the river bluffs which they own. Furthermore, there is concern by



the Greshiks and any potential buyer of the their property that there is a real or at a minimum a perceived change with respect to the magnetic field generated by the enhanced transmission lines. Many people and organizations have expressed concern that the modeling has been inadequate for the reason that it has not been based upon full capacity ranges upward to 75% of conductor capacity to 100% conductor ratings.

4. The Greshik family opposes CapX2020 because the demand for electricity in Western Wisconsin has decreased and this negative impact on their lands that will be caused by this property is only to enhance and increase wholesale coal and nuclear generation for sale in more lucrative markets to the East at the expense of local taxpayers and land owners.

5. Opposition is also voiced by the Greshiks to the likelihood of use of eminent domain powers to take land for this project to locate and construct the transmission lines as well as the significant negative visual impacts along the Mississippi River Valley as well as other areas which are protected in some locations by scenic easements and local setbacks to maintain safety and public health concerns.

In summary, the Greshik family opposes the CapX2020 project for all the reasons set forth above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Greshik".

Joan Greshik

JG/baj

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

---

**From:** VIC GRABAU <grab826@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 1:13 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC

If the powerline crosses at Alma and follows highway 35 south I would assume that it would follow the other hiighline through the golf course as it passes through Cochrane, Wi. As I am a person with a pacemaker defibulator I would not be able to play that part of the course as it would make the pacmaker defibulater non functional. I had run into this under a high power line in Virginia and had to skip several holes. I would hope the route chosen moves farther east. Thank you. Victor Grabau avid golfer



# School District of Holmen

1019 Mc Hugh Road  
Holmen, Wisconsin 54636

(608) 526-6610 (608) 526-1333 FAX  
www.holmen.k12.wi.us

December 6, 2011

RECEIVED

2011 DEC - 8 P 1:34

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Mr. William Fannucchi  
Wisconsin Public Service Commission  
610 North Whitney Way  
Madison, WI 53705-2750

Dear Mr. Fannucchi,

Enclosed is a resolution regarding the CAPX2020 and ATC Applications for a 345 kV Transmission Line Project approved by the School District of Holmen Board of Education on November 28, 2011. The School District of Holmen opposes the planned grid expansion project in the Midwest, specifically the Alma to North La Crosse and North La Crosse to Madison 345kV power line.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance to you as you review the resolution.

Sincerely,

Dale Carlson  
District Administrator

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HOLMEN  
RESOLUTION REGARDING CAPX2020 and ATC APPLICATIONS FOR A  
345 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT (11/28/11)**

**WHEREAS**, Xcel Energy, Dairyland Power and American Transmission Company (ATC) have proposed Capx2020 Phase I and Badger Coulee transmission line projects including a 345 kV high voltage power line from Alma to North LaCrosse and North LaCrosse to Madison; and

**WHEREAS**, the CapX2020 Hampton-LaCrosse and Badger Coulee ATC 345kV include 130 to 170 foot steel towers high voltage power lines and associated right of ways; and

**WHEREAS**, building a high voltage transmission line would require use of public rights of way and condemnation of private property for easements; and the centerline of this transmission line on its 150 foot right of way could be placed within 75 feet of a residence or school; and

**WHEREAS**, proposed routes place the center of the high voltage transmission line right of way as close as; 450 feet to a 540 pupil elementary school, 225 feet to a proposed 600 pupil middle school and 575 feet of a 1,600 pupil high school, as well as more than 200 staff members, for 1,500 to 2,500 hours per year; 100 feet of a high school athletic stadium (2,500 spectators) with lighting mounted on poles 80 feet tall; 220 feet of a District Administrative Center, and

**WHEREAS**, there is a growing body of health concerns including medical studies which have shown an association between exposure to electromagnetic fields produced by high voltage transmission lines, childhood leukemia, neurological diseases and conditions, and other health effects, and

**WHEREAS**, the CapX2020 Hampton-LaCrosse and Badger Coulee ATC 345kV projects include a proposed route corridor which cuts across rivers, farms, forests and valleys, scenic bluffs, wildlife and waterfowl habitats, exceptional water resources, scenic easements, and/or cultural/economic districts in the School District of Holmen; and

**WHEREAS**, high voltage powerlines would have an adverse affect on the School District of Holmen's financial condition in that continued growth in community property values and number of residents are important components of the financial stability and sustainability of the district, and high voltage powerlines are known to reduce property values and make property less desirable for residential growth; and

**WHEREAS**, the right of way associated with the high voltage powerlines would place restrictions on the use of School District of Holmen (governmental) property inconsistent with the needs and intended use of the property; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of electricity in Wisconsin and adjacent states has declined significantly since a 2006 peak and demand is projected to remain flat in the predictable future; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the School District of Holmen's belief that there are other ways of meeting any electrical need claimed by applicants that should be considered and implemented first, including efficiencies, demand and supply side management, locally produced and distributed renewable energy , and energy-related economic development, before high voltage transmission is considered; and

**WHEREAS**, costs for the Alma to North LaCrosse (\$250 million) to Madison (\$425 million) high voltage power line would cost ratepayers more than \$675 million and be part of a \$2.3-\$3.6 billion grid expansion project in the Midwest; and

**WHEREAS**, a new 345kV transmission line will result in increased electricity costs for all rate payers, loss of property value because of the view and dangers that high voltage power lines inherently carry, and create adverse effect on the area's tourism and general economy; and

**WHEREAS**, transmission line projects approved by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin are required by Wisconsin statutes (196.49 (3) and 196.491 (3) (d)) to have costs that are in proportion to their benefits, must satisfy the reasonable needs of the public for adequate energy supply and must also not be overbuilt or designed in excess of probable future energy needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the policy of the State of Wisconsin (1.12(6)) is to site new transmission lines to the greatest extent feasible, utilizing existing corridors in the following order of priority:

- a. Existing utility corridors,
- b. Highway and railroad corridors,
- c. Recreational trails with limitations, and
- d. New corridors;

**WHEREAS**, THE School District of Holmen Board of Education is entrusted by the community to take actions in the best interest of students and the community it serves ; and

**THEREFORE**

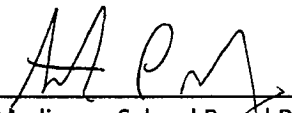
**BE IT REOSOLVED**, that

1. The School District of Holmen opposes the planned grid expansion project in the Midwest, specifically the Alma to North LaCrosse and North LaCrosse to Madison 345kV power line; and
2. The School District of Holmen requests that additional on the record public hearings be held near the Village of Holmen before a recommendation on a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is made for either project; and
3. The School District of Holmen requests that it not be utilized as a pass through for transmission for which it receives no benefit; and
4. The School District of Holmen requests that clear, detailed information be provided to the School District of Holmen explaining the perceived need for the 345kV powerline which includes supporting objective studies with a cost benefit analysis comparing the efficiency-only, locally produced and distributed generation options with the high voltage option; and
5. The School District of Holmen insists that every effort be made in developing or enhancing the energy system on which the School District of Holmen relies to do the following:
  - Implement and enforce Wisconsin State Statute 1993, Wisconsin Bill 414 that states:  
"In meeting energy demands, the policy of the State is that, to the extent cost-effective and technically feasible, options be considered based on the following priorities, in the order listed:
  - a. Energy conservation and efficiency.
  - b. Noncombustible renewable energy resources.
  - c. Combustible renewable energy resources.
  - d. Nonrenewable combustible energy resources, in the order listed:
    - i. Natural Gas

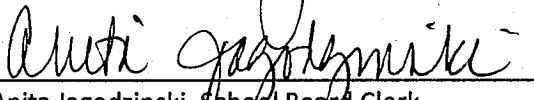
- ii. Oil or coal with sulphur content of less than 1%.
  - iii. All other carbon-based fuels."
6. Furthermore, the School District of Holmen requests adoption and action of Wisconsin's energy policy by implementing local ownership of energy generation that includes dispersed renewable energy to support the local economy, and to minimize the size, scale, voltage, and environmental impacts of electric transmission.

The School District of Holmen District Administrator is authorized to request that the School District of Holmen be added to project notice lists and request a copy of the application for the CapX2020 and Badger-Coulee transmission projects from the utilities to be available in the School District of Holmen. The School District of Holmen District Administrator is authorized to transmit this resolution and other appropriate documents to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission Docket # 5-CE-136 and Docket # 137-CE-160 and to the Administrative Law Judge and state Commission staff conducting proceedings for the CapX2020 and the Badger-Coulee 345kV Transmission Line Projects.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the School District of Holmen hereby approves this resolution, ADOPTED this 28th day of November, 2011.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Medinger, School Board President

12-6-11  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anita Jagodzinski, School Board Clerk

12-2-11  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

To: William Fannucchi  
Docket Coordinator  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854  
December 19, 2011

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

2011 DEC 23 A 9: 36

RECEIVED



**RE: Docket number 5-CE-136**

Joint Application of Dairyland Power Cooperative, Northern States Power Company - Wisconsin, and Wisconsin Public Power, Inc., for Authority to Construct and Place in Service 345 kV Electric Transmission Lines and Electric Substation Facilities for the CapX Twin Cities - Rochester - La Crosse Project, Located in Buffalo, Trempealeau, and La Crosse Counties

**Commentor Information:**

Name: Victoria Hirschboeck  
Address: N15094 Delaney Road  
City: Trempealeau State: WI Zip:54661  
E-mail: avocet62@centurytel.net  
Phone: 608 539-5750

**Comments regarding Need for Project:**

As a Wisconsin citizen, property owner and power user I question the need for the project. While I do not have the expertise to analyze projected usage, economic benefits or power configurations, it does appear from the draft EIS that there are several options that could provide the projected power needed to supply the needs of La Crosse area power users. For example, section 3.3.2 of the document outlines a "reconductor option" that seems to indicate that if the applicant upgraded its existing equipment enough power could be saved on the existing lines to supply most of the need. Furthermore section 3.4 indicates that the cost of reconductoring is only slightly more than the cost of the proposed new 345 kv line. In fact several of the options in the table 3.4-1, in combination, would more than supply the needed power- some at substantially less cost. I believe it is incumbent upon the PSC to support options that benefit Wisconsin residents, and conserve power while minimizing impacts to taxpayers, property owners, and the environment.

**Comments regarding Environmental and Social Impacts**

I submit that the route review and selection process as evaluated in the Draft EIS is flawed and biased in favor of the applicant's preferred alternative. My understanding of the process is that the applicant is required by the PSC to propose 2 route alternatives (with various minor deviations). The PSC only evaluates the proposed routes. This allows the applicant to propose the route it prefers (Q1 route) and compare it with a second, less favorable scenario (Arcadia route) thereby making the preferred route the "best" option. The applicant proposed a route that runs directly through Arcadia and Galesville, when another route that impacts far fewer homes and businesses (Blair route) remains off the table? I respectfully request that the PSC evaluate the Blair route (also known as the Tremvil line) for the following reasons:



1. The Blair route is a more fair and reasonable comparison to the Q1 route.
2. The Blair route was eliminated early in the process for being longer than the Q1 route. However, the proposed Arcadia route and the Blair route are of similar length. The argument that the Blair route is significantly longer no longer applies.
3. The Blair route (from Arcadia to the intersection of the 2 routes) impacts far fewer homes than the Arcadia route. An inspection of the aerial imagery (using GOOGLE Earth) shows about 7 buildings (some may be out-buildings and not homes) within the 150' proposed easement for the Blair route. The Arcadia route shows roughly 35 buildings within its 150' proposed easement with many more immediately adjacent to, but outside the easement (see attached image).
4. The Blair route (from Arcadia to the intersection of the 2 routes) could be placed entirely on existing easements (as would the Q1 route). The Arcadia route will require new easements and create new impacts (as per Wis. Stat 196.491 (3)(d)3r and Wis. Stat. 1.12(6)).
5. Impacts are already present along the Blair route (as with the Q1 route). The Arcadia route will create additional habitat fragmentation and other associated impacts.

I further submit that the Blair route minimizes impacts to the environment (as compared to the Q1 route) for the following reasons (as per Wis. Stat. 196.491 (3)(d)4):

1. The Blair route keeps the line away from the Mississippi River Valley. The Q1 route presents a significant strike hazard to birds moving on and off the Mississippi River and its adjacent wetlands. Frequent dense fog along the river makes this danger even more pronounced. The Q1 line will virtually "fence-in" a major North American migration pathway for millions of birds.
2. The Blair route minimizes impacts to the Black River Bottoms , and the Van Loon Wildlife Management Area .
3. The Blair route does not impact the view shed of the National Scenic Byway or the Great River Road.

