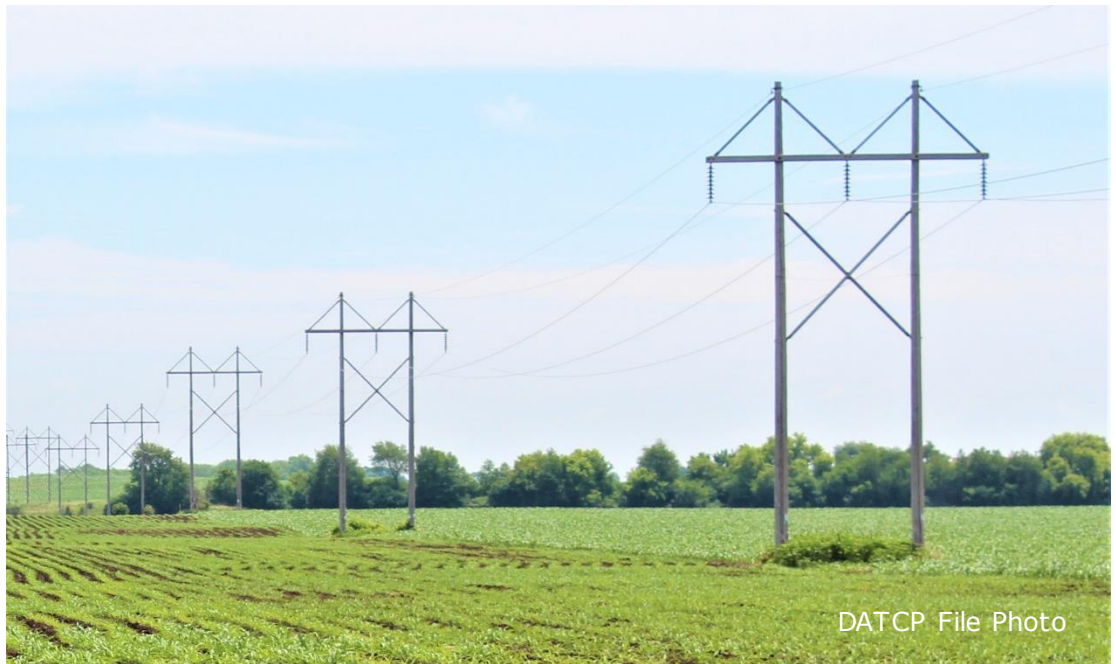


AGRICULTURAL IMPACT STATEMENT



DATCP File Photo

**DATCP
#4605**

**Grid Forward Central Wisconsin
Project**

**Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green
Lake, Jackson, Marquette, Portage,
Trempealeau, Waushara, and Wood
Counties**

PSC Docket ID 5-CE-157



**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**
PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 20, 2024

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AGRICULTURAL IMPACT STATEMENT

DATCP #4605

Grid Forward Central Wisconsin Project

Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green Lake, Jackson, Marquette,
Portage, Trempealeau, Waushara, and Wood Counties

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MISSION STATEMENT

Dear Reader,

Through the Agricultural Impact Statement ("AIS") program, agricultural operations have the opportunity to provide feedback, document impacts, and suggest alternative solutions when their agricultural lands are affected by an entity with the potential powers of eminent domain. The AIS program also provides affected agricultural landowners time to gather information to make well-informed decisions before a study begins. Lastly, the AIS program makes suggestions and recommendations to study initiators to promote study alternatives and management practices that would reduce potential impacts to agricultural lands and operations.

The AIS program also serves the needs of the study initiator by conducting the AIS analysis and publishing the statement within a timely manner as required by Wis. Stat. § 32.035. In addition, the AIS program provides a continuing presence throughout study development and oversight processes in order to support agricultural operations and the statewide priority to preserve prime farmland.

The Agricultural Impact Statement program and the WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection are honored to provide this essential state service to the agricultural landowners and operators of the state.

Thank you,

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ACRONYMS

AEA	Agricultural Enterprise Area
AIN	Agricultural Impact Notification
AIS	Agricultural Impact Statement
CPCN	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
CREP	Conservation Reserve and Enhancement Program
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program
DATCP	Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
FP	Farmland Preservation Program
FSA	Farm Service Agency
IAM	Independent Agricultural Monitor
IEM	Independent Environmental Monitor
kV	Kilovolt
MFL	Managed Forest Law
NEV	Neutral to Earth Voltage
PSC	Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
SWRM	Soil and Water Resource Management
ROW	Right-of-Way
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
WisDNR	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

TERMS

CIRCUIT	A continuous electrical path along which electricity can flow from a source, like a power plant, to where it is used, like a home. A typical transmission circuit consists of three phases, with each phase on a separate set of conductors.
CONDUCTOR	A wire composed of multiple aluminum strands wrapped around a steel core that together carry electricity. A transmission line is constructed with three conductors, one for each phase of the circuit generated by a power plant.
DISTRIBUTION LINE	An interconnected group of lines and equipment for the delivery of low voltage electricity between the transmission network and end users (i.e. home/business)
KILOVOLT (kV)	A unit of electricity equal to 1,000 volts.
LAYDOWN YARD	Temporary equipment staging and storage areas.
SHIELD WIRE	A wire connected to the top of the structure to protect the conductors from lightning strikes, minimizing the risk of power outages.
SINGLE-CIRCUIT	Electric lines with one set of three conductors.
SUBSTATION	A facility that monitors and controls electrical power flows, uses high voltage circuit breakers to protect power lines, and transforms voltage levels for safe and reliable delivery of electricity.
TRANSMISSION LINE	An interconnected group of lines and equipment for transporting electric energy on a high voltage power line between power plants and substations.

SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (the Department) has prepared Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) #4605 for the construction of a new 345-kV electric transmission line connecting the Tremval-Arpin-Columbia Substations in the Wisconsin counties of Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green Lake, Jackson, Marquette, Portage, Trempealeau, Waushara, and Wood Counties, WI (“the Project”) in a joint project between the American Transmission Company (ATC) and the Northern States Power - Wisconsin (NSPW), doing business as Xcel Energy (“the Project Initiators”). ATC hosts a website for the project, which can be found here <https://atc-gridforward.com/grid-forward.html>.

The Project is part of a series of regional projects that the Mid-Continent Independent System Operator (MISO) is developing alongside energy companies throughout the Upper Midwest to identify new transmission projects that can be built to manage a new energy system called Long Range Transmission Planning (LRTP). The Project is also known as LRTP-6 and is part of Tranche 1 in the series. More information about LRTP and MISO can be found at <https://www.misoenergy.org/planning/long-range-transmission-planning/>.

The Project consists of a rebuild of approximately 175 miles of existing electric power lines to add approximately 200-205 miles of a new 345-kV high-voltage line from the Columbia Substation in Columbia County north to the Arpin Substation in Wood County and west to the Xcel Energy Tremval substation in Trempealeau County (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). The proposed routes generally follow existing utility and transportation corridors. Despite efforts to reduce new ROW acquisitions, the Project Initiators propose to impact up to 1027.3 acres of agricultural land and impact up to 522 agricultural landowners depending on the selected route and accounting for the Arpin substation.

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) has authority over the Project. The Project Initiators must obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to obtain the right to proceed with the Project. Through the issuance of a CPCN, the PSC would select the project route and other project criteria the Project Initiators shall follow. As of July 31, 2024, the Project Initiators submitted a CPCN application for the Project to the PSC under PSC Docket ID: 5-CE-157 (REF#: [511046](#)) and is awaiting a ruling from the PSC. The Department will provide the PSC with AIS #4605 as evidence to aid in determining the outcome of the Project Initiators’ CPCN application.

In accordance with [Wis. Stat. §32.035\(3\)](#), the Project Initiators have provided the Department with the necessary information and materials to conduct an AIS. The Department has also contacted the agricultural property owners who are proposed to have greater or equal to five acres of impact on their agricultural properties. In accordance with [Wis. Stat. §32.035\(4\)\(b\)](#), the Department has reviewed and analyzed the Project Initiators’ materials and the comments obtained by the

Department from the affected agricultural property owners and operators to assess the agricultural impacts of the proposed project. Through the AIS analysis, the Department offers a set of recommendations and conclusions to the PSC, the Project Initiators and the agricultural landowners and operators to help mitigate current and future impacts on agricultural lands and agricultural operations along the selected route.

The set of recommendations are located within the AIS Recommendation Section beginning on page 8. The AIS analysis begins on page 3 with information on the project located in Section 2. Information and conclusions on the agricultural setting of impacted counties and impacted areas can be found in Section 3. The agricultural impacts of the project on the impacted land, landowners and operators can be found in Section 4. Appendices for AIS #4605 contain the following information: additional project figures and tables from the Project Initiators (Appendix A), information on the appraisal and compensation process (Appendix B), a complete record of comments submitted to the Department from agricultural landowners & operators (Appendix C), a copy of Wisconsin's agricultural impact statement statute (Appendix D), various additional sources of related information for agricultural landowners and operators (Appendix E) and a copy of the Department's agricultural monitoring form for transmission line projects.

If the Project Initiators deviate from the proposed route segments, alternatives or the selected sites, the Project Initiators shall re-notify the Department. The Department shall review the re-notification for new potential impacts to agricultural lands and may generate an addendum to this AIS, if warranted.

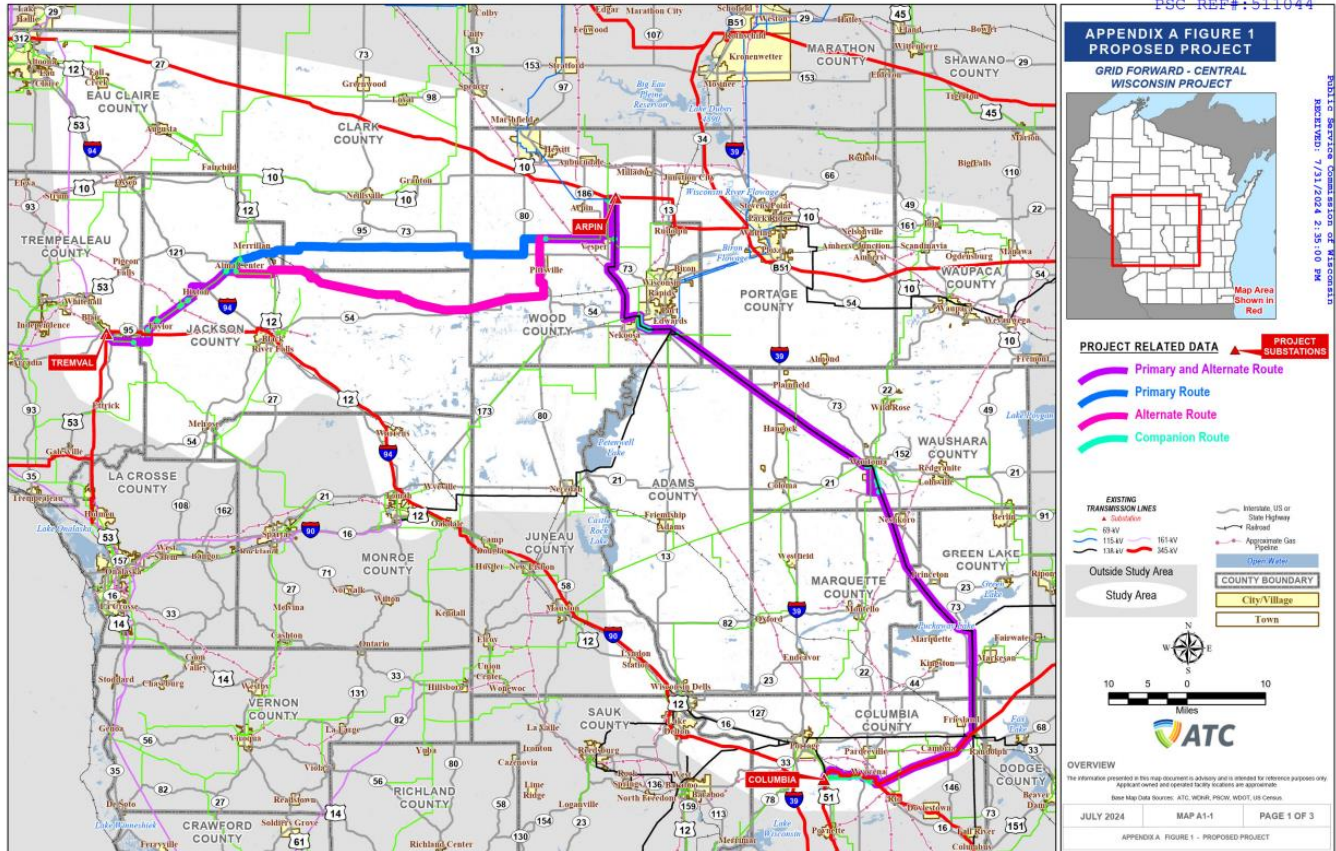


Figure 1: Location of preferred and alternative routes for the Grid Forward Project (ATC and NSPW, 2024a).

