



# Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Phil Montgomery, Chairperson  
Eric Callisto, Commissioner  
Ellen Nowak, Commissioner

610 North Whitney Way  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
RECEIVED: 04/30/14, 9:10:43 AM

April 30, 2014

Mr. Stephen Parker, Manager, State Regulatory Affairs  
American Transmission Company LLC  
P.O. Box 47  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0047

Mr. Mark E. Stoering, President and Chief Executive Officer  
Xcel Energy  
1414 West Hamilton Avenue  
P.O. Box 8  
Eau Claire, WI 54702

Re: Joint Application of American Transmission Company LLC  
and Northern States Power Company–Wisconsin, as Electric  
Public Utilities, for Authority to Construct and Operate a  
New 345 kV Transmission Line from the La Crosse area, in  
La Crosse County, to the Greater Madison area in Dane  
County, Wisconsin. The project is Referred to as the Badger  
Coulee Project.

5-CE-142

Dear Mr. Parker:

On October 22, 2013, American Transmission Company LLC and Northern States Power Company-Wisconsin (ATC, NSPW, and together, applicants) filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) for authority to construct and place into operation a new high-voltage electric transmission line. The proposed project would extend from the La Crosse, Wisconsin area to the Madison, Wisconsin area, and is referred to by the applicants as the Badger-Coulee 345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project. The application was filed pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3) and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 111.53, which requires the Commission to determine if a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) should be granted.

The Commission and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reviewed the application to construct the facilities described above. On November 21, 2013, the Commission, under Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2. and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 111.53, found the CPCN application to be incomplete. A list of items was attached to that determination. The applicants' responses to those items were received on March 31, 2013. PSC and DNR staff have reviewed these supplemental filings. Based on this review, I have determined that the application is complete and, by this letter, notify you of this determination as required by Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2.

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As of the date of this letter, the Commission's 180-day review period begins, as provided in Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(g). Please be aware that application information that is considered adequate with this determination may require further development later in the Commission's review process. This additional information would be required to complete the record from which the Commission will make its decision whether to approve the application under Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(d). Such additional information may relate to engineering, environmental, and other issues. When such issues arise, Commission staff will promptly issue a data request for the specific information needed. Immediate responses by the applicants to additional data requests are imperative to avoid delays in the Commission's review of the project.

Wisconsin Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2. requires the Commission to send a copy of the complete application to the clerk of each municipality and town in which the proposed facility is to be located, and to public libraries in the project area. The copies must be distributed as soon as practicable, but not more than 10 or 30 days after the application is found complete, depending on the format of the distributed material. The Commission may direct the applicant to send the copies of the application. By this letter, I am directing the applicants to send copies of the complete application to the local government and library locations listed in Appendix I of the application.

Also, please provide to the Commission an additional ten printed copies of the revised application and all appendices, including confidential appendices, using the Commission's confidential materials filing procedures. These copies will be provided to the Commission as part of the record from which the Commission will make its decision whether to approve the application under Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(d).

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the docket coordinator Jim Lepinski at (608) 266-0478.

Sincerely,



Robert Norcross  
Administrator  
Gas and Energy Division

RDN:JAL;jlt:DL: 00922714