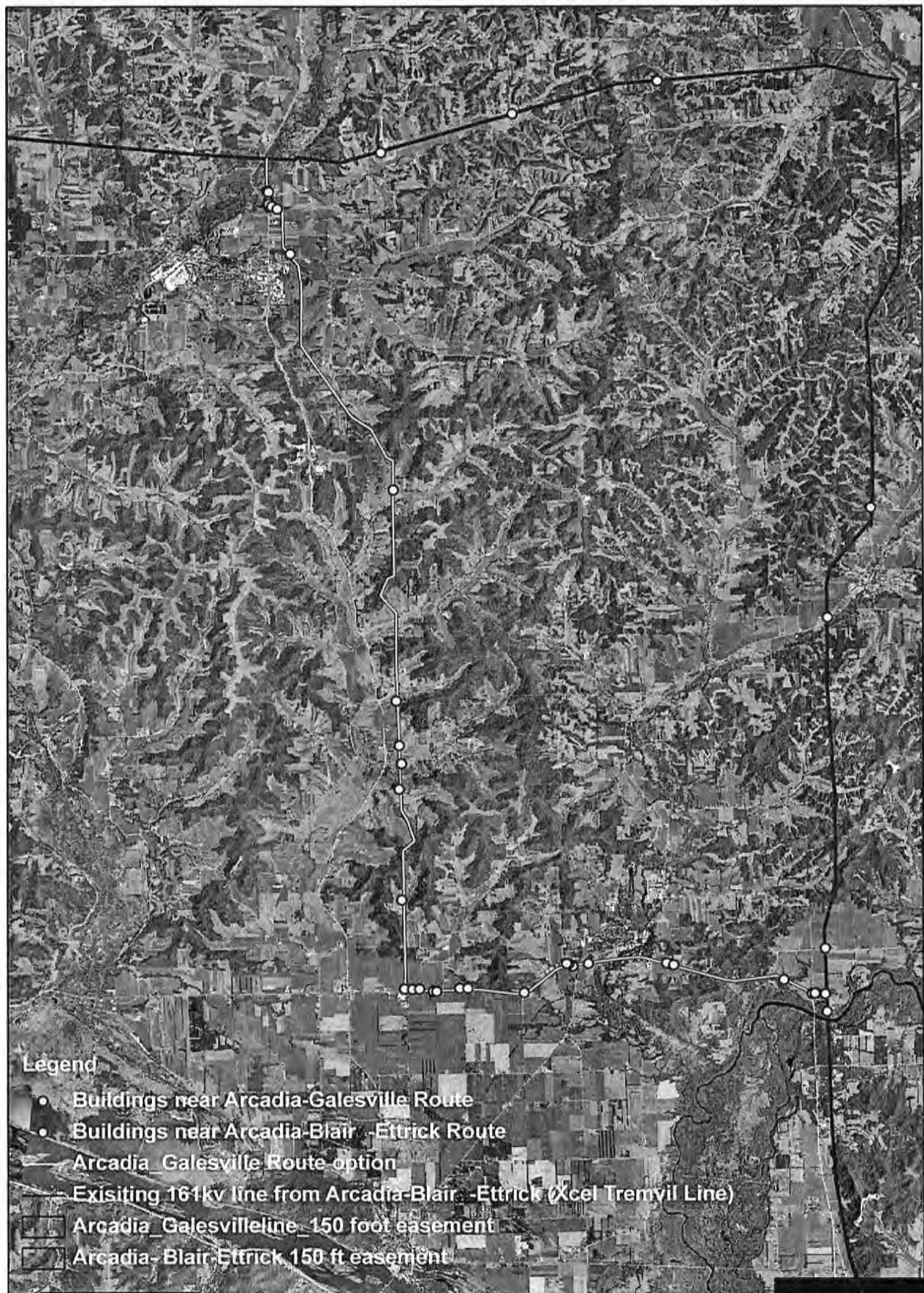
In conclusion, if the PSC does not reject the project based on need alone, I request the Blair route be evaluated as a reasonable and fair comparison to the Q1 route. I believe the PSC will find that the Blair route presents significantly fewer impacts to residences while minimizing impacts to wildlife and to the scenic beauty of the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Victoria Hirschboeck

**Attachment:** aerial photo of proposed routes

# CAPX2020 Route Options



Attachment to  
PSCW-WDNR EIS Scoping Comment Sheet

CapX2020 Alma-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, Docket 05-CE-136

From: Edward Helmueller  
1733 Indian Point  
Cochrane, WI 54622  
7/31/2011

Issues that should be covered in the EIS:

The first issue that needs to be addressed is whether this project is truly necessary.

It's hard to believe that western Wisconsin has any foreseeable need for such a metropolitan-scale transmission line. As the corresponding La Crosse-Madison project indicates, there's probably significant truth to the concern that this is just a means of pushing coal-based power from the Dakotas to the Chicago area.

Given the more dispersed nature of renewable projects and developing on-site generation technologies, this line would likely turn out to be an impediment to them or just an unnecessary expense and disruption.

About all this area will end up with is degraded or damaged environment, wildlife, scenery, and peace-of-mind (if not health).

Getting to the fine points of running such a project along the river from Alma to points south:

150' steel towers with 6-8 cables.....

.....adjacent to or over water in the heart of the Mississippi flyway.  
Migratory bird collisions and feeding/nesting disruptions.

.....adjacent to one of "America's Byways".  
Marring views that are critical to this area's tourism business.

.....visible from almost all of the Mississippi River's pool 5.  
Few people boating, fishing, and hunting on the river want to see that.

.....literally buzzing over a village, a large campground, and rural houses.  
Not pleasant, desired, or reassuring for the residents.

Summarizing:

The project is likely overkill, but IF allowed to proceed it certainly shouldn't parallel one of the country's premier rivers, a wildlife refuge, and a national scenic byway.





PSCW-WDNR EIS Scoping Comment Sheet

CapX2020 Alma-La Crosse  
345 kV Transmission Project

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, Docket 05-CE-136

RECEIVED

2011 DEC 23 A 10:21

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

From:

Name Leslie & Lorraine Haney

Address 12966 State Hwy 35  
Fountain City, WI 54629

Phone (507) 459-0512

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Representing \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE DEPOSIT AT THE  
INFORMATION MEETING

OR...

To mail, fold this sheet  
(our address is on the back), or add  
additional sheets and put in an envelope,  
and send to:

KENNETH RINEER  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 7854  
MADISON WI 53707-7854

Issues that should be covered in the EIS:

The powerline will have a very  
negative impact on us & the entire area! Land  
value & desire will decrease. We now have people  
interested in buying property for home sites & a  
business. The powerline will split our property  
in half. The great river road scenic easement  
borders both sides of Hwy 35 the entire length of the  
property. We are bound by regulations on a 700'  
wide strip of land. We now have a local powerline  
going south to north with an easement the length of the property.  
We strongly oppose another unsightly high voltage  
powerline going west to east of no value to us.

Additional sheets are included: ☐ Yes ☐ No

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** ktjustin@centurytel.net  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 6:41 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CapX2020

As a resident in Buffalo County, living in the township of Milton, I hope great thought has gone into placement of this line. Looking at population, placement of already built homes and schools. Will property values go down? I also hope great thought has been put in any health risks that this might bear on people living in close proximity to this line.

I understand the need for progress. Keep in mind the shortest route and least expensive route is not always the best in the long run.

Thank you for taking time to read this.

Tricia Justin

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

---

**From:** Will Jones <willardskillard@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 11:36 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** capX2020

I am oposed to any route for this power line. I live close to the preferred route and feel that the need for this is not needed. There is so many ways that we can be creative in creating power locally and not need this capx line. Please stand up for what the local area is saying and stop this line from coming anywhere near this area.

Thanks for your time  
Will Jones

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** maggie jones <mhjones@countrysspeed.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 9:43 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** capx2020 comment

Greetings,

This line is not needed, and the way into a cleaner future is to promote solar and small scale wind at each house, business, and parking lot, the Dairyland Power Plants would look great with their lots intertwined with solar panels,,why not? Lets not run this bird killing, wasteful, ugly line across this state.

Maggie Jones  
David Linton  
41425 Spring Valley Ln  
Blue River WI  
53518



## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** D Johnson <jcj6532@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 5:34 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Cc:** jcj6532@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** concerns Re: CapX2020 & ATC Badger Coulee Power Lines

My name is Denan Johnson. My family and I live in the Town of Farmington. We are extremely concerned regarding these high voltage power lines. Not only do these power lines cause safety concerns but they will devalue our property and destroy the scenic beauty of our area. They metal poles can be up to 15 STORIES high. Please ask yourself, would you buy a home with these massive power lines in the yard? I'm sure your answer was "no" and there are many reasons for that.

I may only be one person but I've talked to many of my neighbors, including Greg Fromstad, Cheryl Fischer, and Brenda Carrie to name a few. They all have the same concerns.

These power lines will FOREVER change our communities in an adverse way. The need in our area does not support the use of these voltage lines and there are many other options which would be more beneficial to our community and neighbors. Please consider our concerns.

Thank you and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
Sincerely,

Denan Johnson  
W2597 Davis Creek Road  
Melrose, WI 54642  
(608)857-9907

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Trempealeau Hotel <jj@trempealeauhotel.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 2:38 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** capx2020

Dear Sir,

I am writing to oppose the construction of the CapX2020 power line through Wisconsin. The statistics show that power demand is indeed going down and through further conservation, efficiency and the development of regional wind and solar energy this trend should continue. Also, the proposed towers create numerous environmental and health problems that should not be imposed on the people and wildlife of Wisconsin. Please use common sense and oppose this plan rather than bowing to the special interests of the power companies.

Thank you, Jim Jenkins

Jim Jenkins

Trempealeau Hotel

River Valley Burgers

[jj@trempealeauhotel.com](mailto:jj@trempealeauhotel.com)

[www.walnutburger.com](http://www.walnutburger.com)

608.534.6898

P.O. Box 393, Trempealeau, WI 54661

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Jacquelyn Killian <jkillian@smumn.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Please take existing neighborhoods into consideration

Please take existing neighborhoods into consideration when you are planning the CapX2020 lines. My family lives in a neighborhood with 60-70 homes just north of the race track in Fountain City, WI. The neighborhood consists of many young families and small children. I do not want to think about what effects this energy plan could have on the future of these children.

-Jackie Killian

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** alan lorenz <alanlorenz@centurytel.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 4:11 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Additional Comment on the DEIS

PSCW Docket 5-CE-136

I would like to add the following to our CAPX2020 Draft EIS review comments submitted December 15, 2011:

Excerpts from the DEIS (pages 45 5.1.1 and 46 5.1.2) in essence describe the negative impacts that would be imposed on the GRRNSB that Exhibits 7 and 7a illustrate.

Page 45 5.1.1 "The result is a permanent change to the ROW land cover. ...where transmission lines are routed through areas that are valued for their scenic qualities, the visual impacts of the line may extend well beyond the ROW ( i.e. the viewshed)" This describes exactly the case of visual impacts to the GRRNSB (which is not mentioned).

Page 46 5.1.2 "The environmental review evaluates whether land along a proposed route possesses features that would make it unique, such as its size, specific diversity or whether it plays a special role in the surrounding landscape" Such as GRRNSB.

Alan Lorenz, Chair  
WIMRPC

## Rineer, Ken - PSC

---

**From:** Kathleen Lockington <kalrkd@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 27, 2011 3:55 PM  
**To:** Rineer, Ken - PSC  
**Subject:** CapX2020 project

Dear Mr. Rineer:

Tried to email William Fannuchi before the deadline but was rejected/nondeliverable.

I would still like to register my vote to not have the project or if it has to be built to put it down the previous Dairyland Power site. The project being built through Arcadia would place it over a sand mine, a new house being placed underneath it and over many hills.

Thank for forwarding this to him.

Sincerely,  
Bill and Kathy Lockington

## Rineer, Ken - PSC

---

**From:** slien4748@charter.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 15, 2011 10:47 AM  
**To:** Rineer, Ken - PSC  
**Subject:** Capx2020 project 5-ce136

the possible Q1 line proposed coming from the Galesville direction shows it going next to the high school & on the same property as the elementary school and right where the school district plans when needed to have another school building when attendance require it and also right next to a new assisted living facility. My understanding people should not have to be exposed to these lines, so please do not consider this route

If this line is needed please put it near the Mississippi or the Black river where it does not a human health risk, I had wondered about running it close to the railroad but our son recently started working for the railroad and do not think him or his co workers should be exposed to this daily basis

Also is this line even needed why not use alternative energy  
I would expect as our technology keeps progressing that these large lines would be a thing of the past & not the future  
please any of the proposed routes move to the west

Thank you Scott Lien Town of Holland supervisor

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

---

**From:** Robert Leum <rleum@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 11:55 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** capx2020

I as a resident of the town of holland,  
oppose the x2020 power line!  
but in fact if this power line is built it  
will not benefit our community,  
the q1 route is my only choice

robert leum  
w7826 cty rd mh  
holmen, wi



## Rineer, Ken - PSC

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**From:** Lafond, Gene <gene.lafond@CenturyLink.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 16, 2011 11:28 AM  
**To:** Rineer, Ken - PSC  
**Subject:** project 5-ce-136

Mr Rineer

I'am writing this email to oppose the whole capx2020 project as I feel that it is not needed and is just a way to justify more coal fired plants out west instead of developing new renewable sources here in Wisconsin. However if this project does go thru I would favor the original Q1 route as it is an existing route that would require the least amount of new easements, fewest

amount of residents within 300 feet and be least disruptive to this area. As a local property owner/taxpayer and concerned citizen

I'am very worried about what the effects of these power lines will be on property values, quality of life and the health of the people living in there path.

Thanks

Gene LaFond  
Holmen Wisconsin

12/13/2011

Kenneth C. Rineer  
Wisconsin PSC  
610 Whitney Way  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

RECEIVED

2011 DEC 16 A 10:46

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION


Re: **Project 5-CE-136**

Dear Mr. Rineer,

I am writing in regards to the proposed routes for the CapX2020 line in the Holmen area. I am rather opposed to the project. I feel that we should not be creating new routes that will in fact effect the existing residential and agricultural areas. I also disagree with the fact that this project will provide increased savings and efficiency. A project this size will financially effect our cooperative and its members. The cost for the amount of time planning this project and then doing the actual construction will be passed on to all the residents effected by the new line. Is it fair to have the residents in the Holmen area pay for a project they are opposed to?