AGRICULTURAL IMPACT STATEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (the Department) has reviewed and analyzed the materials provided by the Project Initiators and comments from the affected agricultural property owners and operators regarding the proposed Grid Forward – Central Wisconsin transmission line project. Should the PSC approve the Project, the Department provides the following recommendations, in accordance with [Wis. Stat. §32.035\(4\)\(b\)](#), to the PSC, the Project Initiators and agricultural landowners and operators to help mitigate impacts on agricultural lands and agricultural operations.

Recommendations to the Public Service Commission

1. Of the two routes proposed by the Project Initiators, the Department recommends PSC to consider approving the Project Initiators' Alternative Route based on its significantly lower agricultural impacts on MFLs and lower overall total agricultural land acreage impacted compared to the Primary Route. Further analysis on this recommendation is based on is provided in Section 3 and 4 of the AIS.
2. If approved by the PSC, the Department recommends that for the duration of project construction, the Project Initiators be required to hire an Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM) and/or an Independent Agricultural Monitor (IAM), or an individual with the capacity for both an IEM and IAM, but that only has stop-work authority when acting in the capacity of the IEM. The IEM/IAM should be hired in consultation with and the approval of the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR and all reports generated by IEM/IAM should be shared with the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR.
3. Should the PSC require an IAM for the Project, the Department recommends the IAM complete the Department's standard Agricultural Monitoring Form for Transmission Line Projects (ARM-LWR-543) seen in Appendix F or equivalent.

Recommendations to the Project Initiators

1. The Department recommends the Project Initiators follow all the recommended mitigation efforts described in Section 5.5.1 through Section 5.5.18 to mitigate Project impacts to or regarding: topsoil, soil compaction, drainage, de-watering, irrigation, de-icing and traction control, erosion, temporary access roads, managed forest lands, fencing, weed control, aerial applications, construction debris, crop rotation & dairy operations, organic farms & other areas with certifications, biosecurity, stray voltage, and construction noise.

2. The Project Initiators should continue to monitor the Project ROW for soil erosion and maintain erosion control practices until there is sufficient vegetative growth in the ROW to mitigate soil erosion.
3. The Project Initiators should provide agricultural landowners and operators advanced notice of acquisition and construction schedules so agricultural activities can be adjusted accordingly.
4. The Project Initiators should provide landowners with direct phone numbers and email addresses to the Project Initiators' project staff, ATC's Agricultural Specialist, NSPW's land agents, and project contractors that are able to respond to a range of topics including but not limited to: environmental & agricultural impacts, land acquisition & ROW, project schedule, access limitations, compensation for release of lands from conservation programming and project complaints.
5. If there is adequate growing season for a crop to mature and be harvested after the Project Initiators has an interest in the impacted lands, but before construction along the Project corridor begins, the Project Initiators should allow the current agricultural operators to harvest a crop for that season to the extent possible, or the Project Initiators shall compensate the agricultural operators for crop damages.
6. The Project Initiators should consult with the affected agricultural landowners and operators to ensure any relocated, temporary or newly established agricultural land access points are located in areas that provide safe and efficient access to remnant agricultural properties.
7. DATCP recommends that the project initiators work with the landowners to verify if there are other conservation agreements or easements that have not yet been identified.
8. The Project Initiators should provide appropriate compensation to all landowners with land enrolled in a conservation easement or farm program if the landowner must reimburse the administering agency for the land's removal or alteration. These conservation or farm programs could include, but are not limited to, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Reserve and Enhancement Program (CREP), Farmland Preservation Program (FP), or MFL.
9. The Project Initiators should consult the Department as soon as a route is selected affording as much time as possible prior to construction regarding the status of effective agreements within the project corridor and for information regarding required releases of land and repayment of funds for any CREP or FP agreements within the chosen project corridor.

10. The Project Initiators should provide the Green Lake County Land Conservation Department with selected route information affecting the Town of Princeton AEA and the Town of Marquette AEA when available.
11. The Project Initiators is advised to consult applicable County Land Conservation Departments on the existence of installed SWRM conservation practices within the Project area.
12. The Project initiators shall inform the drainage boards of Columbia and Adams County of the proposed project and work with the Board to mitigate potential impacts to existing drainage infrastructure.
13. The Project Initiators should implement training for all construction supervisors, inspectors, and crews to ensure that they understand the steps needed to protect the integrity of agricultural lands and operations during project construction and restoration.
14. To ensure agricultural landowners along the route the PSC selects are aware of their ability to request pre- and post-NEV testing, at no cost, the Department recommends that the Project Initiators inform each landowner with livestock facilities within ½-mile of the selected Project ROW of their ability to request Phase II Stray Voltage Testing from their local utility, the Project Initiators or the PSC.

Recommendations to Agricultural Landowners and Operators

1. Agricultural landowners and operators should review [Wis. Stat. §182.017](#) (i.e. the Landowner Bill of Rights) seen in Appendix D (V) to understand their rights prior to the start of easement negotiations.
2. The Department recommends that the landowners or farm operators with a CREP or CRP agreement consult with their local FSA contact and discuss the impacts of the proposed project to determine what information is necessary to share with the Project Initiators in order to maintain compliance with CREP or CRP agreements, as well as to receive any necessary FSA authorizations or approvals.
3. Landowners should review the recommended mitigation efforts described in Section 5.5.1 through Section 5.5.18 to mitigate project impacts to or regarding: topsoil, soil compaction, drainage, de-watering, irrigation, erosion, temporary access roads, managed forest lands, fencing, weed control, construction debris, crop rotation & dairy operations, organic farms & other areas with certifications, biosecurity, construction noise, and stray voltage.

4. The construction of a new transmission line is a non-conforming land use on lands subject to an effective farmland preservation agreement according to Wis. Stat. § 91.62(1)(c). Agricultural lands covered by an effective FP agreement, where a non-conforming land use is planned, are required to release the affected lands prior to the initiation of the non-conforming land use. Landowners should contact the Department to release affected agricultural lands from an FP agreement.
5. Landowners should consider potential implication of the proposed route to their MFL enrolled lands. Impacted landowners should reach out to their local DNR Tax Law Forestry Specialist and discuss the implication of the route to their MFL enrolled lands.
6. Agricultural landowners have the authority under [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(d\)](#) to allow or deny herbicide applications within the ROW they own [and agricultural landowners](#) should provide written consent or written lack of consent to the Project Initiators regarding herbicide applications.
7. Landowners with conservation easements within the ROW should consult with the conservation program provider to determine if any effects will occur due to the land's alteration or removal from the contract. If the landowner is charged a fee for removing or altering the land within the conservation easement, the landowners should contact the Project Initiators staff member, as designated by the Project Initiators, responsible for handling compensation for release of lands from conservation programs.
8. Landowners who are aware of any SWRM cost-shared practices on their farm within the proposed Project area should consult with the County Land Conservation Department to determine 1) the compatibility of the proposed ROW easement with the existing conservation practice and 2) if any effects will occur due to alteration of a practice during construction activities.
9. Landowners concerned about potential impacts to their agricultural land should keep records of the conditions of the ROW before, during, and after construction, including field moisture conditions, historic presence/absence of ponded water prior to the start of construction for post-construction comparisons, crop yield records and photographs taken every season.
10. Landowners should inform the Project Initiators about the existence and location of drainage systems or planned drainage systems that could be affected by the Project.

11. Landowners with organic certification or other certifications should contact the Project Initiators and report the range and type of substances that are and are not permitted according to their certifications.
12. Agricultural landowners and beekeepers should consider using the free online [DriftWatch™](#) and [BeeCheck™](#) registries, operated by [FieldWatch™](#) to communicate areas containing specialty crops or beehives with pesticide applicators, in order to minimize the risk of accidental exposure. For more information on DriftWatch, please visit the [DATCP DriftWatch website](#) at the provided link or at <https://wi.driftwatch.org/>.
13. Landowners who wish to farm within the deforested area should discuss tree stump removal with the Project Initiators during the easement negotiation process.
14. Landowners should inform the Project Initiators if they use aerial planting or aerial spraying.
15. Livestock owners & operators within the Project ROW who are concerned about the noise potential for the Project should inform the Project Initiators or their representatives during the easement negotiation process.
16. Confined animal feeding operations or any operation with livestock facilities within ½-mile of the selected Project ROW should request pre- and post-transmission line energization NEV testing from the Project Initiators, the PSC, or their utility provider.
17. Landowners should fully describe and discuss property improvements and agricultural operations with appraisers so the appropriate value of the affected property is established.
18. Prior to the start of construction, landowners should identify for the Project Initiators where construction activities may interfere with farm operations, farm building/facilities or farming infrastructure including but not limited to drain tiles, wells, watering systems, drainage ditches, drainage tile, culverts, fencing, farm access roads, or grain bins.
19. Affected farmland owners should inform the tenant agricultural operators if an easement has or will be obtained by the Project Initiators on the land the rent, regardless if by judicial offer or voluntary negotiation.
20. After construction is complete, landowners and the Project Initiators should monitor for drainage problems. If problems are observed that can be attributed to construction, the landowner and the Project Initiators should work together to develop a mutually agreeable solution.

21. The Department recommends that landowners whom are concerned about potential impacts to their agricultural land should keep records of the conditions of the ROW before, during, and after construction.

AGRICULTURAL IMPACT STATEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (the Department) has prepared Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) #4605 in accordance with [Wis. Stat. §32.035](#) for the proposed construction of a 345-kV high voltage electric transmission line (“the Project”) in Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green Lake, Jackson, Marquette, Portage, Trempealeau, Waushara, and Wood Counties, WI (DATCP, 2024a; ATC and NSPW, 2024a) by the American Transmission Project Initiators LLC (ATC) and the Northern States Power Project Initiators-Wisconsin (NSPW), doing business as Xcel Energy (“the Project Initiators”). ATC hosts a website for the project, which can be found here <https://atc-gridforward.com/grid-forward.html>.

The Project is part of a series of regional projects that the Mid-Continent Independent System Operator (MISO) is developing alongside energy companies throughout the Upper Midwest to identify new transmission projects that can be built to manage a new energy system called Long Range Transmission Planning (LRTP). The Project is also known as LRTP-6 and is part of Tranche 1 in the series. More information about LRTP and MISO can be found at <https://www.misoenergy.org/planning/long-range-transmission-planning/>.

The Project consists of a rebuild of approximately 175 miles of existing electric power lines to add approximately 200-205 miles of a new 345-kV high-voltage line from the Columbia Substation in Columbia County north to the Arpin Substation in Wood County and west to the Xcel Energy Tremval substation in Trempealeau County (DATCP, 2024a; ATC and NSPW, 2024a).

According to [Wis. Stat. §32.035](#), the AIS is designed to be an informational and advisory document that describes and analyzes the potential effects of a proposed project on agricultural operations and agricultural resources, but it cannot stop a project. The Department is required to prepare an AIS when the actual or potential exercise of eminent domain powers involves an acquisition of any interest in more than five acres of land from any agricultural operation. The term agricultural operation includes all owned and rented parcels of land, buildings, equipment, livestock, and personnel used by an individual, partnership, or corporation under single management to produce agricultural commodities.