If in fact this project proceeds despite the disapproval of the Holmen residents, the least you can do is choose the **Q1 route**. The Q1 route will be the least invasive route for residential and agricultural areas. It will also be the shortest and most direct route which should mean lower construction costs for the cooperative and its members. I really hope that the Public Service Commission is really considering **all** the input from the public before making any final decisions.

Sincerely,



Patsy LaBarbara  
N9391 US Highway 53 Lot 27  
Holmen, WI 54636-9288



RECEIVED

DEC 21 2011



WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
Gas & Energy Division

ITEM # 12-29

2011 DEC 21 A 10:34

RESOLUTION # 76-12/11

RECEIVED

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD ACTION

Adopted: ☒  
For: 26  
Against: 2  
Abstain: 4  
Abs/Excd: 3  
Vote Req: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Action: \_\_\_\_\_

EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE  
ACTION

Adopted: ☒  
For: 8  
Against: \_\_\_\_\_  
Abstain: 1  
Abs/Excd: \_\_\_\_\_

**RE: OPPOSING AND REQUESTING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING  
CAPX2020 AND ATC APPLICATIONS FOR A 345 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, Xcel Energy, Dairyland Power, and American Transmission Company (ATC) have proposed the CapX2020 Phase I line project and Badger Coulee transmission line project, including a 345 kV high voltage power line from Alma to North La Crosse and North La Crosse to Madison, both crisscrossing La Crosse County; and,

**WHEREAS**, the CapX2020 Hampton-La Crosse and Badger Coulee ATC 345 kV projects include a proposed route corridor which cuts across rivers, farms, forests and valleys, scenic bluffs, wetlands, wildlife and waterfowl habitats, exceptional water resources, and cultural and economic districts in La Crosse County; and,

**WHEREAS**, the County is charged with protecting and enhancing the County's public safety and assets, including the scenic beauty of the hills and coulees, which would be adversely affected by the 130 to 170 foot steel towers and high voltage power lines proposed for the CapX2020 and Badger Coulee ATC projects; and,

**WHEREAS**, the use of electricity in Wisconsin and adjacent states has declined significantly since a 2006 peak and demand is projected to remain flat in the predictable future; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the County's belief that the claim of need for the line is overstated and that there are other ways of meeting additional electrical need claimed by applicants that should be considered and implemented first, including efficiencies, demand and supply side management, locally produced and distributed renewable generation, and energy-related economic development, before high capacity transmission is considered; and,

**WHEREAS**, costs for the Alma to North La Crosse (\$250 million) to Madison (\$425 million) high voltage power line would cost ratepayers more than \$675 million; and,

**WHEREAS**, building a high voltage transmission line would require use of public rights of way and condemnation of private property for easements; and the centerline of this transmission line on its 150 foot right of way could be placed within 75 feet of a residence, business or school; and,

**WHEREAS**, a new 345kV transmission line will result in increased electricity costs for all ratepayers, loss of property value and tax base because of the impact on viewshed and the dangers that high voltage power lines inherently carry, and create adverse effect on the area's tourism and general economy; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is a growing body of health concerns including medical studies which have shown an association between exposure to electromagnetic fields produced by high voltage transmission lines and childhood leukemia, neurological diseases and conditions, and other health effects.



**RE: OPPOSING AND REQUESTING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING  
CAPX2020 AND ATC APPLICATIONS FOR A 345 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT**

Page 2

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board hereby opposes the planned grid expansion project in the Midwest and specifically the Alma to North La Crosse and North La Crosse to Madison 345 kV power line.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board requests that additional on the record public hearings be held by the WI Public Service Commission in La Crosse, Wisconsin before a recommendation on a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is made for either project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that La Crosse County requests that clear, detailed information be provided to La Crosse County explaining the perceived need for the 345kV power line which includes supporting objective studies and forecasts with a cost benefit analysis comparing the efficiency-only, locally produced and distributed generation options with the high voltage option, individually and in combination.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board requests adoption of and action on Wisconsin's energy policy by implementing local ownership of energy generation and energy efficiency efforts that include dispersed renewable energy to support the local economy, and that minimize the size, scale, voltage and environmental impacts of electric transmission.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board requests that the WI Public Service Commission do an independent study of the health risks of the electromagnetic field for these projects.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Clerk is authorized to send this resolution to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission regarding Docket #5-CE-136 and Docket #137-CE-160, and to the Administrative Law Judge conducting proceedings for the CapX2020 and the Badger Coulee 345 kV Transmission Line Projects.

**FISCAL NOTE:** No cost to La Crosse County.

Date: DEC. 15, 2011

[Signature]  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Date: 12/15/11

[Signature]  
**RECORDING CLERK**

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	<u>SO</u>			Requested By: Marilyn Pedretti
Fin. Director	<u>BT</u>			Date Requested: December 8, 2011
Corp. Counsel	<u>WAS</u>			Drafted By: Corporation Counsel
Board Chair	<u>[Signature]</u>			

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 15 Day of December, 2011

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011.

[Signature]  
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

---

**From:** sk6bptmal@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 7:41 AM  
**To:** Rineer, Ken - PSC; Lepinski, Jim - PSC; Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CapX2020 Power Lines

In reviewing the proposed CapX2020 power line projects I have some concerns about the location of the Holmen substation. A line of this magnitude should attempt to stay mostly clear of residential and school areas which the location of the proposed north La Crosse substation does not do this.

Reviewing the placement of the Holmen substation could be an answer to alleviate the issue of passing over schools and residential areas in the Holmen community.

When the original Q1 route was proposed the substation would have been right at the end of this line making some sense with the placement, however with this route being taken off the table given the challenge by the US Fish and Wildlife service this location no longer is convenient with the other routes that are proposed.

By moving the location of the substation well north of the current proposed location has several benefits:

- 1) It would avoid the power lines crossing schools and residences by crossing over the Village of Holmen. This keeps the line in mostly rural areas where it should be.
- 2) Allows better access to the future badger line that will follow this project by ATC that will be going to Madison. A project of this scope should work in connection with the next phase. To run a power line into a community to have to run it right back out again for the next phase would seem inefficient and not in the best interest of the power companies or the Holmen community
- 3) If the La Crosse area in the future ever does need additional power (which at this time is questionable even by the PSC), they would have access through the substation well north of Holmen and at that time could run lower voltage and lower in height poles (similar to what is currently run through the Holmen community) without further damage to the scenic beauty and less damaging to the economy of the Holmen Community

Tim medinger  
N7150 Elizabeth Drive  
Holmen, WI 54636

## Rineer, Ken - PSC

---

**From:** sk6bptmal@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 7:41 AM  
**To:** Rineer, Ken - PSC; Lepinski, Jim - PSC; Fannucchi, William - PSC  
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- 3) If the La Crosse area in the future ever does need additional power (which at this time is questionable even by the PSC), they would have access through the substation well north of Holmen and at that time could run lower voltage and lower in height poles (similar to what is currently run through the Holmen community) without further damage to the scenic beauty and less damaging to the economy of the Holmen Community

Tim medinger  
N7150 Elizabeth Drive  
Holmen, Wi 54636

## **Fannucchi, William - PSC**

---

**From:** Linda McCullough <linmccul@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 4:03 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CapX2020 power line project

As a 40-year resident of Jackson County and a retired professional, I am adamantly opposed to this power line project proceeding through our beautiful area. Western Wisconsin's scenery is a jewel that needs to be carefully tended for future generations.

Linda McCullough  
N3660 Nickols Rd  
Black River Falls, WI 54615



## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** George Nygaard <gnygaard@mwt.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 11:56 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** DEIS Comment Case 5 CE 136

I am writing in opposition to the 345kV CapX 2020 transmission line proposed for western Wisconsin. My reasons for opposing the project are many and both general and personal. For over 30 years I have been involved in energy issues as a proponent of energy conservation and decentralized renewable generation. I worked for a CAP weatherization program and served on the CUB Board of Directors. I have reduced my own electrical consumption by over half in 3 years.

As one who has thought much about our troubled energy future, I believe it is wise to look at our past. When DPC wanted to build a line across the Mississippi Refuge after WWII, they said it was warranted because annual growth in demand was over 20%. When NSP and DPC wanted to build the 1150 MW Tyrone nuclear plant in the 80's, they were forecasting over a 8.3% annual growth rate and brownouts if it weren't built. This year, DPC, WPPI and Xcel have projected a 1.7% annual growth in demand to warrant building a giant \$2 billion dollar extension cord to the Dakotas. I became involved with a group called Citizens' Energy Task Force (CETF) after hearing the repeated mantra, "we need it or there will be brownout and blackouts in your future", at a Xcel information meeting.

Over the past several months, I have attended several public information forums, local government meetings and both PSC Scoping 'meetings'.

I have spoken with scores of citizens and a number of government officials who are affected landowners, ratepayers, environmentalists and outdoorsmen. They are stakeholders who have diverse interests relative to the CapX project, and all are opposed to CapX or specific routes that are proposed in the CPCN Application.

Affected property owners have the most to lose of any category of stakeholders. They face the potential that a portions of their land will be taken from them by force through eminent domain. They and some of their neighbors, who won't be compensated, face a future that will likely mean aesthetic and environmental destruction, loss of property value, as well as potential health hazards to them, their families, pets and livestock, from EMF and herbicidal maintenance of a 150 ft. wide ROW swath through their land. I am sympathetic to their frustration, anger and sense of powerlessness with a process that appears to favor BIG business interests over theirs.

Local governments and school districts also have a stake in CapX as they see the towering line having a negative impact to their tax base and a detriment to the development and the aesthetic beauty that has been a draw and awe to tourists, travelers and settlers alike for over 150 years.

Environmentalists, NGOs and government agencies, both federal and state, have registered opposition and concern about the detrimental effect the project will have on our environment and aesthetic beauty, particularly along the Q-1 Route. Selection of the Q-1 Route would be detrimental to and violation of the three important wildlife refuges, the "Great River Road" (Hwy 35), conservancy land and the Mississippi flyway for migratory birds. I have fished, hunted, boated and hiked in these areas my whole life and my appreciation and reverence for these gifts has only increased over the years as the comparative experience afforded by travel heightened my awareness of the uniqueness of the natural habitat that I have had the privilege of being a part of.

From my research, I have concluded that we don't need the CapX project at all. As the need issue came into focus this Summer with the release of the "NSP Supplemental Need Study" on Aug. 31 and the release of the PSC/DNR DEIS this Fall. In the DEIS, PSC staff called the need 'questionable' and the applicant's growth projection overstated by 2 1/2 times ( 0.78% vs. 1.7%) As the the La Crosse/ Winona 'need' became more dubious, the CPCN Applicants have shifted their argument for the project to 'regional reliability', emphasizing the threat of 'congestion' that would hinder wholesale 'transfer' of energy to the east by way of the yet formally proposed and approved ATC Badger/Coulee line. This argument falls of deaf ears to those who are asked to pay for and sacrifice much to allow a invasive detrimental 'energy superhighway' to transfer coal and

wind generated energy from the West through their environment to the East.

Lastly, I strongly believe we are at a crossroad in our choice for our energy future. We as a country consume twice as much energy per capita than all but two countries in the world. We are asked sacrifice our precious and beautiful fragile environment to fork over \$500 million dollars during a time of economic downturn to insure BIG business can profit by scheme to ship wholesale energy around the country. Kenny Lay lives. We are asked to invest in a future that would ship even our energy dollars out-of-state, never to return, rather than investing precious resources in energy conservation and local renewable decentralized generation. The latter being a future that would be a sustainable one, producing jobs for our region. Building the CapX 2020 will be detrimental to a long term sustainable, reliable, sane energy future.

Thank you for your consideration,  
George Nygaard

**From:** [Sirohi, UdaivirSingh - PSC](#)  
**To:** [Dennis Niccum](#)  
**Cc:** [Fannucchi, William - PSC](#)  
**Subject:** RE: cap 2020 line Q-1 Alma to Lacrosse  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 28, 2011 12:42:20 PM

---

Mr. Niccum,

Thank you for your comments. I am forwarding your comments to Commission Staff Mr. Fannucchi, who is the Case Coordinator for the CapX2020 docket.

Udaivir

Udaivir Singh Sirohi, P.E.  
(Pronounced oo-DAY-VEER SINGH SI-RO-HI)  
Advanced Engineer, Gas & Energy Division  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
610 N. Whitney Way, P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854  
Tel: (608) 266-2806  
Fax: (608) 266-3957  
E-mail: [UdaivirSingh.Sirohi@wisconsin.gov](mailto:UdaivirSingh.Sirohi@wisconsin.gov)  
<http://psc.wi.gov>

**From:** Dennis Niccum [mailto:dennisniccum1@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 28, 2011 12:22 PM  
**To:** Sirohi, UdaivirSingh - PSC  
**Subject:** cap 2020 line Q-1 Alma to Lacrosse

Trusted Wisconsin Agency

I am writing to provide you feed back to the purposed 345kV supply line.

- Much previous work was done to design and care for the existing Q1 power line corridor, sighting, clearing, right-of-way design, public acceptance as well as consideration for our environment and wildlife.
- Upgrading the Q1 corridor to handle the 345kV line covers all of the requirements for this leg of the project to be successful.
- The successful usage of the existing original Q1 is evidence of this success.
- As for community planning purposes, long term planners for the area growth have already accepted the location of the existing Q1 line and many have planed according.
- Community planers have worked to expect growth in the current location of this Q1 line with the least impact, changing the route will meet with additional opposition and costs.
- To change the route will add to the mistrust of the community and justification for the need of this power line. (More PR headaches)
- **For these reasons selecting the existing Q1 route is the most viable and economic solution.**

I am sure you had done your home work but this path is clearly the bust choice for all parties involved.

Much success in advancement project

Affected rural electric member

Dennis Niccum  
N8498 Hwy 53  
Holmen, WI 54636

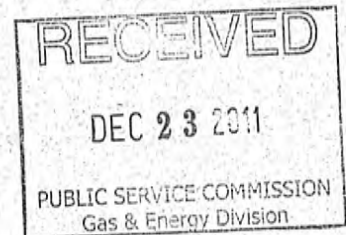
[608-526-3729](tel:608-526-3729)

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

2011 DEC 23 A 10:18

RECEIVED

Sharon Niccum



N8498 Hwy 53

Holmen, WI 54636

Dear Mr. Rineer,

I am writing in regard to the proposed routes for the CapX2020 line in the Holmen area. I recognize and understand that there are friends and members in the Holmen area that do not want the line to cross through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife area. However, when we have a choice between that area and our more heavily populated residential Holmen areas, which includes close proximity to our schools (Prairie View Elementary and Holmen High school) think we should encourage the PSC to use the original **Q1 route**.

**Here are a few reasons why I feel the original Q1 route is the best route:**

1. The original Q1 route is owned by Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and it is reaching its maximum serviceable life. It is going to have to be rebuilt in the near future regardless of the decision on the CapX2020 route. If the original Q1 route is chosen it will lower the overall cost of construction to DPC, our cooperative and to me.
2. The original Q1 is the most direct and shortest route which should result in the lowest cost option for construction.
3. The original requires the least amount of new right-of-way.
4. The original Q1 crosses the lowest amount of farm land.
5. The original Q1 has the fewest number of residents within 300 feet of the line.

I hope the PSC will look closely at this information and the opinions of the residents in this area and surrounding areas and make the choice to use something that is already there and costs all involved the least amount as possible.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Niccum".

Sharon Niccum



CEIVED

DEC 21 2011

ERVICE COMMISSION  
& Energy Division

Kenneth C. Rineer

12-17-2011

Project 5-CE-136

I am opposed to the CapX 2020 and  
Badger-Coulee power line projects.

Mr. Dan Pretasky's view speaks for many  
of the taxpayers of Western Wisconsin.

## Power line project doesn't make sense

By **DAN PRETASKY**  
Holmen

I am opposed to the proposed CAPX2020 and  
Badger-Coulee power line projects.

Burning dirty coal in the Dakotas to produce  
energy and then sending that energy over hun-  
dreds of miles of transmission lines, through wet-  
lands, blufflands, farmlands and small rural com-  
munities, to markets east of here just doesn't  
make sense.

There will be little benefit to us locally, yet we  
will bear a tremendous cost in lost property value,  
harm to the environment, potential health dan-  
gers and permanent damage to our scenic vistas.

The proposed 345kV lines will be 150 to 170  
feet high (15 stories), with a right-of-way a half a  
football field wide. Studies have concluded that  
these types of power lines have a larger negative  
impact on property values for smaller parcels of  
land; small parcels like what we have here in  
La Crosse County.

Investing in regionally produced clean energy  
can create new permanent jobs, reduce our addic-  
tion to out-of-state fossil fuels and protect our  
environment. Unfortunately, unfair economics  
favor the large power companies and the profit of  
a few over the rights of small landowners, small  
businesses and county governments.

The use of electricity in western Wisconsin has  
declined significantly since peaking in 2006. As  
noted in the Wisconsin Public Service  
Commission draft, there are significant questions  
regarding the need for these power lines at all.

Maybe we should be spending our energy on  
leaving our world a better place for our children  
and their children's future.

Now that's a proposal that make sense.

RECEIVED

2011 DEC 21 A 10:14

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Robert S. Olson  
W6184 County Road T, La Crosse  
Holmen WI 54636

Thank You

Robert S. Olson  
Holmen Wisconsin

**Fannucchi, William - PSC**

---

**Subject:** FW: No CapX2020.

---

**From:** Todd Pyka [<mailto:toddc.pyka1969@hotmail.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 1:12 PM

**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC

**Subject:** No CapX2020.

Mr. Fannucchi.

I live along the proposed line [Which is The Great River Road], and send this email as notice of my resounding "NO!" to the CapX2020 proposed lines through or near my residence and property.

If you need reason's here they are: 1. It is THE Great River Road, and one cannot place up signage bigger then such and such dimensions [basically a medium size box]. These structures are 160 feet tall. 2. They are ugly, huge and dangerous. 3. There is zero benefit to those who reside in the areas of your proposed routes [NO new jobs created locally, hence, no financial benefit to the area **NOR** reduction in energy prices-in fact your prices go up]. 4. They are not GREEN ENERGY. 5. Property values will decline. 6. Your lines should be buried under ground to remove them as hazards, in general, and to protect the infrastructure.

There are 0 [ZERO] positive reasons in this proposed venture.

NO! NO! NO!!!!!!!!!!!!

Todd Pyka  
N15987 Harris Rd.  
Trempealeau, WI 54661



**Pete & Barb**

**From:** "Pete & Barb" <putnam07@centurytel.net>  
**Date:** Friday, December 09, 2011 1:27 PM  
**To:** <rineer@wisconsin.gov>  
**Subject:** Cap2020  
 Public Service Commission:

I have attended several meetings involving CapX2020. I have looked at the maps. Riverland Energy Cooperative sent me a letter today showing the proposed routes. **Very clearly the YELLOW route – the original Q1 Route stands far above the other routes.**  
**Why:**

- already have right-of-way
- can upgrade the sub-station near / on Briggs Road
- don't have to purchase & destroy another right-of-way
- seems as if there is less cost \$\$\$
- If the line has to be upgraded, this is the best route

Peter J. Putnam  
 W7788 CTY RD MH  
 Holmen, Wi 54636  
 December 9, 2011

RECEIVED  
 2011 DEC 19 A 10:21  
 WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
 COMMISSION

*Peter J. Putnam* 12-15-2011

P.S. The email address didn't  
 connect / send to you!

12/15/2011



## Fannucchi, William - PSC

---

**From:** Kim Pronschinske <kimpron@mwt.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 10:13 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CapX2020 power line project

Regarding the CapX2020 project running through the Town of Waumandee, Buffalo County, WI. There is no need to use an alternate route other than those already existing within the township. This would only affect more people, property, livestock, and natural resources, than those already exposed to the lines that are currently present. If this line is even necessary, it should be done with as little change to the landscape as possible.

Kim Pronschinske, resident

**BRADFORD R. PRICE  
ERB REALTY MANAGEMENT LLC  
514 COULEE COURT  
ONALASKA, WISCONSIN 54650**

December 21, 2011

Mr. William Fannucchi  
Docket Coordinator  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854



WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
2011 DEC 23 A 10: 21  
RECEIVED

Re: Draft EIS Comments  
Docket Number 5-CE-136

Dear Mr. Fannucchi:

I am writing to you as the Managing Member of ERB Realty Management LLC which is the owner and developer of Castle Heights Addition to the Town of Holland, La Crosse County, WI. This family limited liability company was formed by Elaine Price, Roderick Price and Bradford Price for the purpose of developing this land for the benefit of Elaine Price, pursuant to the request of Robert Price who died in 1997. Robert and Elaine Price acquired this land in the 1970's and in 1993 built a home in the center of the parcel. In 2003 this land was platted by ERB Realty Management LLC into a residential subdivision after spending hundreds of thousands of dollars for surveying, engineering, street construction, storm water detention facility construction, utilities, soil testing, archeological surveys, regulatory and legal approvals. The subdivision consists of 35 lots located north of Sylvester Road, east of Aspeslet Road and adjacent to the Castle Mound Country Club. Ten (10) families already own homes in the subdivision, another six (6) families have purchased lots and are planning to build homes and nineteen (19) lots remain for sale. The average sales price for the lots that have been sold in this subdivision is more than \$41,500 per lot and some very nice homes have been built on the lots.

An existing 161 kilovolt ("kV") electric transmission line runs north and south immediately adjacent to and on the west side of Aspeslet Road, while the Castle Heights Addition is adjacent to and on the east side of Aspeslet Road at that location. Only Aspeslet Road separates Castle Heights from the existing transmission line. The November 2011 Draft Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") at Figure Vol. 2-II, J and K shows the Q1-Galesville Route between Galesville and the proposed Briggs Road Substation. More specifically, Figure Vol. 2-II shows the Castle Heights Addition to the east of Segment 17B of this corridor.

My first comment regarding the EIS is that on page XVI it states in part that, "It is not clear that there will be sufficient population growth in the La Crosse/Winona area to justify the projected increase in demand for electricity presented in the CPCN application." If the power is to be transmitted to places to the south and east of the La Crosse/Winona area then the power should be generated closer to where it is needed to reduce costs, increase efficiencies and reduce the

substantial negative impacts on our environment and communities in Western Wisconsin. It is my understanding that the cost of building the Capx2020 and ATC Badger Coulee transmission lines will approximate \$675 million. However, if the power companies have not met their burden of proof in showing that additional power is needed in Western Wisconsin for the foreseeable future, we should not have any electric transmission lines passing through any of the corridors in our area. The Wisconsin Public Service Commission ("WPSC") needs more information and proof that there is a need for the proposed power lines. The EIS needs considerable more data and unbiased evidence to establish a legal need for this project before the WPSC allows the big power companies to proceed with Capx2020 and ATC Badger Coulee power lines.

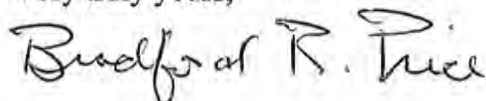
Secondly, Chapter 8 of the EIS regarding the Q1-Galesville Route (and any other chapter of the EIS where Segment 17B as shown on Figure Vol. 2-11 is part of the route) needs to fairly represent the existence of the Castle Heights Addition in the path of this corridor. This 35 lot residential subdivision where ten (10) families have homes, six (6) other families have purchased lots and are planning homes and where nineteen residential lots remain for sale is a significant environmental, community and economic factor for the WPSC to consider as it weighs the various alternatives for locating the proposed power lines once the big power companies have met the burden of substantiating the need for these lines. The proposed Q1-Galesville Route (and some of the alternate routes that include Segment 17B) would locate the proposed 345 kV line outside of the existing 161 kV corridor and move it from the west side of Aspeslet Road to the east side of Aspeslet Road. This will essentially require the condemnation of Castle Heights Addition lots numbered 7, 8, 29, 30, 34 and 35, which are all adjacent to the east side of Aspeslet Road in Segment 17B. In addition, this would put at least one (1) existing Castle Heights residence within 75 feet of the proposed 345kV power line. Lastly, by placing this power line in the subdivision the remaining thirteen (13) residential lots (ranging in size from 0.60 to 1.50 acres) will be worthless because it will not be possible to sell them at any price for their intended residential use. It will also not be possible to use these small parcels for other uses due to their size, zoning and the restrictive covenants that are in place for the subdivision. Prospective buyers will find the 150 foot right of way and 170 foot high power poles to be aesthetically distasteful and hazardous to their health. It will not be possible to shield existing homeowners or prospective homeowners from these power poles by building retaining walls, planting trees, etc because nothing can be done to block a fifteen (15) story high structure such as the proposed power poles and wires. In fact, the remaining lots will likely be a liability as the real estate taxes will continue to accrue at some rate and the hundreds of thousands of dollars invested in this development will be lost by the family that developed the Castle Heights Addition and the families who have purchased lots. The impact on the day to day lives of existing homeowners will be substantial as the aesthetics and economic value of their neighborhood and property is trashed and diminished by this monstrous and grotesque power line located within their residential neighborhood.

Thirdly, the EIS needs to clearly state in Chapter 8 that Segments 18B, C, D, E, F, G, and H of the Q1-Galesville Route (and any other chapter of the EIS where these segments are part of the route) will locate the proposed 345 kV line near the existing Holmen elementary school and Holmen high school, a proposed new Holmen middle school and a new nursing home that is under construction. It should also point out that substantially most of these segments do not follow existing right-of-way, as deemed desirable by the WPSC.