The AIS reflects the general objectives of the Department in its recognition of the importance of conserving vital agricultural resources and maintaining a healthy rural economy. The Department is not involved in determining whether or not eminent domain powers will be used or the amount of compensation to be paid for the acquisition of any property.

The Project Initiators submitted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) (REF#: [511046](#)) to obtain approval to construct the

Project (ATC and NSPW, 2024a). The PSC has assigned the Project PSC Docket ID: [5-CE-157](#), which can be followed within the PSC [Electronic Records Filing System](#). The PSC will analyze the need for the project and the potential environmental and community impacts in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). In addition, the PSC will receive testimony and hold hearings to further assess the impacts of this project. Afterwards, the PSC will approve, modify, or deny the Project Initiators' proposed project. Construction on the project cannot begin before the Project Initiators receive a CPCN from the PSC, as well as permits and approvals from other regulatory entities.

As established under [Wis. Stat. §32.035\(4\)\(d\)](#), if the Project Initiators intend to actualize its powers of condemnation at any point during the project through a jurisdictional offer(s), the Project Initiators may not negotiate with an owner or make a jurisdictional offer until 30 days after the AIS has been published. If the Project Initiators deviate from the selected alternative or the selected sites, the Project Initiators shall re-notify the Department. The Department shall review the re-notification for new potential impacts to agricultural lands and may determine to generate an addendum to this AIS.

The full text of [Wis. Stat. §32.035](#) is included in Appendix D. Additional references to statutes that govern eminent domain and condemnation processes and other sources of information are also included in Appendices B, E, and F.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1. Project Summary

The Project Initiators have provided the Department with an agricultural impact notification (AIN) and requested spatial materials for analysis for the proposed project (DATCP, 2024a). The AIN, requested materials from the Project Initiators, and the Project Initiators' CPCN application to the PSC serve as the main reference documents for the Project. The proposed project route alternatives presented here do not represent the final project route, which requires PSC approval.

The Project consists of rebuilding approximately 175 miles of existing transmission lines, which together will support the construction of a new approximately 200-205 mile long 345kV transmission line from the Tremval Substation in Trempealeau County, to an intermediate substation, the expanded Arpin Substation, in Wood County, and then connecting the expanded Arpin Substation to the Columbia Substation in Columbia County. The project is known as the Grid Forward – Central Wisconsin Transmission Line Project.

The proposed Project, depending on the selected route and accounting for the Arpin substation, the project proposes to impact approximately between 1006.8 and 1027.3 acres of agricultural land and will impact up to 522 agricultural landowners. A full list of the impacted acres for each agricultural landowners that were contacted or not contacted by the Department for input into this AIS is provided in Appendix A: Additional Figures and Tables.

2.2. Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC)

The PSC is an independent regulatory agency that regulates public electric, natural gas, water and sewer utilities in Wisconsin. Through PSC regulations, public utilities must obtain PSC approval before setting new utility rates and undertaking major construction projects, such as electric transmission lines or substations. Prior to gaining approval, PSC staff review the utility's application and prepare either an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the need, alternatives, cost, and environmental and social impacts of the proposed project.

Approval from the PSC is obtained by the issuance of a CPCN or a Certificate of Authority (CA), both of which grant the utility the right to proceed with the project as described within the CPCN or CA. Issuance of a CPCN or CA determined by a three-member PSC Commission. PSC Commissioners are full-time staff, appointed by the Governor, tasked with reviewing the project case file (documents, reports, testimony) and ultimately deciding whether to approve, modify, or deny a project. If the PSC determines that the project is needed and feasible, the utility must adhere to the PSC ruling and project alternatives/route selected by the Commission. PSC approval is not constrained by the utilities' "preferred" or "alternate" route designations mentioned within this AIS and the Commission may choose any combination of route segments described in the application.

ATC and Xcel Energy submitted an application for a CPCN for the Project to the PSC on July 31, 2024 under PSC Docket ID: [5-CE-157](#) (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). DATCP expects the PSC to utilize the information contained within this AIS, the EIS, the CPCN application, and testimony from the public to determine the degree of impacts each route alternative will have on the agricultural landscape and economy, prior to issuing a ruling.

2.3. Project Design and Purpose

According to the Project Initiators' CPCN ([REF#: 511046](#)), the new 345 kV line will be approximately 200 to 205 miles long depending on the route selected. This mileage includes the full or partially rebuilt facilities, which constitute approximately 175 miles of the route. The Joint Application contains two proposed routes: the Primary Route and the Alternate Route. These two routes are located in the following counties: Columbia, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara, Adams, Portage, Wood, Clark, Jackson, and Trempealeau.

The Department’s review of the Project’s CPCN ([REF # 507067](#)) found it to contain information on the system alternative and the system alternative comparative analysis performed by the Project Initiators (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). The Project Initiators described that the route criteria used are consistent with economic and engineering considerations, reliability of the electric transmission system, and minimizing impacts to the environment. Priority factors for the route included identifying a project study area between established endpoints identified in MISO’s Long Range Transmission Plan. The proposed location of the primary and alternate routes allows the project to connect to another proposed project that is part of the same LRTP Tranche 1 series, known as the Western Wisconsin Transmission Connection project. The proposed routes also share a majority of their existing transmission line ROW and/or road and railroad ROW. Both the preferred route and the alternate route share approximately 57% of its area with existing ROW (ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

2.3.1. Project Location

According to the AIN submitted to the Department (DATCP, 2024a) and the CPCN ([REF#: 511046](#)), the proposed routes for the project traverse Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green Lake, Jackson, Marquette, Portage, Trempealeau, Waushara, and Wood counties, depending on the route chosen. See table 1 for impacted municipalities.

Table 1: List of Counties and Municipalities Proposed to be Impacted by the Project (DATCP, 2024a; ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

County	Municipality	
	Primary Route	Alternate Route
Adams	Town of Leola	
Clark	Town of Dewhurst Town of Levis Town of Sherwood Town of Washburn	Not impacted
Columbia	Town of Courtland Town of Pacific Town of Randolph Town of Wyocena Village of Wyocena	
Green Lake	Town of Green Lake Town of Manchester Town of Marquette Town Princeton	
Jackson	Town of Alma	Town of Adams

	Town of Curran Town of Garden Valley Town of Hixton Town of Springfield Village of Alma Center Village of Hixton Village of Merrilan Village of Taylor	Town of Alma Town of City Point Town of Curran Town of Hixton Town of Springfield Town of Komensky Village of Hixton Village of Taylor
Marquette	Town of Crystal Lake Town of Mecan Town of Neshkoro	
Portage	Town of Grant	
Trempealeau	Town of Preston City of Blair	
Waushara	Town of Dakota Town of Deerfield Town of Hancock Town of Plainfield Town of Wautoma City of Wautoma	
Wood	Town of Arpin Town of Cary Town of Hansen Town of Port Edwards Town of Saratoga Town of Seneca Town of Sherry Town of Sigel Town of Wood Village of Port Edwards Village of Vesper City of Nekoosa	Town of Arpin Town of Dexter Town of Hansen Town of Hiles Town of Port Edwards Town of Saratoga Town of Seneca Town of Sherry Town of Sigel Town of Wood Village of Port Edwards Village of Vesper City of Nekoosa City of Pittsville

2.3.2. Preferred and Alternate Route Description

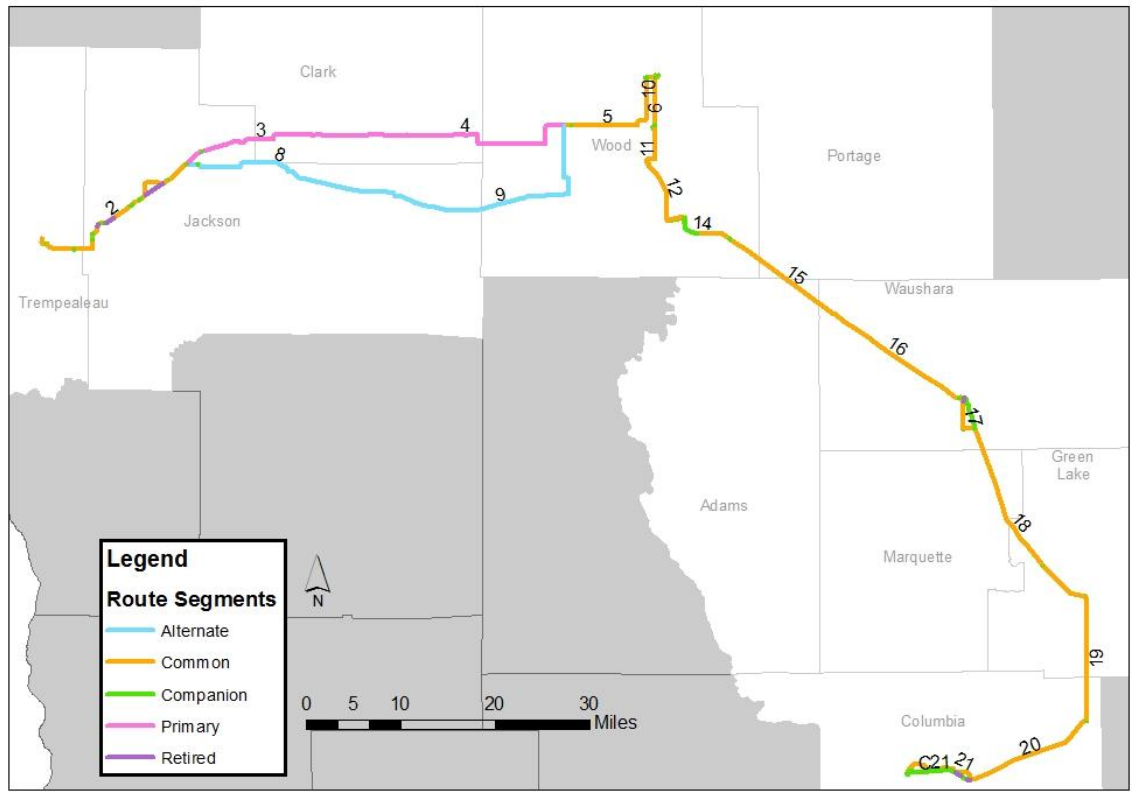


Figure 2: Map of Project Segments, created by DATCP. Note, not all segments are shown on the map.

There are approximately 175 miles of existing transmission lines that the applicants are proposing to rebuild to connect the Columbia Substation in Columbia County to the Arpin substation in Wood County. Construction for this portion of the project would occur in Adams, Columbia, Green Lake, Marquette, Portage, Waushara, and Wood counties (DATCP, 2024a; ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

The applicants are proposing to construct a new 345kV transmission line from the Tremval Substation in Trempealeau County to an intermediate substation, the expanded Arpin Substation, in Wood County, and then south to the Columbia Substation. The route would either be 200 or 205 miles depending on the selected route. Both routes cross Columbia, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara, Adams, Portage, Wood, Jackson, and Trempealeau counties, WI. The Primary Route would additionally cross Clark County, WI (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). Aerial photos of project segments can be found in Appendix A, Figure 3 within the [PSC ERF docket](#).

The Primary Route is approximately 200-205 miles long and comprised of Segments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 (consists of the primary and common route, as seen in Figure 2).

The Primary Route also has the Companion Segments: C1, C2, C3, C5, C6, C7, C10, C11, C12, C13, C14, C16, C17, C18, C19, C21, and C22. Note, not all companion segments are shown in Figure 2.

The Primary Route includes two proposed options going into the Tremval Substation depending on which site is chosen for the location: Tremval Substation Expansion North (1N) or Tremval Substation Expansion South (1S) and their corresponding Companion Segments (C1N or C1S).

The Alternate Route is approximately 205 miles long and comprised of Segments 1, 2, 8, 9, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 (consists of the alternate route and common route as seen in Figure 2)

The Alternate Route also has Companion Segments: C1, C2, C8, C5, C6, C7, C10, C11, C12, C13, C14, C16, C17, C18, C19, C21, and C22. Note, not all companion segments are shown in Figure 2.

The Alternate Route also includes two proposed options for going into the Tremval Substation, depending on which site is chosen for the location: Tremval Substation Expansion North (1N) or Tremval Substation Expansion South (1S) and their corresponding Companion Segments (C1N or C1S).

2.3.3. Off-ROW Access Roads

According to the AIN and the CPCN application, preliminary off-ROW access routes have been identified based on a review of existing mapping and aerial photography data. These routes are listed in the PSC docket as Appendix B, Table 2 (REF # [510853](#)) and a 33-part series of aerial maps that are named Appendix A Figure 4. There are 213 off-ROW routes identified for the Primary Route and 220 for the Alternate Route.

During final construction planning, these routes may be refined as new information becomes available and landowner negotiations begin. If additional required off-ROW paths are identified, the Applicants will complete an environmental review of these paths and submit the necessary information to the PSCW prior to establishing any such areas in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 111.71 (ATC and NSPW, 2024b)

2.3.4. Laydown Yards

Laydown yards will be required throughout construction for the setup of job trailers as well as storage and staging of construction equipment and material. Preliminary locations for 55 laydown yards have been identified based on the construction requirements for the transmission line, proximity to work areas, and environmental and landowner impacts (see a 9-part series within the PSC Docket named Appendix A Figure 07 Potential Laydown Yards, REF # 510879 – 510866). These potential yards may change, or additional sites may be identified later based on negotiations with landowners and the updated construction needs of the Project. The laydown yards are

selected to minimize the amount of disturbance and preparation required to provide suitable surfaces for temporary storage and staging of construction equipment and material. For example, sites that are paved and/or have been previously graded and cleared of vegetation, such as parking lots, gravel pits, and fields are ideal locations for laydown yards.

A typical laydown yard is about 10 acres with a minimum of a 30-foot-wide driveway for ingress and egress. If a selected site is located in close proximity or upslope of a wetland or waterway, erosion control measures will be implemented to prevent impacts.

2.3.5. Project Need

According to the AIN submitted to the Department (DATCP, 2024a) and the CPCN ([REF#: 511046](#)) submitted to the PSC under Docket ID 5-CE-157 (ATC and NSPW, 2024b), in July 2022, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.'s (MISO) Board of Directors approved the Project as part of its initial Long Range Transmission Plan (LRTP) Tranche 1 transmission portfolio. The Tranche 1 portfolio consists of 18 transmission projects in numerous states totaling an approximately \$10 billion investment across MISO's Midwest Subregion. The project will improve reliability, reduce congestion, and allow more low-cost renewables to be integrated into the system, both inside and outside of Wisconsin.

2.3.6. Existing Transmission Lines

The approximately 175 miles of existing transmission lines that the applicants are proposing to rebuild would connect the Columbia Substation in Columbia County to the Arpin substation in Wood County (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). Construction for this portion of the project would occur in Adams, Columbia, Green Lake, Marquette, Portage, Waushara, and Wood counties. If the Primary Route is ordered approximately 30 miles of distribution lines would need to be removed and relocated. If the Alternate Route is ordered approximately 17 miles of distribution lines would need to be removed and relocated (ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

A table of existing transmission line impacts can be found in section 5.3.1.6 of the Project Initiator's CPCN application (REF#: [511046](#)).

2.3.7. Project Routing and Siting

Wisconsin's energy policy [Wis. Stats. § 1.12\(6\)](#) prioritizes the siting of electric transmission corridors to certain types of corridor according to the following ranking 1st) existing corridor, 2nd) highway and railroad corridor, 3rd) 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 4th) new corridor. Within their CPCN application, the Project Initiators stated they established potential route corridors using the multi-stage process seen below, that involved consultation with the PSC, the WisDNR, WisDOT, FAA and DATCP, as well as following transmission line siting priorities (ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

- 1) Identification of potential route corridors in accordance with the site priority ranking established by Wis. Stats. § 1.12(6) (ATC and NSPW, 2021a).
 - a. Existing utility corridors
 - b. Highway and railroad corridors
 - c. Recreational trails, to the extent the facilities may be constructed below ground and that the facilities do not significantly impact environmentally sensitive areas.
 - d. New corridors
- 2) Identified routes are screened against criteria specified in Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(d) and other internal criteria to determine the proposed route alternatives. These criteria include, but are not limited to the following (ATC and NSPW, 2021a):
 - Location of existing linear infrastructure
 - Use of existing ROWs to minimize the need for additional facility ROW
 - Locations of cemeteries, schools, day care facilities, and hospitals
 - County and state road expansion plansCommunity and landowner impacts
 - Ability to minimize impacts to environmental and natural resource features
 - Archeological, tribal, and historic resources
 - Location of airports and airstrips
 - Avoiding high-density residential areas
 - Conformance with existing and proposed land use patterns
 - Design modifications or construction practices to overcome challenges
 - Maintaining compatibility with local agricultural practices
- 3) Perform a multidisciplinary review and evaluation of each identified route considering and balancing the factors discussed above, in addition to the design, engineering, economic, and operational considerations.

Additional information on route alternatives and the Project Initiators' analysis can be found within the Project application for a CPCN to PSC, under PSC Docket ID: [5-CE-157](#) (ATC and NSPW, 2021a).

2.3.8. Project Schedule

According to the AIN and the CPCN application, pending approval by the PSC and obtaining all state agency permits, the Project Initiators plan on following the schedule shown in the Project Initiator’s CPCN application **Error! Reference source not found.** for the proposed project (DATCP, 2024a; ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

Table 2: The anticipated construction timeline for the proposed Grid Forward – Central Wisconsin transmission line project, pending approval by the PSC and obtaining all state permits.

Project Activity	Preliminary Date
Anticipated PSC Approval	December 2025
Anticipated Easement Acquisition Process Start	January 2026
Anticipated Construction Start	Winter 2026
Anticipated Project In-Service	December 2030

2.4. Project Right-of-Way (ROW)

Throughout the proposed system alternative corridor, the proposed route segments (A, B, C, D, E, and F) will generally require a 150 ft wide ROW (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). According to the CPCN application, to reduce the width and overall amount of new ROW required, the Project Initiators proposes to co-locate Project transmission facilities and share existing ROWs with other infrastructure such as roadways or existing transmission line ROWs (ATC and NSPW, 2021a). Through co-locating the Project within existing ROWs, some portions of the proposed route segments would be completely contained within existing transmission line ROW, while other portions of proposed ROW overlap with interstate, highway or other roads. The preferred route shares approximately 95% of its 200-mile length and 57% of its area with existing ROW, and the alternate route shares 93% of its 205-mile length and 57% of its area with existing ROW (ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

The Project Initiators also reviewed the existing electric transmission line ROWs it proposed to co-locate facilities on and found them to be insufficient to accommodate the proposed Project. Limitations within the existing transmission line ROWs include, but are not limited to, insufficient allowances on the quantity of transmission line towers, inadequate minimum line-to-ground clearance and an easement centerline that does not reflect the Project’s centerline (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). For the aforementioned reasons, the Project Initiators plans to acquire new high voltage easements for the Project, regardless of whether or not the Project ROW overlaps an

existing transmission line ROW. The Project Initiators also plans to evaluate whether existing transmission line easements are retained or released, based on the specific provisions of each easement, once the Project is complete (ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

3. AGRICULTURAL SETTING

3.1. Farmland Preservation

Wisconsin’s farmland preservation (FP) program provides local governments and landowners with tools to aid in protecting agricultural land for continued agricultural use and to promote activities that support the larger agricultural economy. Lands that are planned for farmland preservation by the county and included in a certified zoning district or located within an Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) are afforded land use protections intended to support agriculture, and are eligible for the farmland preservation tax credit.

3.1.1. Farmland Preservation Planning

The Project’s total proposed area crosses 10 counties with certified FP plans. These counties and their FP plan expiration dates are as follows: Adams (2027), Clark (2027), Columbia (2025), Green Lake (2026), Jackson (2026), Marquette (2026), Portage (2026), Trempealeau (2028), Waushara (2026), and Wood (2025) counties. The criteria for land planned for FP in these counties include but are not limited to: lands categorized as agriculture, forestry, or preservation or open space use, lands taxed at agricultural use-value, land with prime (USDA-NRCS class I or II) agricultural soils, lands with residential density less than 1 unit per 35 acres, lands outside of urban service areas, lands historically farmed, grazed or used for forestry and existing land uses compatible with agriculture (NCWRPC, 2017; Clark County, 2019; Columbia County, 2013).

The Department found in its analysis that approximately 2,870.01 acres planned for farmland preservation in county FP plans will be affected by the Project’s primary route compared to 3,000.49 acres for the Project’s alternate route. The Department would like to note that the acres accounted for farmland preservation plans are calculated on a parcel-level basis, and may include acres that are not being used for agricultural purposes or directly within the project corridor - thus this volume of acreage is not reflected within the Project’s total proposed impact.

3.1.2. Farmland Preservation Zoning

Establishing FP zoning strengthens farmland protections beyond what an FP plan affords. The Project Initiators had applied for a CPCN under [Wis. Stat. § 196.491](#) from the PSC. If such certificate is issued, the project will be a permitted use in the FP zoned area under [Wis. Stat. § 91.44\(f\)](#). If a CPCN is not issued, the project will be subject to conditional use regulations in the FP zoned area under [Wis. Stat. § 91.46\(4\)](#) and must meet the requirements listed under [Wis. Stat. § 91.46\(4\)\(a\)-\(4\)\(e\)](#).

A review of the Department's FP program participation map shows that the Project's proposed route crosses 5 jurisdictions with certified farmland preservation zoning ordinances: The Town of Grant, Portage County; Marquette County; Green Lake County; the Town of Courtland, Columbia County (DATCP, 2024b).

3.1.3. Agricultural Enterprise Areas

AEAs are community-led efforts to establish designated areas important to Wisconsin's agricultural future. This designation highlights the importance of the area for local agriculture and further supports local farmland preservation and agricultural development goals. Designation as an AEA also enables eligible landowners to enter into FP agreements.

Through an FP agreement, a landowner agrees to voluntarily restrict the use of his/her land to agriculture for a minimum of ten years (or fifteen years if signed before December 8, 2023) in exchange for eligibility for the farmland preservation tax credit. It is possible that new agreements could be enrolled between the time of this analysis and potential construction of finalized designs related to the project corridor. The Department recommends the Project Initiators consult the Department in the year preceding construction regarding the status of effective agreements within the project corridor and for information regarding required releases of land from effective farmland preservation agreements

A review of the Department's AEA program shows that both of the Project's proposed routes cross the Town of Princeton AEA (encroaches on 189 acres) and the Town of Marquette AEA (encroaches on 18 acres), both in Green Lake County (DATCP, 2024b).

The construction of a new transmission line is a non-conforming land use on lands subject to an effective farmland preservation agreement according to Wis. Stat. § 91.62(1)(c). Agricultural lands covered by an effective FP agreement, where a non-conforming land use is planned, are required to release the affected lands prior to the initiation of the non-conforming land use. Landowners should contact the Department to release affected agricultural lands from an FP agreement. As part of the release, the Department is required to collect a conversion fee, according to Wis. Stat. § 91.66, to release lands from an FP agreement. The Project's proposed area encroaches upon a total of 5.20 acres of land covered by an effective FP agreement in the Town of Princeton AEA, regardless of route. This is contract number 00956 recorded on 10/18/2023 by the Green Lake County Register of Deeds as document #421061. The Project does not encroach upon an effective FP agreement within the Town of Marquette AEA.

If the Project compels the release of land from an effective FP agreement, the Project Initiators should consider offering to pay all FP conversion fees incurred by agricultural landowners. To inquire about releasing lands from an FP agreement, contact DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov

Prior to 2009, owners of eligible farmland could sign 10 to 25-year FP agreements outside of AEA boundaries. Approximately 2.08 acres of land covered by an effective pre-2009 FP agreement in

Trempealeau County are affected by the Project's proposed area, regardless of route. This is contract number 15100 recorded as Document number 327765 on November 29, 2000 in the Trempealeau County Register of Deeds and is effective until November 21, 2025.