Fourthly, the EIS needs more information about the existing Dairyland Power Cooperative 161 kV line called the Q1 line that is nearing the end of its useful life but is still needed. This line is mentioned at the bottom of page XIX of the EIS. More needs to be mentioned so the WPSC can appreciate the cost and scope of this rebuild or replacement of the existing line. I have learned that initial projections for the cost of this rebuild are \$30 million. The WPSC needs to know this because if this is going to be done then it should be done at the same time that the currently proposed 345 kV line is built. Furthermore, if they are going to rebuild that line they might as well build the new 345 kV line through the same corridor to minimize cost to the power companies and the electrical consumers. At 41.3 miles it is the shortest route for the 345kV line; it requires the least amount of new right-of-way at 377.1 acres; it has the greatest amount of shared right-of-way at 96%; it crosses the second least amount of agricultural land at 328.4 acres; it affects the second least number of residences at 61; and I have been advised that it is the lowest cost approach for building the 345kV line. More detail should also be inserted for the benefit of the public and the WPSC about the opposition of the US Fish and Wildlife and their unreasonable position of "JUST SAYING NO" along with the "UNCOMPROMISING POSITIONS" of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation regarding the Original Q1 route. The WPSC needs to know that the power companies tried to compromise with these agencies by designing structures that would only be 80 feet high, that other wetlands were offered to compensate for the areas affected and that other offers to mitigate the environmental impacts, but the agencies refused to cooperate! To not include more details about the Q1 option is bad public policy and bad government.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions or need more information about the Castle Heights Addition please contact me by telephone at (608) 783-1409 or by email at <bprice1300@charter.net>.

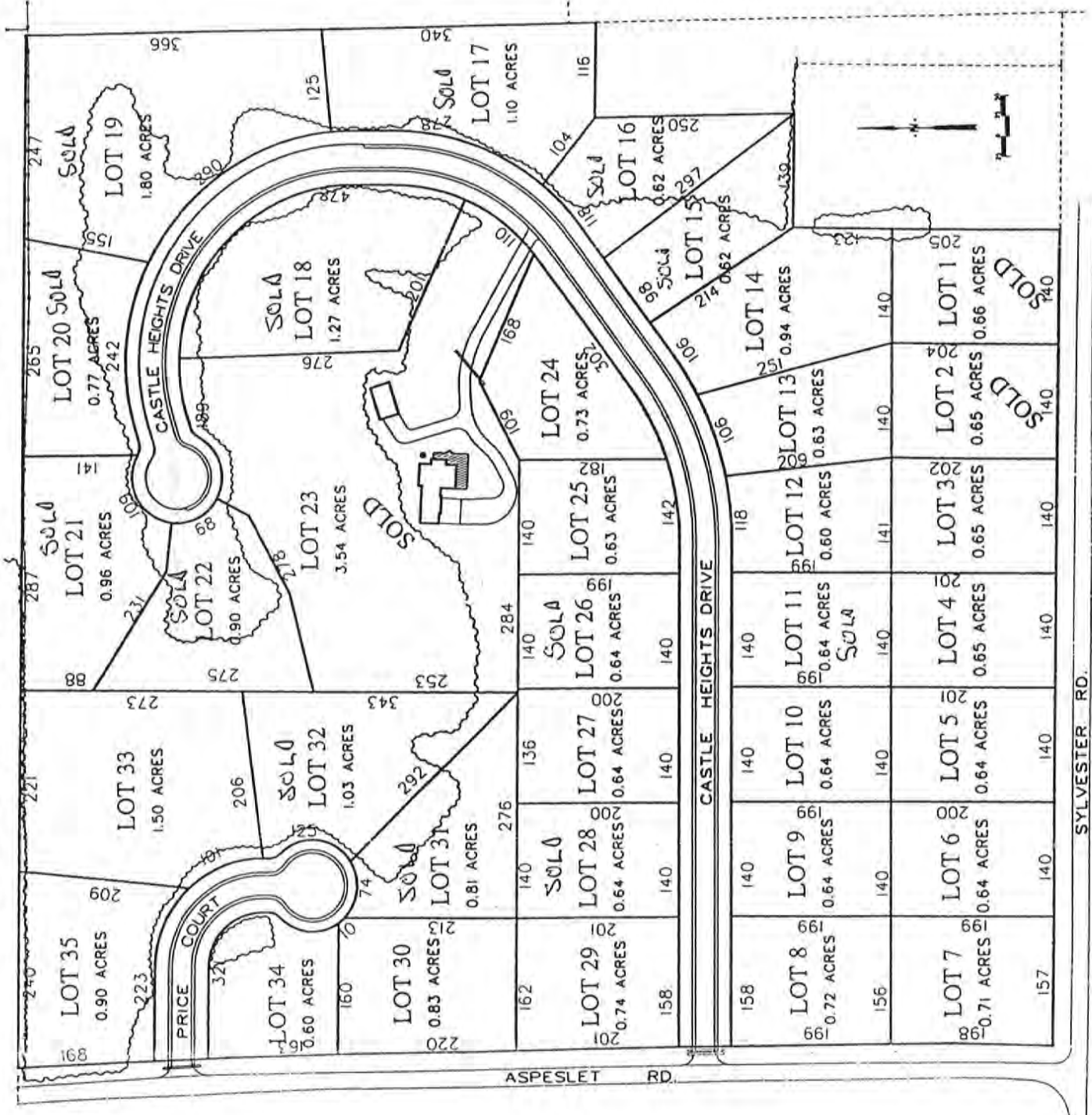
Very truly yours,

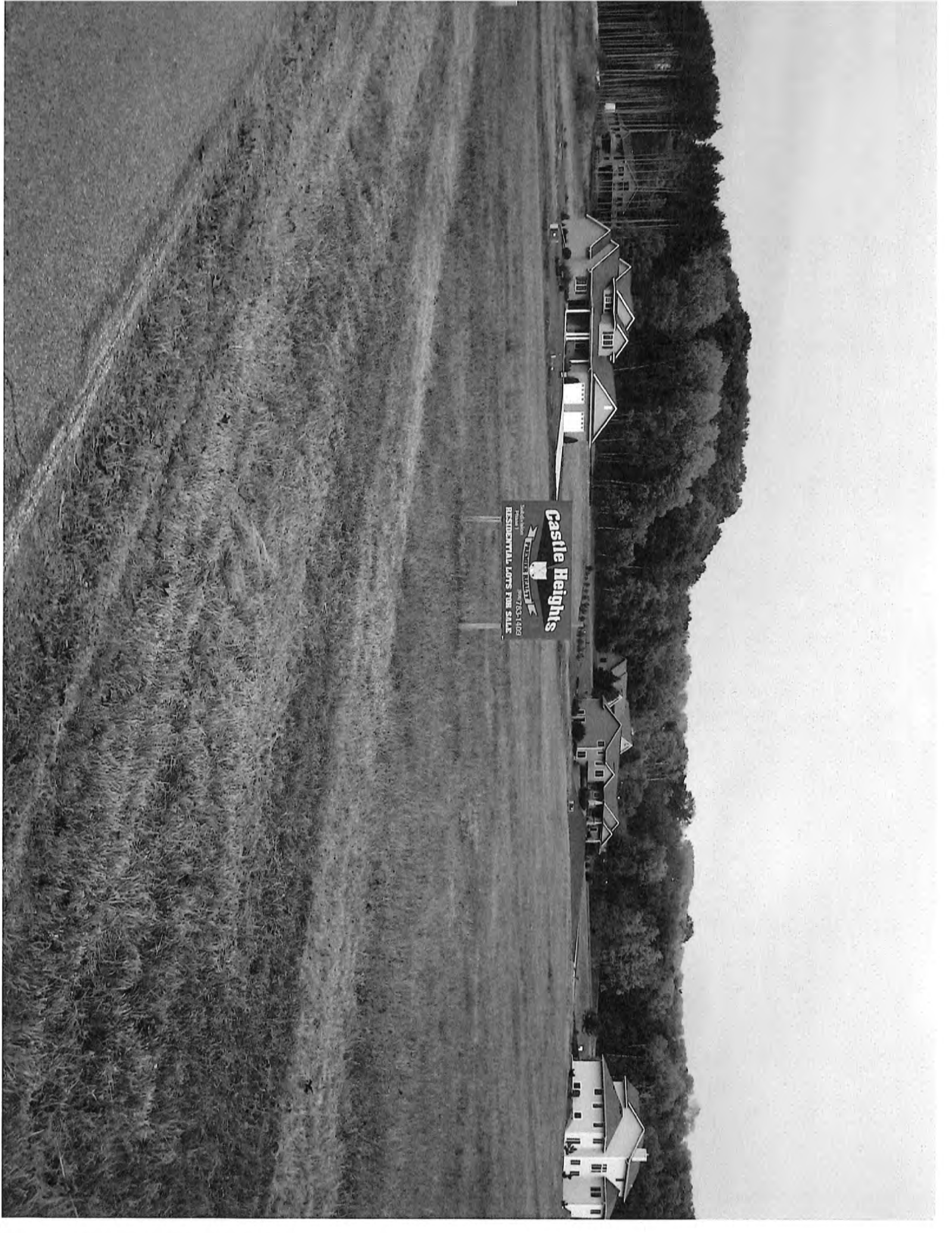
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bradford R. Price". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bradford R. Price



# CASTLE HEIGHTS ADDITION







**Castle Heights**  
SOLDIER REALTY  
PLOT 1  
Lot 23, 1403  
RESIDENTIAL LOTS FOR SALE



**BRADFORD R. PRICE  
514 COULEE COURT  
ONALASKA, WISCONSIN 54650**

December 22, 2011

Mr. William Fannucchi  
Docket Coordinator  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Re: Draft EIS Comments  
Docket Number 5-CE-136

Dear Mr. Fannucchi:

I am writing to you as the owner of 178 acres located at W 16567 Crystal Valley Road, Galesville, Wisconsin. This land is located in the Town of Gale, Trempealeau County, Wisconsin. An existing 161 kilovolt ("kV") electric transmission line owned by Xcel Energy runs north and south across my property. The November 2011 Draft Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") at Figure Vol. 2-1T shows Segment 4ET running south of Crystal Valley Road and across my land.

My first comment regarding the EIS is that on page XVI it states in part that, "It is not clear that there will be sufficient population growth in the La Crosse/Winona area to justify the projected increase in demand for electricity presented in the CPCN application." After reading the entire EIS I don't believe the big power companies have met their burden of proof in showing that these lines are needed. Before there can be any discussion of where to locate these behemoth 345kV electrical transmission lines the big power companies must present evidence that proves beyond a reasonable doubt the proposed electric transmission lines are needed.

My second comment is that before the Wisconsin Public Service Commission ("WPSC") considers whether to allow the big power companies to build these electric transmission lines there should be a detailed analysis of reasonable alternatives to building these proposed high voltage transmission lines. There needs to be more analysis of what can be done to conserve more energy in Western Wisconsin in order to further reduce the demand for electrical power. There needs to be more detailed analysis of power consumption in Western Wisconsin, with its declining population, loss of businesses that previously consumed more power, decline in employment, transition of the Western Wisconsin economy from one that was previously more based on manufacturing and is now more based on service industries. There also needs to be more technical analysis of opportunities to increase local electrical generating capabilities by using renewable resources such as wind, hydro or solar sources to generate power within Western Wisconsin. There should be a detailed analysis of the environmental, social, economic and community impacts of producing more power locally from these resources as opposed to

importing dirty coal fired power on high voltage transmission lines with all of its negative and highly detrimental impacts on Western Wisconsin residents. For example, how many more jobs might we create for our local economy by building local generation? What would be the environmental impact on Western Wisconsin if we were to generate more local power as opposed to importing it over these monstrous, grotesque and very expensive transmission power lines? I'm sure the big publicly traded power companies have as a first priority to do whatever they can to generate the most profit for themselves as opposed to doing what is in the best economic interest of their rate paying customers. As a rate paying consumer of power I want to know that the power companies have proven beyond a reasonable doubt that these proposed high voltage power lines are in fact the best alternative if additional power is needed in Western Wisconsin. I am relying on the WPSC to make sure that the power companies have fully complied with the law and fully met their burden of proving that these lines are the best alternative to meet our future power needs.

Thirdly, assuming the power companies can satisfy their burden of proving that these high voltage power lines are needed then the WPSC should make sure that it is considering ALL possible corridors for building the power lines. The EIS does not include ALL possible corridors!

I have been advised that the #1 route preferred and recommended by the power companies is the Original Q1 Route that follows the existing Dairyland Power Cooperative ("DPC") 161kV transmission line between Alma and the substation near Briggs Road in Holmen. It is not listed in the EIS as an alternative route to be considered by the WPSC.....but it should be! On page XX of the EIS it states in part that, "The portion of the Original Q1 Route that crosses the Mississippi Wildlife and Fish Refuge may not be approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service because a portion of it would require additional easement that may not be allowed under current land uses authorized on refuge property." Approximately a three (3) mile stretch of the Original Q1 passes through the Van Loon Wildlife Refuge where the US Fish and Wildlife Service ("USFWS") owns about a one (1) mile stretch of land across which the existing DPC 161 kV currently passes. I have learned that the power companies have attempted to negotiate with the USFWS to address any concerns that they have about locating the 345 kV line through their land, but their position is to "JUST SAY NO" while all other stake holders in where these lines might be located are required to balance a wide range of factors! The power companies engineered a line that would only be 80 feet high (current poles for the existing 161 kV line are already 70 feet high), as opposed to the typical 170 foot high poles used for the 345 kV lines, but the USFWS just said NO! The power companies offered to mitigate the wider right-of-way intrusion into the USFWS owned wetlands by offering additional and comparable land in another location, but the USFWS just said NO! The USFWS should be able to provide evidence to make their case to the WPSC (just like everyone else), but they should not simply be able to unilaterally rule out the Original Q1 Route!