3.1.4. Managed Forest Law

The MFL program is a voluntary sustainable forestry program administered by WisDNR under [subch. III of ch. NR 46](#). In exchange for reduced property taxes, eligible landowners commit to a 25-50 year sustainable forest management plan on their privately owned woodlands. Sustainable forestry practices such as harvesting mature timber according to sound forest management practices, reforestation and afforestation of the land, are required in enrolled landowner's management plans. Potential enrollees must also show their parcel complies with size and density requirements under [Wis. Stat. § 77.82\(1\)\(a\)2](#), which states that at least 80% of the parcel must be producing or capable of producing a minimum of 20 cubic feet of merchantable timber per acre per year. Land with buildings or improvements associated with buildings, except for buildings used exclusively for storage, are not eligible for MFL. Exceptions such as utility ROWs are permitted such that the project and its ROW will not interfere with future or current MFL eligibility (WisDNR, 2022).

In order to analyze project impacts on MFL enrollments, the Department conducted a spatial analysis to determine total percent of change of size of parcels enrolled in MFL as compared to the Project's proposed area. This analysis indicated that the Project's proposed primary route would impact approximately 307.78 acres of MFL enrolled land, including 35 parcels where the impacted acres are greater than 10% of the parcel's total, meaning there is a greater potential that they no longer meet the 80% eligibility requirement to remain enrolled in the MFL program. The Project's alternate primary route would impact approximately 240.28 acres of MFL enrolled land, including 32 parcels where the impacted acres are greater than 10% of the parcel's total, meaning there is a greater potential that they no longer meet the 80% eligibility requirement to remain enrolled in the MFL program. See table 3 within *Appendix A: Additional Figures and Tables* for a complete list of proposed impacts to land enrolled within an MFL agreement.

The Department recommends that all landowners review potential implications of the Project's proposed area to their MFL enrolled lands. Impacted landowners should visit the WisDNR Forestry Assistance Locator website www.dnr.wi.gov/fal/ to find their local DNR Tax Law Forestry Specialist and discuss the implication of the route to their MFL enrolled lands.

3.1.5. Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement Programs (PACE)

The 2009 - 2011 State of Wisconsin budget authorized the state Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) Program under [Wis. Stats. § 93.73](#), which is intended to provide matching funds to assist local governments and non-profits with the purchase of permanent agricultural conservation easements. The intent of the PACE program is to preserve agricultural land of significance at risk of development and to provide an additional layer of permanent protection to certified FP planned areas and designated AEAs. Post PACE acquisition, the partnering

local entity and the Department co-hold the agricultural conservation easement voluntarily purchased from landowners. At the time of this analysis, the state's PACE Program is not currently funded or accepting new applications. However, the state holds 17 PACE easements.

A review of the Department's PACE Program shows the Project would not impact any state held PACE easements.

Counties and private non-governmental organization such as land trusts may also hold agricultural conservation easements. Based on a review of the National Conservation Easement Database, the Department found that some publicly held easements in Columbia (WRP-NRCS, State Natural Area-DNR), Jackson (North Branch Trempealeau-DNR), Waushara (White River Fishery Area-DNR) and Wood (Cullen FSA-USFWS) counties may be affected by the project (NCED, 2024). There may be other public or private conservation easements that were not identified within the federal database that DATCP reviewed. DATCP recommends that the project initiators work with the landowners to verify if there are other conservation agreements that have not yet been identified.

3.2. Drainage Districts

Drainage districts are local governmental entities governed under Wis. Stat. Ch. 88 and organized under a county drainage board for the primary purpose of draining of lands for agricultural use (DATCP, 2021). Landowners who benefit from drainage pay assessments to cover the cost to construct, maintain, and repairing the district's drains. According to the Department, approximately 190 active districts exist within 27 of Wisconsin's 72 counties.

A review of the Department's Drainage Program database indicates that the Project's proposed area, regardless of route, crosses four active drainage districts: the Blaen y Cae District #1103 (Columbia Co), the Lower Baraboo District #1104 (Columbia Co), the #23 District #1123 (Columbia Co) and the Leola District #0104 (Adams Co). Under ATCP 48.40 landowners are required to notify a county drainage board of any action, including a change in land use that will alter flow of water into or from a district drain, increase soil erosion or movement of suspended soils to a district drain, or affect the operation of the drainage district or costs incurred by the district. The Project Initiators shall give this notice at the project planning stage and shall invite DATCP and the county drainage board to identify potential concerns. The AIN that ATC (DATCP, 2024a) submitted to the Department did not indicate whether ATC or NSPW has already informed the drainage boards of Columbia or Adams County of this project. To that end, the Department reiterates that the Project initiators shall inform the drainage boards of Columbia and Adams County of the proposed project and work with the Board to mitigate potential impacts to existing drainage infrastructure.

3.3. Conservation Programs

Voluntary conservation programs such as the USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and the USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) are financial incentive programs to help agricultural landowners meet their conservation goals. The USDA and the Department jointly administer the CREP program in Wisconsin.

3.3.1. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

CREP pays eligible agricultural landowners enrolled within the program to install filter strips along waterways or to return continually flooded fields to wetlands while leaving the remainder of the adjacent land in agricultural production. To be eligible for CREP payments, a recipient must have agricultural lands in crop production that are within 150 ft of a stream or water body or 1,000 ft from a grassland project area (DATCP, 2019).

A review of the Department's CREP records indicate that as of September 2024, the Project's proposed route, regardless of route, will encroach upon three effective CREP agreements in Columbia and Wood counties.

CREP enrollment information is privileged to the USDA, Cooperators, such as the Department, and program participants. Construction activities for the Project may directly or indirectly increase the occurrence of storm water runoff, erosion and sedimentation on lands in the project corridor. The effective status of CREP agreements and new enrollment is subject to change between the time of this analysis and any proposed construction activity.

It is the responsibility of the landowner to maintain their CREP or CRP agreements, and they can work with the Project Initiators to maintain this compliance. The Department recommends that the landowners or farm operators with a CREP or CRP agreement consult with their local FSA contact and discuss the impacts of the proposed project to determine what information is necessary to share with the Project Initiators in order to maintain compliance with CREP or CRP agreements.

The Department advises the Project Initiators to:

- Work with landowners to identify effective CREP agreements prior to any construction or site disturbance activities
- Coordinate with the appropriate Wisconsin CRP contact regarding effective CRP contracts within the project area and coordinate with FSA regarding impact mitigation to CREP enrolled lands and/or potential contract (CRP-1) releases within 12 months of expected construction or site disturbance activities
- To limit situations of CRP-1 contract termination, limit site disturbance of CRP/CREP to times outside of the Primary Nesting Season (May 15th to August 1st) to the extent practicable and necessary in coordination with FSA to ensure compliance with these contracts."

- Consult with the Department at least 12 months prior to any construction or site disturbance activities to determine the impact of the selected route on any CREP easements consult with the Department on impacts to any state agreements that may require termination and repayment of funds. If any portion of the CRP-1 contract is terminated by USDA-FSA, the corresponding area under the state CREP agreement must also be terminated. Termination of any part of a CREP agreement requires repayment of any funds issued to the landowner under the terms of the agreement

3.3.2. Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

CRP is a land conservation program administered by the Farm Service Agency of the USDA. In exchange for a yearly rental payment, eligible agricultural landowners enrolled in the program agree to remove highly erodible land from agricultural production and plant resource-conserving plant species such as grasses or trees that will improve environmental health and quality (USDA, 2019). Eligible agricultural landowners must possess lands with the potential for long-term improvements to water quality, prevent soil erosion or establish beneficial wildlife habitats according to the USDA Environmental Benefits Index (USDA, 2019). CRP enrollment information is privileged to the USDA and CRP program participants. The Department is therefore unable to determine if any of the impacted agricultural parcels are enrolled within the CRP program, unless landowners voluntarily share this information with the Department.

Of the forty-one responses to the Department's pre-construction questionnaire, three of the landowners impacted by the project included that part of their land is enrolled within CRP.

The Department advises the Project Initiators to:

- Work with landowners to identify effective CRP agreements prior to any construction or site disturbance activities
- Coordinate with the appropriate Wisconsin CRP contact regarding effective CRP contracts within the project area and coordinate with FSA regarding impact mitigation to CRP enrolled lands and/or potential contract (CRP-1) releases within 12 months of expected construction or site disturbance activities

4. AGRICULTURAL IMPACTS

In addition to being a key component of [Wis. Stat. §32.035](#), documenting the agricultural impacts of a project provides the Project Initiators and the agricultural landowner the opportunity to better understand the project in its own right as well as learn how the project will impact agriculture.

Furthermore, the documentation of agricultural impacts by agricultural landowners and operators creates the opportunity for discussion of alternatives that may reduce impacts to agricultural lands.

In order to promote the opportunity for alternatives, the Department has used information provided by the Project Initiators for this AIS and information gathered by the Department to analyze the potential agricultural impacts of the Project within the project corridor. The analysis of the agricultural impacts and conclusions drawn from the analysis form the basis of the Department's recommendations within the AIS Recommendation Section above.

Agricultural operations and future productivity may be affected during construction of the Project. Impacts to agricultural lands may include but are not limited to:

- Interference with farm operation access in the ROW and adjacent areas
- Alteration of surface and subsurface drainage systems
- Impacts to grazing areas, row crops or existing fencing
- Use of prohibited substances on farms that follow organic or other sustainable management practices

Following construction, some impacts may affect agricultural operations for years. These long term impacts may include but are not limited to:

- Yield reduction due to erosion, topsoil mixing and/or compaction
- Ponding from altered surface and subsurface drainage profiles
- Inadequate restoration resulting in alteration to original land contours

The Project Initiators wrote best management practices (BMPs) within their CPCN application that describe their proposed construction mitigation measures, restoration methods, and best practices for communication with agricultural operations, which was analyzed and commented on by the Department in Section 5: Agricultural Mitigation. Pending Project approval, the Project Initiators will coordinate and consult with each agricultural landowner to obtain detailed information about each agricultural operation including but not limited to: locations of farm infrastructure, livestock and crops, locations of drainage tiles, and landowner concerns. The Project Initiators will use agricultural landowner feedback to identify potential project impacts to each agricultural operation along the Project route and to the extent practicable, implement measures to mitigate impacts (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). Subsequent discussion includes agricultural acquisitions and recommended additional agricultural mitigation practices beyond what was mentioned in the Project Initiator's BMPS.

4.1. Landowner Rights

[Wisconsin Statute § 182.017](#), also referred to as the "Landowner Bill of Rights", describes the rights of landowners and the requirements the utility must adhere to, when a transmission line will be constructed on private property. The transmission line applicant and contractor operating on the applicants behalf must comply with all aspects of this statute, which covers the range of topics described below:

- Compensation
- Infrastructure Repair
- Soil Conservation & Erosion
- Debris Removal
- Consent for Weed & Brush Control
- Landowner and Utility Liabilities
- Tree Harvesting and Tree Ownership
- Interference with television & radio reception
- Right-of-way Restriction

The applicant may request landowners to waive some rights during the negotiation process, but landowners are not required to do so. The Landowner Bill of Rights is still applicable to condemned land. The Department recommends that each affected landowner review the Landowners Bill of Rights (see Appendix D Section V) in its entirety prior to the start of easement negotiations.

4.2. Agricultural Land Acquisitions

In order to implement the proposed Project, the Project Initiators will affect approximately between 1006.8 and 1027.3 acres of agricultural land depending on the selected route, access roads, stringing areas and laydown yards. The Project Initiators have determined the existing easements are insufficient to accommodate the proposed Project for reasons outlined in Section 2.4 above. Therefore, the Project Initiators plans to use a combination of temporary and permanent easements to obtain the necessary rights to construct the Project across all agricultural lands, regardless of a lands' current easement status (DATCP, 2024a; ATC and NSPW, 2024b). As the Project Initiators' current easement on agricultural lands are insufficient, the Department analyzed Project impacts to agricultural lands, regardless of the lands' current easement status.