Furthermore, page XIX of the EIS states that, “The existing DPC 161 kV line, called the Q1 line, is nearing the end of its useful life but is still needed. DPC has determined that it must either rebuild or replace the line. DPC plans to reconstruct, by 2013, the sections of the Q1 that are not replaced by the project in this docket.” I have been advised that the projected cost of a rebuild is \$30 million. If DPC is going to be rebuilding this existing 161 kV line in 2013 anyway doesn’t it make sense to also locate the proposed 345 kV line in the same corridor? I think it does and I think it is in the best interests of all parties, including the power companies, the rate payers, the USFWS and the State of Wisconsin! At 41.3 miles the Original Q1 Route is the shortest route for the proposed 345 kV line; it requires the least amount of new right-of-way at 377.1 acres; it has the greatest amount of shared right-of-way at 96%; it crosses the least amount of agricultural land at 328.4 acres; it affects the second least number of residences at 61; and I have been advised that it is the lowest cost approach (by at least \$30 million) for building the proposed 345 kV line. To not include the more details of the Original Q1 Route and to not include it as an option in the EIS is bad public policy and bad government! The Original Q1 Route needs to be included in the EIS as a viable alternative route for the proposed project and it needs to be given full and due consideration by the WPSC as a viable route for the proposed 345 kV power line!

Fourthly, my 178 acres across which there is an existing 161kV owned by Xcel Energy is abundant with deer, turkeys, grouse, song birds, coyotes, squirrels, rabbits, etc. In addition, fox, bob cats, a bear, eagles, hawks, wood ducks, and a timber wolf have been sighted on my property. My point is that this existing 161 kV power line is not aesthetically pleasing and is not desirable, but the wildlife seems to have flourished since it was built in the 1950’s. So, why isn’t the USFWS and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (“WDNR”) required to provide a detailed analysis and evidence as to damage the proposed 345 kV line would cause to the wildlife and natural resources located on lands they own or manage within the Original Q1 Route? I do not believe they can prove that the proposed 345 kV line through the Black River bottoms will be detrimental to wildlife. This analysis and evidence could then be weighed and balanced by the WPSC as they deliberate the alternative routes for locating the proposed 345 kV transmission line....just like the evidence is weighed and balanced in evaluating the other routes that are under consideration. The impacts to plants and animals should not trump the significant impacts these proposed power lines will have on human beings!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions of me please contact me at (608) 783-1409 or by email at [bprice1300@charter.net](mailto:bprice1300@charter.net).

Very truly yours,

Bradford R. Price

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Gloria Breidel <gbreidel@centurytel.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 8:17 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CAPX2020 Power line Project

Dear Mr. Fannucchi,

I wanted to take this opportunity on the last day for commenting on the CAPX2020 Power line project to express my concern and opposition to this project. I have learned a great deal about the project in the past six months of research, and there is not one positive that I can derive from my in-depth study.

Overall, this project will negatively impact the environment and the natural beauty of the northern La Crosse County area, and the plants, birds and animals that thrive here. The coulee region located on the Western border of Wisconsin has always been known as a leader in environmental and conservation endeavors. The CAPX2020 project is a direct slap in the face of all who have spent their time, energy and money to preserving what is best described as "God's Country". To allow this project into this area of our state would be a travesty and one that would ruin one of the last truly precious environments our State has to showcase.

What probably troubles me most is that the data shows a lack of need for this power line in the first place. Why, when energy use in our area has continually dropped since 2006, would we even be considering this project. On top of that, our area, is once again leading the way in conservation efforts by creating locally produced, clean, renewable energy. Just one example is our local medical facility, Gundersen Lutheran, which is developing their own local wind and solar projects as well as taking advantage of gases produced by the local landfill. Great ideas for now and the future of our children when compared to bringing in power produced from afar by the burning of dirty coal. Let's start looking to the future rather than relying on the outdated, archaic solution of burning fossil fuels.

Please consider these comments as representative of absolutely every one of my neighbors from this area. I have yet to find one person that supports this project, but have found hundreds that absolutely oppose the entire idea.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dan Pretasky  
W6444 County Road T  
Holmen, WI 54636

**From:** [dpier@centurytel.net](mailto:dpier@centurytel.net)  
**To:** [Fannucchi, William - PSC](#)  
**Subject:** CapX2020  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2011 4:03:57 PM

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Mr.Fannucchi,

My husband and I are residents of the Town of Caledonia in Trempealeau County, WI. The proposed powerline creates a great deal of concern to us, as well as to my parents, Harold and Phyllis Schuman who are also residents of the Town of Caledonia, and to the rest of our family, as well as our community.

We live not far from the Van Loon Wildlife Refuge, where one of the proposed routes is. My husband and I , as well as my parents have lived here all of our lives. I am very concerned that these powerlines will destroy everything that our family and community holds close to heart and utilizes for their livelihood.

Having lived off the land, as we have been farmers all of our lives, we have a great deal of respect for the treatment of the land. The impact of these powerlines will threaten much of this community that thrives on the farming and tourist industries. Having these powerlines in place will destroy the natural beauty of the Mississippi Valley. It will have a negative impact on the wildlife in the Van Loon Wildlife Refuge as well as the Trempealeau Wildlife Refuge and Perrot State Park.

I am asking you to demand more information about the necessity of these powerlines. Does the necessity outweigh the irreversible damage they will create?

On the agriculture  
On the health of the citizens  
On the citizen's livelihood  
On the land  
On the future of environmentally-friendly and renewable energy  
On tourism  
On natural resources

There is no need for the CapX2020 powerline. As stated in the DEIS, (page XVI of the executive summary) "It is not clear that there will be sufficient population growth in the LaCrosse/ Winona area to justify the projected increase in demand for electricity presented in the CPCN application." There is lack of need for the powerline, my choice is the "No Action Alternative" for the project.

I do not want the PSC to approve CapX2020 powerline project until there are objective studies done by an independent body demonstrating that the energy from this powerline is needed for the communities in the Alma-No. LaCrosse area and there is no other way to provide that energy through efficiency programs and locally produced and distributed energy systems.

It is absolutely essential to evaluate both the short and long term effects of this project. There are too many uncertainties with this project. Let's be certain that the proposed "benefits" that the power companies claim outweigh the significant consequences.

Sincerely,

Judith L. Pierzina  
W17433 McGilvary Rd  
Galesville, WI 54630

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** jessie pierzina <pierzina@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 9:52 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Cc:** Lynn Allen; kevin allen; Beanie; Darla Brom; Phillip DeMaster; Joanne DeMaster; Tom Diana; Ott Ellen; Mike Fahey; christy ferrington; Becky Haller; Greg Heinz; Jo A Hittner; Dawn Hogan; John and Linda Hogan; Justin Holiman; Michelle Holliman; Cory Jansen; Mandi Jaspers; Margaret Kearns; Ron Keefer; Kate Malles; Paul Markel; Laura Mcleod; Rhonda Merchlewitz; Mom and Dad; Joe Morris; Tami Mueller; Shannon Murphy-Porter; Paul Owecke; Connie and Bruce Peterson; Rick Peterson; Jessica Pierzina; Shannon Porter; Todd Pyka; Vicky R; Margy Rochelle; Megan Sadowski; ben sadowski; Dave and Patti Schrenkler; Amy Schuman; Skipp Schuman; Robert J Stark Sr; Peterson Steven; Uncle Larry; Ron and Elsie Williamson  
**Subject:** CapX2020

Mr. Fannucchi,

I am a resident of the Town of Trempealeau in Trempealeau County, WI. The proposed powerline creates a great deal of concern for my family, my community and myself.

I live next to the Trempealeau Wildlife Refuge and Perrot State Park. One of the proposed routes runs right through the Refuge and my backyard. I grew up in Trempealeau and am deeply concerned that these powerlines will destroy everything that my community holds close to heart and utilizes for livelihood.

The people of Trempealeau County pride themselves on living off the land and therefore have a great deal of respect for the treatment of that land. It seems the impact of these powerlines will threaten much of what makes this community a community that thrives on the farming and tourist industries. I have neighbors who will likely lose the farms that have been in their family for generations. With these powerlines in place, the natural beauty of the Mississippi Valley will be destroyed. And with it many of the families that call this area "home."

I plead with you to demand more information about the necessity of these powerlines. Does that "necessity" outweigh the irreversible damage they will create?

On the land?

On natural resources?

On the agriculture?

On tourism?

On socio-economics?

On the citizen's health?

On the citizen's pocketbook?

On the future of renewable and environmentally-friendly energy?

There is no need for the CapX2020 powerline. As stated in the DEIS, (page XVI of the executive summary) "It is not clear that there will be sufficient population growth in the La Crosse/Winona area to justify the projected increase in demand for electricity presented in the CPCN application." As a result of the lack of need for the powerline, my choice is the "No Action Alternative" for the project.

I do not want the PSC to approve CapX2020 powerline project until there are objective studies by an independent body demonstrating that the energy from the powerline is needed for the communities in the Alma-No. La Crosse area and there is no other way to provide that energy through efficiency programs and locally produced and distributed energy systems.

It is absolutely essential to diligently evaluate both the short- and long-term effects of this endeavor! It seems it

is a project that carries too many uncertainties. Let's be SURE that the proposed "benefits" that the power companies claim outweigh the significant CONSEQUENCES.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jessica Pierzina  
W25222 Williamson Ln  
Trempealeau WI, 54661



## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Marilyn Pedretti <mjp pedretti@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 3:31 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Capx2020 & ATC (Docket 5-CE-136 & 137-CE-160)  
**Attachments:** To the members of the PSC.docx

To the members of the PSC:

I am writing to oppose the CapX2020 & ATC transmission line projects (Docket #5-CE-136 & Docket #137-CE-160).

From a professional standpoint, I am a County Board supervisor who represents parts of the Town of Holland & Village of Holmen. At both the Town and County level, I participated in multiple meetings with Xcel Energy, ATC representatives, Riverland and Dairyland Cooperatives and citizens. When first approached with this project, I had the impression that it was a "done deal". However, after much research and discussion, it is my hope that the PSC will listen to the people. This is not about NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard). This is about multiple "wrongs" in the project:

1. There is no regional energy need.
2. Ratepayers will pay for multi-million dollar lines that do not benefit them (a pass-through) which even Riverland Energy has pointed out they are not supporting (see their wecnmagazine.com November 2011 article, page 7)
3. It is not about wind (even though that was how it was originally portrayed) but is about transporting dirty coal long distances.
4. It will have harmful impacts on the Mississippi River & the National Wildlife Refuge.
5. It will be harmful to tourism. A good portion of the Town of Holland benefits from the Van Loon National Wildlife Refuge and scenic bluffs.
6. It will be detrimental to property values – and thus, the tax base will suffer.
7. There are known health risks (EMF).
8. It is an inefficient and archaic method of providing electricity with significant line losses.
9. It does not promote "smart grid" technology or clean technology (which is the wave of the future).
10. It does not provide any community-based jobs.

This project will continue to promote the 1950's technology (coal, huge expanse of transmission lines with energy losses, etc.) instead of embracing localized energy. Clean energy is mainstream – not a pipe dream. Colorado's largest utility announced recently that it will soon obtain 30 percent of its power from wind & solar, benefiting the local economy, local jobs and local health. Wisconsin should be on board! Why spend \$264 million transporting dirty coal when that money could be invested in producing localized energy that does not require importing energy in the future? Renewable energy sources would be FREE FULL FOREVER. And, finally, from a personal perspective, I am living proof that we here in Wisconsin can live off the sun. I've been off-grid for four years and have a 1k solar system in my front yard. I open my house on a regular basis to individuals and groups interested in learning more. There are others like me leading the effort to think beyond coal. It can be done!

Again and again, I hear how this is a complicated issue and the "little people" just can't understand. It may be complicated but I don't think the answer is complicated. I don't believe localized power is a "pie in the sky" future. If this project is approved, we will be condemning our children to the "same old same old" rather than providing them with a future without pollution and with an increased local economy.

Let Xcel and ATC upgrade their current lines but please deny the CapX2020 and ATC high voltage transmission line projects.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Pedretti

N7097 County Road XX

Holmen, WI 54636

608-317-9698

Comments on EIS for La Crosse Winona 345 kv proposed electric line

Section 2.5 area load forecast

Dairyland and Xcel project the peak load increase to be 1.7% going forward. The recent growth shows a rate of .77%. What is being used to increase the forecast by this much? The population is not increasing at a significant rate. The economy has slowed down so that can't be the driving force. How does Dairyland justify the number - 1.7%?

Section 2.6.2 N-2 contingency

A 345 kv line is not the only solution to solve this. What are the other options?

3. Potential system solutions

What happens to the region if the 345 kv line is the grid element that fails?

Demand side management and local generation would need additional transmission but it would not be 345 kv lines from Minnesota.

Peggy Pasker

La Fage, WI

608 625 2216

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** John Quinn <jw1quinn@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 2:11 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Proposed Transmission Line Routes

As a farm landowner in Trempealeau County I wish to make my position known regarding the route of the proposed transmission line. I support the Q1 - Highway 35 route. It makes no sense to me to affect good farmland for this project when the line can go through the Black River bottomlands where there is already a transmission line which would provide the corridor for the proposed line. I am also a landowner in the Black River bottomlands and as such feel this is the best route.

John W. Quinn  
P.O. Box 67  
Galesville

## **Fannucchi, William - PSC**

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**From:** ruthfood <ruthfood@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 4:27 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** COMMENTS on DEIS - submission

Dear Mr. Fannucci

I am writing to offer comments on the DEIS for CapX2020's Hampton- Rochester-La Crosse line.