The Department attempted to contact 146 agricultural landowners impacted by the Project alternative routes who had agricultural impacts of five or more acres (see Appendix A: Additional Figures and Tables). There were another 521 agricultural landowners impacted by the proposed Project route alternatives with impacts less than five acres, who were not contacted. The following section relays the feedback and comments received from stakeholders and agricultural landowners through the Department's efforts. The information obtained helped form the basis of the Department's analysis of agricultural impacts to specific agricultural landowners and agricultural landowners in general. According to Appendix E of the Project's CPCN application, the Project Initiators has also engaged in a public outreach campaign, including the distribution of project notifications to every landowner within 300 ft of the Project's proposed centerline and the creation of a project specific website at <https://atc-gridforward.com/> (ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

Agricultural tenant operators impacted by the Project may be eligible for a farm replacement payment from the Project Initiators in accordance with Wis. Stat. §32.19(4m)(b) if the Project Initiators exercises the powers of eminent domain through a jurisdictional offer to the agricultural property owner. A voluntary sale between the Project Initiators and an agricultural property owner,

after a jurisdictional offer has been made, would not negate the potential for a farm replacement payment.

4.3. Summary of Landowner Concerns

In order to gather additional information about the project's impact to agricultural lands and farm operations, the Department mailed surveys to agricultural landowners in the Project ROW routes who had agricultural impacts of five or more acres. In total, the Department mailed 146 surveys. Agricultural landowners were given the opportunity to respond by mail or call the AIS program manager to give a verbal response. A total of 41 agricultural landowners responded, resulting in a response rate of 28%. A complete record of responses received for the Project can be found in Appendix C: Agricultural Landowner Comments.

When asked to select any of the concerns shown in Figure 3 about the Project, the primary concern identified by respondents was drainage or drainage tiles (44%), closely followed by erosion control (41%). Respondents were also concerned about impacts related to access (39%), impacts to grassed waterways (34%), to buildings (27%), to manure storage facilities (27%) and other areas of concern reported by respondents in Figure 3.

Agricultural landowners were also asked to indicate if they participated in any conservation or agricultural programming including FP agreements, FP zoning, CREP, CRP and MFL. Six respondent indicated that they have land enrolled in FP through FP zoning, four respondent indicated they have lands enrolled in MFL, three indicated enrollment in CRP, and one mentioned being enrolled in a Fish and Wildlife program. Respondents did not report participation in any other conservation or agricultural program identified by the Department.

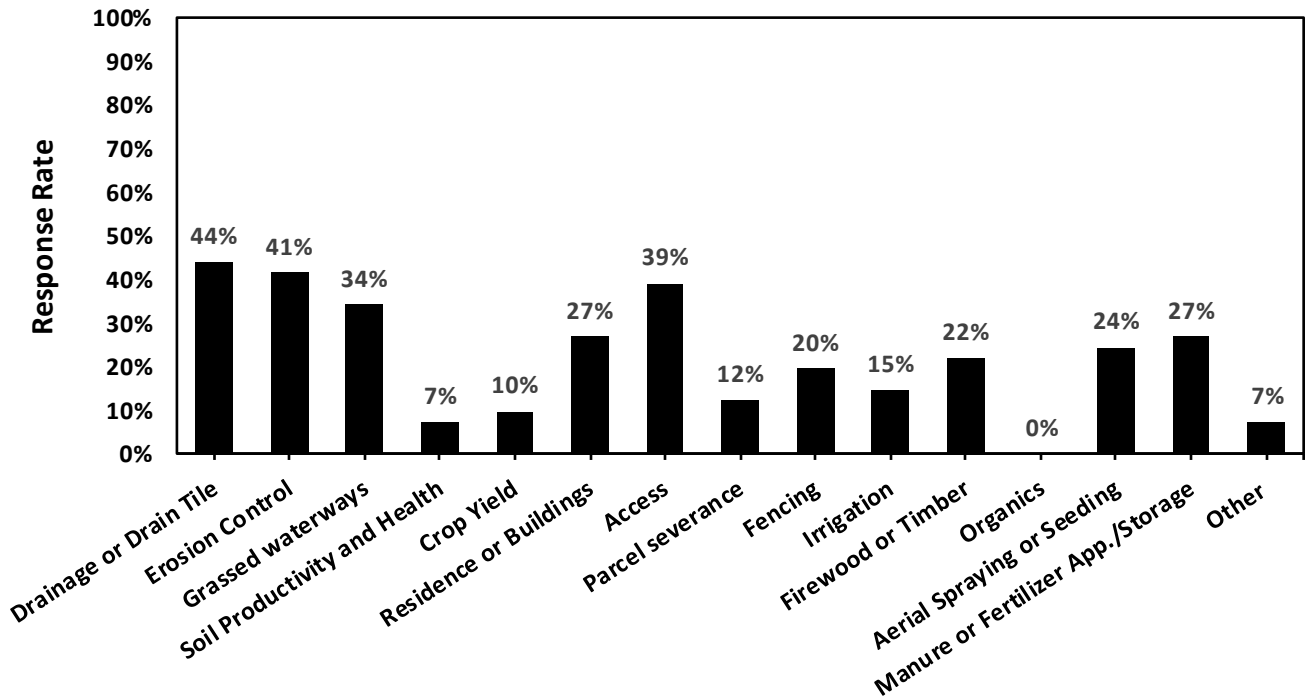


Figure 3: Landowner concerns resulting from the proposed Project.

The Department also requested agricultural landowners report the current land use within the proposed Project ROW as shown in Figure 4. The most common (98% of respondents) land use reported within the Project ROW was cropland. Crop Production is defined as an “Agricultural use” under [Wis. Stat. § 91.01\(2\)](#) if it’s conducted for the purpose of producing an income or livelihood. The next most common choice was homes and farm buildings (59%), followed with 51% classifying part of their parcel as land as “other”, namely wetlands, and in two cases, part of a quarry. Ten respondents also indicated their agricultural operations possessed livestock and farm animals including beef and dairy cattle, sheep/goats, and poultry.

4.3.1. Landowner Concern Conclusions

After review and analysis of the agricultural landowner responses obtained from the Project surveys, the Department has identified the following priority areas of agricultural landowner concerns: impacts to drainage or drainage tiles, soil erosion or soil disturbance and compaction, and impact to farm operation access.

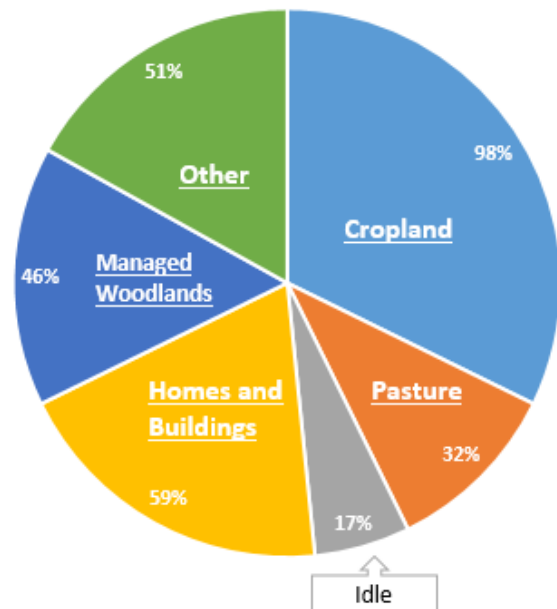


Figure 4: Landowner responses categorized by land use in Project Area.

Farmland drainage systems are an important tool for managing water levels especially on hydric soils and for increasing crop yield. Nearly half of all respondents indicated concerns related to drainage or drainage tiles. For example, seven landowners noted that there were drainage tiles in or around the project corridor, three landowners were worried about the project impacting their current irrigation systems and affecting watering and drainage of water, and three were concerned about impacts to their grassed waterways. To mitigate impacts to drainage systems, agricultural landowners should provide the Project Initiators with locations of drainage structures; in-turn, the Project Initiators should provide additional considerations to preserve these structures, which are directly linked to the productivity of the impacted agricultural land.

In keeping with the Department's mission to support the preservation of farmland, the Department recommends that the PSC select a route that utilizes as much pre-existing roadway ROW in order to lessen impacts to agricultural lands and operations. Please refer to Section 4.5 *Prime Farmland and Soils* for a comparative analysis of route impacts to agricultural soils (Table 3).

4.4. Severance, Access and Wasteland

The temporary and permanent easements of agricultural property required to implement any of the proposed Project alternative routes could result in agricultural parcel severance, removal of existing field access points and potentially the creation of wastelands and uneconomic remnant parcels. The circumstances (i.e. loss of access, severance, wasteland etc.) surrounding the impacts to each impacted remnant agricultural parcel are unique, thus some agricultural parcels may remain economically viable, while others may not. The following analysis will document the potential for severance, loss of access and potential creation of wastelands and uneconomic remnant parcels for the agricultural parcels impacted by the proposed alternatives for the proposed Project in Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green Lake, Jackson, Marquette, Portage, Trempealeau, Waushara and Wood Counties, WI.

4.4.1. Severance

As proposed, the Primary and Alternate routes will temporarily and/or permanently sever agricultural parcels to accommodate the construction of the transmission line. Severance may be a physical barrier such as a temporary access road. Severance may also be a non-physical barrier such as permanent land use restrictions like limitations on existing irrigation practices. Imposing land use restrictions as part of a transmission line easement ROW may still allow an agricultural landowner to access lands. However, barring the growth of trees or other woody plants as part of an easement may prevent the continuation of an existing agricultural land use, such as managed forestlands. Regardless of the means, severing an agricultural parcel effectively splits the existing parcel into two or more smaller parcels. Severing an agricultural parcel may also remove existing access points, create agricultural wastelands or uneconomic remnant parcels, and even divide the operation of a farm. Under Wisconsin's Eminent Domain Statute, compensation for damages resulting from severance is described in Wis. Stat. § 32.09(6).

Both proposed routes share existing utility infrastructure ROW (transmission lines, highways, railroads and pipelines) for the majority of their lengths. Depending on the selected route, the project will require rebuilding, modifying, relocating or retiring approximately 175 miles of existing transmission lines, construction of a 200-205 mile 345 kV transmission line, and expansions or modifications to existing substations (ATC and NSPW, 2024b). New structures are proposed along both routes- at the time of this analysis, 410 steel monopole structures were proposed within agricultural fields along the Primary Route and 394 steel monopole structures are proposed within agricultural fields along the Alternate Route (DATCP, 2024a). Both the proposed Project routes hold the potential to sever agricultural parcels.

Landowners are encouraged to review [Mitigation of Construction Impacts- Agricultural Lands](#) within Section 7.4.4 of the project CPCN application for specific details regarding mitigating or minimizing construction impacts in and around agricultural lands prior to easement negotiation and construction.

Where the proposed Project impacts MFL lands, the Department recommends the Project Initiators utilize the mitigation efforts described in Section 5.5.9 "Managed Forest Law, Trees and Other Woody Vegetation" to mitigate impacts to managed forests and preserve continuous tracks of managed forests where possible.

4.4.2. Access

As proposed, the Project has the potential to temporarily limit agricultural field access and limit access to agricultural operations during construction. When agricultural lands and operations lose access, even temporarily, agricultural productivity may be impacted if crops, livestock or other agricultural products cannot be tended too. Lost access may also directly result in lost income if a field cannot be planted or harvested, or if an agricultural operation as a whole is hindered.

Access limitations will be specific to temporary and permanent easements utilized for laydown yards, staging areas, off-ROW access roads and the transmission line ROW. Construction mitigation efforts for each farm will vary according to land use activities of the farm operator, type of farm operation, soil conditions, and extent of construction activities on the parcel or farm operation, and feasibility to avoid areas of concern. Landowners and farm operators with concerns related to access on their farm operation should discuss them with the Project Initiators during easement negotiations and in subsequent communications.

4.4.3. Wasteland

Acquisitions and easements that impact farmland frequently create small remnant fields that may be difficult to access, are irregularly shaped, or are no longer able to produce the pre-existing agricultural crop (e.g timber). These small irregularly shaped remnant fields may also contain numerous obstacles, such as transmission line poles, that can make it difficult for agricultural equipment to navigate and reduce the amount of tillable acres. This in turn reduces agricultural

productivity, decreases the economic viability of the land and increases the likelihood of creating undeveloped land (Wis. Stat. § 70.32(2)(a)(5)) or what is commonly referred to as wasteland as shown in Figure 5. Compensation for the reduction in the value of parcels that are small and/or irregularly shaped and the potential creation of uneconomic remnant parcels according to Wis. Stat. 32.06(3m) should be addressed in the appraisal of each affected parcel.

4.4.3.1. Wasteland

By the nature of transmission line projects, both the primary, alternative and common routes proposed by the project initiators for the Project have the potential to permanently create small amounts of agricultural wastelands in the immediate area surrounding each transmission line pole (Figure 5). Eight agricultural landowners and tenants (20% of respondents) reported to the Department concerns about driving farming equipment around transmission towers, use of irrigation equipment and the lost productivity and revenue that would result from altering planting patterns around the towers (Appendix C: "Agricultural Landowner Comments"), which elevates the cause for concern around the creation of tower induced wastelands. To mitigate the impacts of wasteland creation, the Department recommends that design practices be applied that prioritize edge of field siting for transmission structures in agricultural areas to minimize farmland conversion.

Where the transmission line would require the deforestation of managed forestlands and prevents further growth of timber, the entirety of Project ROW within an MFL parcel may be wastelands if that land does not have a suitable secondary agricultural purpose.

To mitigate the potential to create wastelands of MFL land, the Department recommends that the PSC select a route that avoids the fragmentation of major blocks of forest and prioritize the preservation of windbreaks and MFL lands. Furthermore, the Department recommends the Project Initiators utilize the mitigation efforts described in Section 5.5.9 "Managed Forest Law, Trees and Other Woody Vegetation" to mitigate impacts to managed forests and preserve continuous tracks of managed forests where possible.

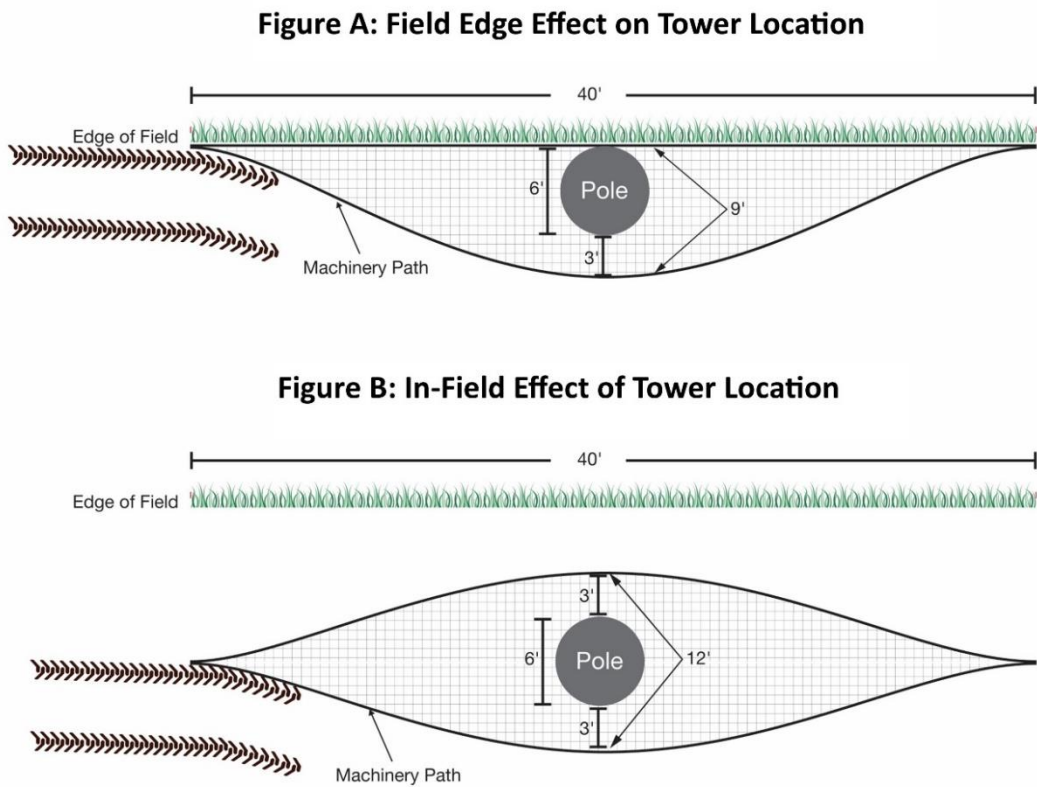


Figure 5: Examples of agricultural wastelands created by altering the pathway of agricultural machinery to navigate around transmission line towers along a field edge (Figure A) and within a field (Figure B).

4.4.3.2. Uneconomic Remnant Fields

Uneconomic remnant is defined in [Wis. Stat. § 32.06\(3m\)\(a\)](#) to mean “the property remaining after a partial taking of property, if the property remaining is of such size, shape, or condition as to be of little value or of substantially impaired economic viability”. Under this provision, if the acquisition of only part of a property for the benefit of the project would leave the landowner with an uneconomic remnant, a condemnor shall offer to acquire the remnant concurrently.

Landowners or operators who are concerned about the creation of a physical or financial remnant that is negligible in value as a result of acquisition of any permanent easement affecting their farm operation should share information regarding impaired use or lost income or value in consultations or easement negotiations with the project initiators.

To mitigate the potential creation of uneconomic remnant fields, if the PSC approves the Project the Department recommends the PSC consider selecting a route that minimizes the creation of new ROW and maximizes total shared ROW.

If the proposed Project is approved, narrow tracks of MFL forestlands would no longer be permitted to grow timber, yet the impacted land may have no suitable alternative agricultural use as they are part of larger blocks of MFL land. In effect, the land use restrictions on the impacted MFL land could turn the remnant field into uneconomic remnants. To mitigate the potential creation of uneconomic

remnant fields, if the PSC approves the Project the Department recommends the PSC consider selecting a route or building a route from individual segments that share existing ROW to the greatest extent possible in order to mitigate impacts to MFL lands and the potential creation of uneconomic remnant fields.

4.5. Prime Farmland and Soils

In spatial data provided in the AIN, the project initiators reported the Project will impact between 1006.8 to 1027.3 acres of agricultural lands, including cropland, forest management land, idle or fallow fields, pasture, specialty farmland and other agricultural land, and agricultural soils depending on the selected route. This soils analysis does not include lands required for temporary staging areas or laydown yards outside of the Project ROW. In the CPCN, the project initiators identified 55 preliminary laydown yards or staging areas, estimated at around 10 acres in size, may be used without regard to which route is selected (ATC and NSPW, 2024b), which may impact additional agricultural soils.

Impacts to prime farmland and soils measured in this analysis reflect the Project's cumulative impacts and does not necessarily differentiate between permanent or temporary impacts to an agricultural operation. The soils impacted by the proposed Project were cataloged and analyzed by farmland classification, for each route alternative, using the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service prime farmland soils GIS layer. Farmland soil classifications impacted by the Project include prime farmland, prime farmland if drained, farmland of statewide importance or farmland of local importance (Table 3). Prime farmland is designated by the USDA according to section 622.3 of the National Soil Survey Handbook (USDA, 2017) and is based on the ability of the land and soil to produce crops. Definitions of prime farmland, prime farmland if drained and farmlands of statewide/local importance are provided under Table 3. The soil texture of agricultural soils impacted by the Project was analyzed, in general terms, across the project ROW. Acreage represented as an uncategorized texture in Table 3 are presumed to be surface water.

For the purpose of this soils analysis, Common Route ROW segments have been considered separately from Primary and Alternate Route ROW segments.

If selected, the Primary Route will impact up to 96.9 acres of agricultural soils. Across impacted parcels in the North Route, 97% hold some level of Federal or State priority designation, with 3.0% classed as not prime farmland. An estimated 62.93 acres of agricultural lands within the Primary Route ROW are known to be hydric or contain hydric inclusions. See Section 4.6.1 for *Drainage and Soil Health Impacts* for additional discussion of hydric soils.

If selected, the Alternate Route will impact up to 76.4 acres of agricultural soils. Across impacted parcels in the Alternate Route, 87.6% hold some level of Federal or State priority designation, while 12.4% are classed as not prime farmland. An estimated 24.8 acres of agricultural lands within the Alternate Route ROW are known to be hydric or contain hydric inclusions.

The Common Route will impact up to 917.9 acres of agricultural soils. Across impacted parcels in the Common Route, 74.1% hold some level of Federal or State priority designation, with 25.9% classed as not prime farmland. An estimated 223.99 acres of agricultural lands within the Common Route ROW are known to be hydric or contain hydric inclusions.

The Arpin Substation site will impact up to 12.5 acres of agricultural soils. Across impacted soils, 100% hold some level of Federal or State priority designation. An estimated 4.34 acres of agricultural lands within the proposed substation site are known to contain hydric inclusions.

Across the impacted agricultural parcels in both routes, the soils primarily consist of loamy sand, sand, sandy loam, silt loam textured soils of various soil series. Loamy sand, sand and sandy loam soils are coarse textured soils (Cornell, 2017), may have larger particle sizes compared to fine textured soils, may drain well due to larger particle size, but may have lower nutrient retention due to drainage characteristics. Sandy soils may require irrigation for crop production (UW-Extension, 2005). Silt loam soils are medium-textured soils (Cornell, 2017) with good soil structure, possess an ideal ability to hold onto water without becoming excessively wet and are usually well suited for crop production (UW-Extension, 2005).

This soils analysis shows that both the primary and alternate and common routes and proposed substation site will impact or remove prime farmland and high quality soils. Comparatively, the alternate route ROW proportionally has more potential to impact prime farmland (47.5% of total impacted agricultural acres) than the primary route ROW (17.6% of total impacted agricultural acres). When evaluating the cumulative impacts to all farmlands with some designation of Federal and State importance, the Primary Route ROW exceeds potential impacts of the Alternate Route ROW with 97% of impacted agricultural acres (estimated 94 acres) and 87.6% of impacted agricultural acres (estimated 66.9 acres) respectively.

Table 3: Agricultural soils, shown by Project route and farmland classification, impacted by the proposed Project in Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green Lake, Jackson, Marquette, Portage, Trempealeau, Waushara and Wood Counties, WI.

Soil Texture	Prime Farmland* (acre)	Prime Farmland if Drained^o (acre)	Farmland of Statewide Importance[‡] (acre)	Not Prime Farmland[§] (acre)	Total (acre)
Arpin Substation					
Silt Loam	8.1	4.3	0.0	0.0	12.5
<i>Arpin Substation Total</i>					12.5
Primary Route ROW					
Alluvial	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Complex	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	5.3
Loam	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3
Loamy Sand	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
Muck	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
Sand	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7
Sandy Loam	3.5	0.0	23.2	0.0	26.7
Silt Loam	11.3	45.7	2.7	0.2	59.9
<i>Primary Route Total</i>					96.9
Alternate Route ROW					
Alluvial	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Complex	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
Loamy Sand	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	2.4
Sand	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.0	6.0
Sandy Loam	32.5	0.7	12.5	0.0	45.7
Silt Loam	3.8	17.5	0.0	0.0	21.3
<i>Alternate Route Total</i>					76.4
Common ROW					
Alluvial	0.0	2.1	0.0	1.4	3.5
Loam	25.6	32.5	3.6	2.3	63.9
Loamy Sand	27.1	0.0	93.1	77.5	197.7
Muck	0.0	0.0	4.9	9.3	14.2
Sand	0.0	0.0	0.0	130.6	130.6
Sandy Loam	72.7	4.7	16.9	8.2	102.3
Silt Loam	218.7	120.6	58.0	8.3	405.6
<i>Common Route Total</i>					917.9
<p>*Prime farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, and may be utilized for cropland, pastureland, rangeland, forest land, or other lands excluding urban built-up land or water. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce economically sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods, including water management.</p> <p>^oPrime farmland if drained, indicates that if farmland is drained it would meet prime farmland criteria.</p> <p>[‡]Farmlands of statewide importance are set by state agency(s). Generally, these farmlands are nearly prime farmland and economically produce high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods. Some may produce yields high as prime farmlands under proper conditions.</p> <p>[§]Not Prime farmland, indicates farmland is neither prime farmland nor of designated importance.</p>					

4.6. Drainage and Soil Health

Maintaining proper field drainage and preserving soil health is vital to the success of an agricultural operation. If drainage is impaired, water can settle in fields and cause substantial damage, such as reducing soil health, harming or killing crops and other vegetation, concentrating mineral salts, flooding farm buildings, or causing hoof rot and other diseases that affect livestock. Soil structure, texture, organic matter and microorganisms are all important factors that influence soil health (Wolkowski and Lowery, 2008).