The following are some areas that need to be addressed in more detail or further analysis:

Please Note, the Application is for a transmission line from "Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse."  
The heading of the DEIS is "Alma-LaCrosse". There is no "Alma-LaCrosse" transmission project.

Primary concern is the need for the project. There is insufficient evidence that that region has growing demand for energy - additionally there should first be a requirement to consider alternatives, including upgrades to smaller lines and renewable energy opportunities. Additionally and alternative of taking no action (project) should be considered.

Other areas that need addressing in the EIS:

The analysis of the probable impact of the proposed action on the environment, including unique habitats and wildlife lands.

Proposed action's socioeconomic effects, including impacts on residential and commercial real estate and tourism.

Evaluation of the archeological, architectural and historic significance of any affected resources, including potential Indian artifacts and unique properties.

Evaluation of the effects of a proposed action on agriculture including use of de-foresting chemicals to clear cut rights of way, including run-off and impacts to area streams.

Probable adverse environmental effects that would be unavoidable if the action is approved.

The proposed action's short-term and long-term effects.

Irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources.

How other adverse effects could be mitigated or prevented.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ruth Chipps  
La Crescent, MN

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** pamremus@centurytel.net  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 9:00 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Against CapX2020

Mr Fannucchi,

I'm writing to let you know that I am completely against the CapX2020 project from Harmony, MN to the La Crosse, WI area. I live on Cty Rd T, north of Holmen, WI, in the country on 40 acres that I bought because of it's views and peaceful country feeling. I do not want to wake up every morning to view huge power lines. I don't feel that these power lines will benefit those of us in it's path. How will we be paid for the decrease in property values, and the ruining of our country views? I'm also a nurse and see many people with brain tumors and other cancers. I have heard that there is an increase in childhood leukemia with children who live near these high powered electrical lines. Don't they care about this?

Why don't power companies spend money on improving ways to use what we have locally. They could be helping farmers turn manure and other waste into electricity. They could be helping come up with new ways to use the waste in landfills for electricity. They could pay the farmers and counties for power that would be generated by these waste products. Instead they choose to build tall, ugly structures so that they can make more \$\$\$\$. That's what it amounts to, we pay, they profit!

The only people that I have heard speak for this project are the people working for the power companies. Please let them know that many of us are against this project.

Thank you,

Pam Remus



## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Kathy Schnitzius <schnitz96@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 12:52 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC; "<william.fannucchi">@wisconsin.gov  
**Subject:** CapX2020

### COMMENTS ON DEIS FOR CAPX 2020'S HAMPTON-ALMA LINE (PSC:

Please note, the Application is for a transmission line from "Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse." The heading of the DEIS is "Alma-LaCrosse" and that's wrong. There is no "Alma-LaCrosse" transmission project.)

To: [william.fannucchi@wisconsin.gov](mailto:william.fannucchi@wisconsin.gov)

From: Kathryn Schnitzius  
813 Winchester Lane  
Holmen, WI 54636

\*\*\*\*\*

**To the PSC: The following specific issues or facts that I've listed in the categories below are missing, should be more completely addressed or need more analysis:**

- **The description of the purpose and the need for the proposed action should include:** It should be clear which distributors of electricity are involved with this transmission, where the electricity originates, and which communities will be utilizing this electricity.
- **System alternatives to meet all or part of need that should be considered:** Local citizens, such as me, are confused as to why the electricity is being produced so far north and necessitating transport over hundreds of miles. Locally produced clean electricity should be a priority.
- **Route alternatives that should be considered:** If this transmission line is deemed absolutely necessary, it should stay along the Q1 corridor. This is already established and has been there for 50 years.
- **Major issues identified for analysis in the EIS should include:** Electric usage has declined over the past several years in our area. The need for more electricity is not apparent. Local users will have to bear the fiscal burden of new lines.
- **The analysis of the probable impact of the proposed action on the environment:** The current easement through the marsh should be continued to accommodate any transmission lines. The towers should not be larger than the current size.
- **The evaluation of positive and negative effects on the affected local and regional environments, including the proposed action's direct, indirect and cumulative environmental effects:** The immense size of the proposed towers—almost 200'—should never be near neighborhoods and scenic routes. Highway 35 in WI is a scenic route. The right-of-way to accommodate such large poles is very large (350') on either side of the road. This would cause much destruction of habitat.
- **Evaluation of the reasonable alternatives to the proposed action and significant environmental consequences of the alternatives, including the alternative of taking no action:** Due to the fact that the demand for electricity is down, it appears that lines to accommodate a larger load are unnecessary.
- **Proposed action's socioeconomic effects:** Everyone who lives within visual access of large transmission lines loses value in their real estate, while paying a larger share for their electric consumption.

**As a taxpayer and landowner in Holmen, WI, very near to the proposed transmission lines and substation, I propose that these large lines are not needed and will not benefit**

the people who must suffer looking at them and paying for them. I understand that the Fish and Wildlife Department has vetoed placing such lines through a section of the backwaters just NW of Holmen which would necessitate creating another route through more developed areas, including a school ground. I assume that their current easement would hold if the current lines are maintained rather than upgraded. This is the most logical, economical, and environmental choice.

Sincerely,  
Kathryn Schnitzius, homeowner

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** joanne schnell <joanneschnell@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 2:04 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CAP X power line

The power line will decrease the property value of my property and that of my neighbors.

Most of the power will be generated by use of coal imported from Canada and not by wind or renewable energy.

Who will pay for repairing our roads after all the heavy equipment is driven over them?

Will digging 50 foot deep holes to set the poles affect our ground water?

I do not believe the line is needed because the demand is decreasing because of efficiency planning. I had my home weatherized this summer and my use of electricity had gone down.

Joanne Schnell  
N9248 County Road M  
Mindoro, WI 54644



## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** joan schnabel/jeff falk <JOANJEFF@CENTURYTEL.NET>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 10:26 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** 5-CE-136 comments

William Fannucchi  
Docket Coordinator  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854  
(608) 267-3594  
[william.fannucchi@wisconsin.gov](mailto:william.fannucchi@wisconsin.gov)

My comments on the draft EIS for docket number 5-CE-136 are given below.  
Jeff Falk  
Fountain City, WI

### Introduction and Summary

page XVI: it is inappropriate to use average annual percentage growth rates when the data being modeled has not been evaluated as to functional form. It is superficial analysis to base projections on a supplied historical record of at most 9 years. Though MISO gives a few scenarios for projections, there is no justification or analysis given to allow evaluation of these scenarios.

page XVIII: It is stated: "They conclude that neither additional generation nor demand-side management (DSM) would satisfy their need for local service reliability, generation support, and regional reliability." But the contingency analysis is only directed to local service reliability which is discussed as though MISO did not exist. Also it is my understanding that Dairyland already has days when the Alma plants are not generating and due to the MISO market energy is purchased from elsewhere. If this is true, the contingency analysis is irrelevant. It is also stated: "Energy efficiency and load management do not provide region-wide benefits, and additional local generation would not provide region-wide benefit without the addition of transmission." Given the existence of MISO and a midwest grid, it is not clear just what "region-wide" has as reference. Is this the entire MISO area? the three western Wisconsin counties in the service area? the LaCrosse/Winona area? The presence of MISO seems to flit in and out of the CAPX2020 application without a discussion of its role and utility to western Wisconsin consumers.

### Chapter 2

page 16: The discussion of the relation of population growth and temperature to peak energy usage is interesting but incomplete for both the CAPX2020 applicants, for which it is basically non-existent, and the PSC. Both applicants and PSC staff should be familiar with models that would try to take into consideration population growth, temperature, and economic environment, but no attempt is made by either to accomplish this. In addition, there is a "statistics of extremes" which could be useful in this discussion. However it would be inappropriate to use either models or statistics of extremes with only the 9 years of data supplied by the CAPX2020 applicants. Temperature values could be gleaned from other publicly available sources but peak energy usage for at least 30 years past would only be available from the applicants.

The bottom of page 17 illustrates how one can pick and choose between eight data points to raise or lower the average annual growth rate. It is appropriate for the PSC staff to point this out. But given eight highly variable data points they did the same thing with their projection.

page 18: the discussion of the MISO scenarios as mentioned previously gives no attention to how these were produced. The statements seem to indicate that economic conditions were a part of the analysis, but there is nothing further to promote confidence in the MISO numbers. It should be emphasized that economic conditions are not a part of the CAPX2020 description of need.

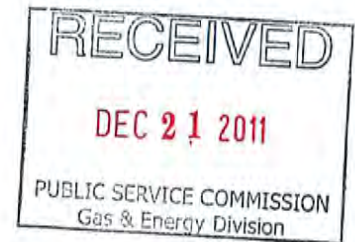
### Page 20 of the CAPX2020 Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Comment on page 151, section 8.3.2.6 regarding red-shouldered hawks:

There is no indication of when the surveys were made nor of the methodology utilized. The Wisconsin DNR has been doing citizen participant red-shouldered hawk surveys and these should be consulted.

It should also be noted that one of the principle reasons for this project is excess XCEL power generation capability in Minnesota. They miscalculated on that. They are now trying to make up for that mistake.

To William Fannucchi  
Docket Coordinator  
Public Service Commission



17 December 2011

Dear Mr. Fannucchi:

We are writing to express our opposition to the proposed Capx2020 Powerline from Alma, Wisconsin to Madison. One of the proposed routes crosses our property. We are opposed to any powerline being built because we are not convinced that there is need for one as the electricity use has been relatively stable since 2005.

We are specifically concerned about the health and safety of our family which includes our sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They live in the vicinity of the powerline as well and also frequently spend time on our farm. We are concerned about the health of our livestock. We have an organic farm and do not want pesticides sprayed to maintain the easement where the powerline will be situated.

We ask the PSC to represent us and our interests. Energy efficiency, conservation and renewables can fulfill our energy needs in Wisconsin.

Thank you for consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

*Thurman Towner*  
*Janice Towner*  
Thurman and Janice Towner  
W21453 South St.  
Trempealeau, WI 54661  
608-534-6662

TOWNERLAND CENTURY FARM

1858-2011



## **Resolution**

### **TOWN OF MILTON RESOLUTION REGARDING CAPX2020 APPLICATION FOR A 345 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, WPPI Energy, Dairyland Power Cooperative, Northern States Power Company-Wisconsin have applied for authority to construct and place in service 345 kV electric transmission lines and electric substation facilities for the Alma-La Crosse Project. The 346kV line would extend from the Wisconsin border in the Mississippi River west of Alma, Wisconsin, in Buffalo County, through Trempealeau County to a new 345/161 kV substation, known as the Briggs Road Substation, to be built on the southwest side of Holmen, Wisconsin, in La Crosse, County; and

**WHEREAS**, the CapX2020 Alma to North La Crosse phase includes a proposed route corridor Q1-Highway 35 along with WI-88 connector options A & B which extends through the Town of Milton;

**WHEREAS**, significant portions of the proposed Q1-Highway 35 route corridor with the 130 to 175 foot steel towers and high voltage power lines will cut across rivers, farms, forests and valleys, scenic bluffs and wildlife and waterfowl habitats, exceptional water resources, cultural and economic districts in the Town of Milton; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Milton is charged with protecting and enhancing the Town's public safety and assets, including the scenic beauty of the hills, coulees, wetlands and Mississippi backwaters, which would be adversely affected by the 130 to 175 foot steel towers and high voltage power lines proposed for the CapX2020 and Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of electricity in Wisconsin and adjacent states has declined significantly since a 2006 peak and demand is projected to remain flat in the predictable future; and

**WHEREAS**, building a high voltage transmission line through the Town of Milton would require use of public rights of way and condemnation of private property for easements; and the centerline of this transmission line on its 150 foot right of way could be placed within 75 feet of a residence; and

**WHEREAS**, a new 345 kV transmission line will result in increased electricity costs for all ratepayers, loss of property value because of the dangers that high voltage power lines inherently carry, and create adverse effect on the Town of Milton's tourism and general economy; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the township's belief that there are other ways of meeting any electrical need claimed by applicants that should be considered and implemented first, including efficiencies, demand and supply side management, locally produced and distributed renewable energy, and energy-related economic development, before high voltage transmission is considered; and




THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that

1. In general, the Town of Milton is non-supportive of the need for the CapX2020 Alma LaCrosse-Project based on the following concerns:
  - (a) Apparent declining demand for electrical energy.
  - (b) Environmental impact of the massive towers and lines.
  - (c) Potential increased rates.
  - (d) Decreased home values and tourism.
  - (e) Potential increased health risks (EMF, etc.)
2. The Town of Milton insists that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin implement and enforce Wis. Stat. Secs. 1.12 and 196.025 that require the Commission to give priority to specific methods of meeting energy demands to the extent those methods are "cost-effective and technically feasible and to consider options based upon the following priorities, in the order listed, for all energy-related decisions:
  - (a) Energy conservation and efficiency
  - (b) Noncombustible renewable energy resources.
  - (c) Combustible renewable energy resources.
  - (d) Nonrenewable combustible energy resources, in the order listed:
    1. Natural gas
    2. Oil or coal with a sulphur content of less than 1%.
    3. All other carbon-based fuels.
3. The Town of Milton insists that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin implement and enforce Wis. Stat. Sec. 1.12(6) which directs the Commission to consider corridor sharing opportunities when reviewing transmission facility projects and to, when feasible, utilize corridors in the following order of priority:
  - (a) Existing corridors;
  - (b) Highway and railroad corridors
  - (c) Recreational trails, to the extent that the facilities may be constructed below ground and that the facilities do not significantly impact environmentally sensitive areas; and
  - (d) New corridors
4. The Town of Milton specifically opposes the Alma to North La Crosse proposed corridor identified as Q1-Highway 35 believing that the proposed corridor identified as Arcadia (From Alma eastward along an existing 69 kV transmission line corridor to northeast of Arcadia) presents an alternative with less environmental impact.

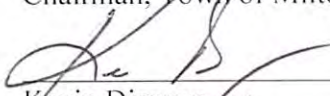
The Town of Milton Clerk is authorized to forward this resolution to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, Docket #5-CE-136 and to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Milton hereby approves the resolution ADOPTED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2011.

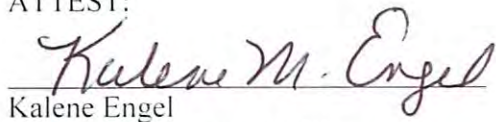
Signed:

  
Robert Platteter  
Chairman, Town of Milton

  
Eugene Bagniewski, Jr.  
Supervisor, Town of Milton

  
Kevin Dienger  
Supervisor, Town of Milton

ATTEST:

  
Kalene Engel  
Town Clerk, Town of Milton

## **Fannucchi, William - PSC**

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**From:** Patrick Thorsell <patrick\_thorsell@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 1:34 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CAPX2020

The CAPX2020 lines should not travel through any neighborhoods. Take the extra time and spend the extra money to do the project right the first time. There are plenty of routes the lines could be placed so that no neighborhoods will be affected.

Thanks,  
Patrick Thorsell

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Joel <ceesixer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 9:34 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CAPX2020

Sirs/Madams,

My comment is in regard to the route of the proposed power line. Do not locate the power line along the Mississippi River. The reasoning is Economics. The region along the Mississippi River competes with the rest of the Country for tourism. The Mississippi River region draws tourists with its natural landscape, including the River, the Bluffs, the Prairies.

Already there are laws in place recognizing and protecting this natural beauty, such as shoreland zoning, setbacks, bluffland protections. It would be contrary to what the current laws and citizens efforts are accomplishing to preserve the natural beauty of this region to locate a 200 ft. powerline along the Mississippi River. In fact, it would be a slap in the face to past and current efforts to maintain the natural beauty, and would be a permanent setback to the tourism draw of the region. The alternate routes have issues, and have factions that do not want the powerline located there, however, I would submit that the strength of the draw of the Mississippi River to tourism and quality of life, helps the outlying areas economies equally. A powerline located outside of the Mississippi River is the best choice, if in fact there is a need at all for a powerline.

Joel VonHaden  
Trempealeau, Wi

## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Cathy Van Maren <cvmaren@mwt.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 8:40 AM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** Oppose CapX2020

Dear Mr. Fannucchi,

I read in the La Crosse Tribune that today is the last day to submit comments "on an environmental impact statement for the Wisconsin portion of the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse line."

I am writing to express my opposition to any route for the proposed CapX2020 power line including the Wisconsin portion of the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse line.

I am not opposed to updating our infrastructure - I very much support a high speed and/or upgraded rail service through Wisconsin, for example. I am not opposed to technology - I very much support better and faster internet service for rural areas of our state, for example.

But I am opposed to this project.

Local rate payers are being asked to help pay for something we DO NOT NEED and, for the most part, WILL NOT USE.

Local property owners are being asked to say yes to an unsightly (unnecessary) project that will reduce property values and discourage growth and development in sustainable, job-creating industries such as tourism and health and fitness.

Local parents are being asked to approve a high power line like those that have been linked to higher cancer rates.

All of us are being asked to sacrifice some of the few remaining scenic and natural areas along the upper Mississippi River - areas that support an incredibly diverse system of plants, animals and topographies - for, at best, a short term upgrade to an outdated power system.

We are at a crossroads, much as we were 100 years ago. Horse drawn buggy or automobile? Dirty, long-distance power generation OR regional, sustainable generation and increased efficiency?

We are moving toward regional power and high efficiency which will create jobs, maintain our environment and allow for job growth and creation, innovation and invention. But we are being asked to spend huge amounts of money, ruin long standing natural areas, and sacrifice our health to support an outdated model and structure.

I oppose CapX2020 in all its possible iterations because it is like asking us to build more and bigger barns for more horses to pull more buggies.

We don't need it and we don't want it. It will hurt our precious natural areas, reduce property values, discourage job growth and creation, and keep us tethered to an outdated, inefficient system.

Thank you for accepting my comments.

Cathy Van Maren  
2815 Highland St.  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
608 317-9003



Kenneth C Rinker  
Whitney PSC  
600 Whitney Way  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

RECEIVED

2011 DEC 14 A 10:13

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Kenneth

I support the Original Q1 Route  
using existing lines and <sup>not</sup> having to  
purchase new right of way. We  
have people here saying we  
don't need more power so the  
hell with it.

Do not <sup>let</sup> left wing people  
persuade you to give ~~up~~ up on  
this project.

This country is in a mess and  
the people bitching the most have no  
alternatives. The Original Q1 Route  
is the way to go — Thanks for  
your input —

Jerry Vack  
702 Hillcrest Dr  
Holmen, WI 54636

Wind energy was called a windmill on our farm  
75 years ago!! 608-526-9509



From: Brad Walker <bnwalk@centurytel.net>  
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2011 3:00 PM  
To: Fannucchi, William - PSC  
Subject: Docket 05-CE-136

## **COMMENTS ON DEIS FOR CAPX 2020'S HAMPTON-ALMA-LA CROSSE LINE PSCW Docket 5-CE-136**

**Comments submitted by**  
**Brad Walker**  
**W1527 County Road A**  
**Mindoro, WI 54644**  
**bnwalk@centurytel.net**

**Submitted to**  
**William.fannucchi@wisconsin.gov**

\*\*\*\*\*

**To the PSC: The following specific issues or facts that I've listed in the categories below are missing, should be more completely addressed or need more analysis:**

PSC: Please note, the Application is for a transmission line from "Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse." The heading of the DEIS is "Alma-LaCrosse" and that's wrong. There is no "Alma-LaCrosse" transmission project.

**System alternatives to meet all or part of need that should be considered:**

**Route alternatives that should be considered:**

- A. No line. Data indicates that there is no need of the line. The La Crosse/Winona area has sufficient electric capacity to meet future needs. The three-day peak last July seems to be a fluke. It was just as hot in 2007 and there was no recession to reduce electrical demand. Also, during that three-day peak in July 2011 Excel was exporting power out of the area.
- B. If a power line is necessary, a 161 kV from Rochester to La Crosse should be more than adequate and would be less costly and far less environmentally damaging.
- C. Local generation should be studied. The power companies should offer financial incentives to homeowner and business to install solar panels and geothermal systems.

**Major issues identified for analysis in the EIS should include:**

**The analysis of the probable impact of the proposed action on the environment:**

All of the proposed routes will do environmental damage both in the short-term while installing the lines and long-term due to wider cleared right-of-way and higher lines. The routes with the greatest environmental impact would be the Q1 and Q1-Hwy. 35 routes. The Mississippi River Flyway is the largest and most important flyway in North America. It is important to keep power lines out of the river basin, particularly high lines. Waterfowl fly from the river to fields and back usually at dawn and dusk and tend to fly just above the treetops. Lines towering above the tree would result in the death of many birds. Studies indicate the cranes, pelicans, swans, eagles and hawks are most at risk but ducks and geese, as well as, passerine birds would be impacted. All lines in the Mississippi River basin should be no more than treetop high and all lines should be parallel to the ground. Where the lines are in the open they should be marked with bird flight diverters. These requirements should lessen bird impacts with the lines.

The least environmentally damaging route would be one going from Alma to Arcadia to Holman. This route would be generally out of the Mississippi River Basin, would impact less wetlands and would do less damage to habitats of endangered species, threatened species and species of concern. This route would impact more forestlands.

I affirm that these comments are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Brad Walker

The Haldenberger farm is on the east border of hwy. 53 and south from Old Cth. NA. The hwy. 35 route as well as the Galesville route both effect the farm. My parents raised my two brothers and I on the farm house the end of Haldenberger Rd. - parallell to hwy. 53. He ALH strongly oppose these northern routes.

The original route thru the bottoms (marshy land) is realistic. It does not go thru residential or schools <sup>and farm lands</sup>. The right of ways are already established and paid for and as I understand some upgrading needs to be done there anyway.

BY The people - for the people not just big business or government agency (DNR.)

Original Q1 route or nothing

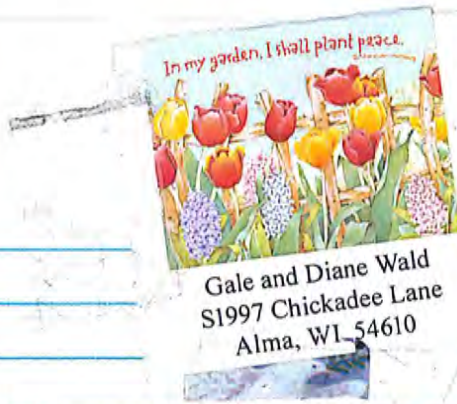
representing - 'Haldenberger family'

Alvin L. Haldenberger

Haldenberger  
W 7531 Old NA  
Holmen, Wis.  
54636

WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
2011 DEC 19 A 10:21  
RECEIVED





Gale Wald  
51997 Chickadee Lane  
Alma, WI 54610

Ken Rineer F.I.S. Co.,  
P.S.C.  
Box 7854  
Oshkosh, WI 53707

RECEIVED  
2011 DEC 19 A 10:21  
WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Dear Ken:

The very best route for the State of Wis. for the Alma - La Crosse 345 KV Transmission line is the Arcadia route. Starting with segments - 1, 2A1, 10B2, 10C1, 10C2, 10C3, 11A, 11B, 11C, 11D, 11E, 11G, 13A, 13B1, 13B2, 13C, 13D, 13E, 17A, 17B, 18A, 18B, 18C, 18D, 18E, 18F, 18G, 18H. The segment 10B2 goes on edge of residential development called Alma Hills; but it gets off G.R.R. right away. The G.R.R. is enjoyed by millions in the U.S.A. for the scenery and not for the wires & poles of the Hi Voltage Tran. Line. We do need the upgrade of the Elect. grid. A house on seg. 10B2 is not any more important than one on seg. 18G. The Arcadia route also does not stop pop. growth as much as Q1 route. Also the Arcadia route has the least Environmental impact.

The State of Minn. has made the requirement that the capx 2020 line buy renewable wind energy from Minn.



Now S.D. is suing Minn. because S.D. wanted to produce elect. from their coal fired plants next to the coal mines to fill the CAPX 2020 line to capacity.

The state of Wis. should have the same amount of renewable wind-solar-elect put on the CAPX 2020 line as the state of Minn.

If this is not the thing to do; then their application should be rejected. The (C.P.C.N.) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the state of Wis. does not mean we the public have to send more of our money for energy out of state of Wis.

In the spring of 2007; there was a grassroots meeting at the Alma (Buffalo County Courthouse) on the possibility of wind turbines on the Alma Bluff; The U.S. Fish and wild life service said the turbines have to be one mile from the bluffs (Mississippi River) This area is a high class III or low class IV wind. A wind farm of 150-200 MW was planned; But when Dairyland Power's Chuck Thomson learned that the wind turbines would be hooked up to D.P. 161KV He got real angry and said no fucking way will a wind turbine be hooked up to D.P.'s line; Dairyland Energy's manager said; Don't get excited Chuck we can work around this.



Riverland Electric cooperation and Dairyland Power Coop. did get their way with the help of Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources; by demanding on study after study after study. Chuck Thomsen is now Dairyland Powers' man in charge of Cap X2020

Dairyland power's Alma power plant will be shutting down now because they can not compete; I think they should stay open for a backup for a wind farm when there is no wind.;

The U.S. Fish and wild life Service said that coal fired electric plants are much worse for the Environment than wind or solar no matter if the coal fired plants are in Wis. or South Dakota; all the studies that were done by many say the same thing.

If 99% of elect. is produced by coal in S.D. and P.S.C. & D.W.R. give out C.P.C.N.; They should get a job in a coal mine if energy productions jobs are lost to out of state production of energy.

Sincerely,

Dale Wald  
Public majority,  
State of Wis.



## Fannucchi, William - PSC

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**From:** Toni <coyotecrossing@centurytel.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2011 12:00 PM  
**To:** Fannucchi, William - PSC  
**Subject:** CapX2020 Powerline Proj.

Thank you for advertising this opportunity to comment in the LaCrosse Tribune. I am AGAINST the proposed CapX2020 project, as it is not necessary. I personally have conserved my power usage, & do NOT want to pay for construction costs. Also, I live in WI for a reason. It is beautiful & the huge poles will detract from scenic ;and, affecting property values & tourism.

I DO have questions regarding the health risks. Can the energy companies guarantee that our health will not be adversely affected?

Please take my concerns seriously turn down this project that seems to be not good for anyone except the stockholders of the energy companies.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Antoinette M Yeske  
W1527 County Rd. A  
Mindoro, WI 54644