4.6.1. Drainage and Soil Health Impacts

Project construction activities have the potential to disrupt and/or mix soil profiles within the Project ROW as well as the surrounding area. Construction activities may affect the existing surface and subsurface (i.e. drain tile) drainage patterns of agricultural fields if drainage tile lines are broken or if the topography of grassed waterways, known water flowlines or erosion control structures are altered. Twelve of the forty-one agricultural landowner responses gathered by the Department indicated that their agricultural parcels contained drainage tile that could be affected by the Project (Appendix C: Agricultural Landowner Comments), and there is likely more along the entire project corridor due to the nature of the soils in the area, which are widely known to be hydric or contain hydric inclusions. Hydric soils are commonly saturated, flooded or ponded for an extended period during the growing season, causing anaerobic conditions within the upper soil layer and may be associated with wetlands. It is common practice for agricultural operations to install drainage systems to mitigate the impacts of hydric soils, however drainage is most common in eastern and southern areas of the state where soils and topography preclude adequate drainage (Olson, 2020).

Prior to the start of construction, landowners should identify for the project initiators where construction activities may interfere with farm operations, farm building/facilities or farming infrastructure including but not limited to drain tiles, wells, watering systems, drainage ditches, drainage tile, culverts, amongst others. The project initiators have incorporated a BMPs for identifying and repairing drain tile in Section 7.4.4 of its CPCN Application ([REF #: 511046](#)).

The movement of heavy equipment through the Project ROW may also compact soil and impede drainage. UW-Extension report A3367 states that heavy equipment with axle loads that exceed 10 tons increase the risk of soil compaction into subsoil layers that cannot be removed by conventional tillage (Wolkowski and Lowery, 2008). In addition, research has also shown that construction activities can negatively impact soil properties, soil health and crop yields for up to a decade within the ROW depending on the type and severity of construction impacts (e.g equipment axle weight, use of excavation, intermixing of soil layer etc.) (Culley and DOW 1988; Shi et al., 2014).

The Project Initiators has discussed construction impacts related to soils and their applicable management practices in Section 5.5 of its CPCN Application ([REF #: 511046](#)) including practices like sediment and erosion control, use of composite, timber or laminated construction matting, topsoil segregation, clean up and restoration. Specific practices to minimize or mitigate construction impacts in and around agricultural lands are discussed in Section 7.4.4 of the CPCN Application ([REF #: 511046](#)). The Department recommends the Project Initiators take several mitigation efforts related to topsoil mixing, soil compaction, drainage, de-watering, avoiding use of chloride-based products for de-icing, and erosion control as see in Section 5.5 “Recommended Mitigation Efforts” to mitigate impacts to drainage and soil health on agricultural lands and preserve prime farmland & soils.

5. AGRICULTURAL IMPACT MITIGATION

The Project Initiators indicated within their CPCN application and AIN, pending Project approval, that they will coordinate and consult with each agricultural landowner to obtain detailed information about each agricultural operation including but not limited to: locations of farm infrastructure, animals and crops, current farm biological security practices, use of off-ROW access roads, landowner concerns and coordination of construction access routes. The Project Initiators will use agricultural landowner feedback to identify potential project impacts to each agricultural operation along the Project route and to the extent practicable, implement measures to mitigate impacts (DATCP, 2024a; ATC and NSPW, 2024b).

The Department recommends that landowners whom are concerned about potential impacts to their agricultural land should keep records of the conditions of the ROW before, during, and after construction. Records could include keeping crop yield records, beginning once the ROW is known, and photographs taken every season. These measures can help a landowner negotiate for compensation, should damages caused by Project occur.

5.1. Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM)

For large-scale utility projects, the requirement for project initiators (i.e. utilities) to hire an IEM has become a standard part of a PSC approval order. When hired, an IEM works on behalf of the PSC, WisDNR, the Department or other state regulatory agency as opposed to the utility. IEMs monitor project construction activities and report on a wide range of environmental issues such as construction impacts to wetlands, waterways, protected species, archaeological sites, state and federal properties, and erosion control. The IEM is also responsible for reporting incidents and has the power to stop project work if construction activities would violate permits, approvals, PSC order conditions, or agreement with a state regulatory agency.

Given the extended linear length (potentially 200-205 miles) of the Project across Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green Lake, Jackson, Marquette, Portage, Trempealeau, Waushara, and Wood Counties, there is the potential for a range of environmental impacts to soil, wetlands, woodlands, wildlife, archaeological sites, stream crossings and surface water quality. If approved by the PSC, the Department recommends the Project Initiators be required to hire an IEM for the duration of the construction of Project. The IEM should be hired in consultation with and the approval of the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR and all reports generated by IEM should be shared with the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR.

5.2. Independent Agricultural Monitor (IAM)

When a project affects a significant amount of agricultural land an IAM may also need to be hired. IAMs monitor project construction activities and report on a wide range of agricultural issues including but not limited to construction impacts to soil health, soil erosion, crop damage, agricultural operations, irrigation and impacts to surface and subsurface drainage. Similar to and IEM, an IAM works on behalf of the PSC, WisDNR, the Department or other state regulatory agency as opposed to the utility. IAMs should also verify the Project Initiators are complying with any agricultural best management practices and agricultural conditions in the PSC order and any environmental relevant construction documents approved by the PSC. While the duties of an IAM and IEM may sound similar, the IAM specializes in agricultural impacts and the IAM does not hold the power to stop the project.

The proposed Project offers two route alternatives with high amounts of potential agricultural impacts. Agricultural impacts from the Project may include but are not limited to crop damage, loss of access, soil compaction, mixing of topsoil, soil erosion, impacts to surface and subsurface drainage, impacts to irrigation systems and stray voltage. For assistance mitigating these potential agricultural impacts and working with agricultural landowners during the negotiations, construction and restoration phases of the Project, ATC plans to hire an Agricultural Specialist, while NSPW will have land agents fill that role on their portion of their project. Absent an IAM, the Agricultural Specialist hired by the Project Initiators will have the ability to assist impacted agricultural landowners and help mitigate the potential agricultural impacts from the Project. The Department recommends that for the duration of project construction, the Project Initiators be required to hire an Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM) and/or an Independent Agricultural Monitor (IAM), or an individual with the capacity for both an IEM and IAM, but that only has stop-work authority when acting in the capacity of the IEM

Should the PSC require an IAM for the Project, the Department recommends the IAM complete the Department's standard Agricultural Monitoring Form for Transmission Line Projects (ARM-LWR-543) seen in Appendix F or equivalent. For the Department to maintain timely review of Project activities occurring on agricultural lands, the IAM should document daily observations of construction activities on agricultural land only. The IAM should send the Department an updated form weekly.

5.3. Agricultural Mitigation Plan

According to the AIN submitted to the Department (DATCP, 2024a) and the CPCN application submitted to the PSC (ATC and NSPW, 2024b), the Project Initiators will not have an agricultural mitigation plan. In place of an agricultural mitigation plan, the Project Initiators described their standard practices to mitigate Project impacts to agricultural operations.

The Project Initiators plan to minimize Project impacts to agricultural lands through careful consideration of agricultural impacts during the routing & siting process and consulting landowners for potential impacts to each farm property and implementing construction impact minimization measures as practicable. Site-specific practices would vary according to the activities of the landowner/farm operator, the type of agricultural operation, the susceptibility of site-specific soils to compaction, the construction activities occurring on the parcel, and the ability to avoid areas of potential concern. (DATCP, 2024a; ATC and NSPW, 2024b). Such stated construction practices include:

- siting structures along fence lines, between fields or along public road ROW
- Siting construction access routes to mitigate agricultural impacts.
- Placement of timber matting for vehicle/equipment access and work pads to distribute equipment loads over a larger surface area and minimize compaction of soils.
- for organic farm operations, consulting the landowner to establish practices and procedures for entering organic areas and not applying herbicide within portions of the ROW as the landowner requests
- Restoring agricultural lands to pre-existing conditions through soil de-compaction, repair of drain tile if necessary, and appropriate compensation for any loss in productivity.
- ATC plans to hire an Agricultural Specialist to work with agricultural landowners through the different project phases: negotiations, construction and restoration. NSPW will have land agents fill that role similarly on their portion of their project.

Prior to construction, the Project Initiators also propose to consult with each agricultural landowner to understand their farm specific agricultural operation, including but not limited to: locations of farm infrastructure, animals and crops, current farm biological security practices, locations of drainage tiles, use of off-ROW access roads, landowner concerns and coordination of construction access routes. The Project Initiators plans to incorporate agricultural landowner feedback to identify potential project impacts to each agricultural operation along the Project route and to the extent practicable, implement measures to mitigate the impacts.

Subsequent discussion includes agricultural acquisitions and recommended additional agricultural mitigation practices beyond what the Project Initiators have proposed.

5.4. Cleanup and Restoration

In accordance with [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(c\)](#), following the completion of construction activities, the Project Initiators will restore the area to preconstruction conditions. In general, cleanup and restoration activities include the removal of construction mats, temporary clear span bridges, and any other material or debris (including stones and rocks) from the ROW. Stockpiled topsoils and subsoils removed during construction are returned, in the proper order, and graded to match the existing topography and slopes. All ruts and depressions are restored and new topsoil may be brought in where topsoil has been lost or seriously mixed with subsoils. Agricultural soils are also monitored for compaction and when required undergo de-compaction efforts to return the soil structure to its original condition. In areas where crops are not present--such as roadsides, pastures, old fields or upland woods--native seed mixes (or other appropriate seed mixes approved by the landowner) may be sown.

Under Wis. Stat. § 182.017(7)(c), if drainage tiles, fencing or other agricultural features are damaged during construction, the Project Initiators is responsible to repair and/or replace the damage feature. The Project Initiators are also responsible to pay for any crop damages caused by construction or maintenance of the transmission line. Within the AIN to the Department (DATCP, 2024a), the Project Initiators stated they will work with agricultural landowners to compensate them for crop damages, compaction, and potential future crop loss as a result of the Project in the following manner. Yield losses would be identified and supplied to the Project Initiators by the farm operator and agreed to in a Damage Report once construction commences. The Project Initiators would use the USDA Custom Rate Guide as the reference to set crop damage payments, while the National Agricultural Statistics Service website, which gives average yield by crop by county, would be referenced to confirm crop yields. Compensation for soil compaction claims will depend on if the agricultural operator de-compacts the soil or if the Project Initiators' contractor conducts soil de-compaction. Should guidance be required to settle an agricultural damage claim, ATC will utilize the subcontracted Agricultural Specialist NSPW will use their land agents during the claim process (DATCP, 2024a).

The Department recommends that the Project Initiators continue to monitor the ROW for soil erosion and maintain erosion control practices until there is sufficient vegetative growth in the ROW to mitigate soil erosion. Only after restoration activities are complete and vegetation has re-established within the ROW, should temporary restoration erosion control devices, not designed to be left in place, be removed.

5.5. Recommended Mitigation Efforts

5.5.1. Topsoil Mixing

Agricultural topsoil is an invaluable resource that should be preserved. Excavation activities required to create the structural foundations for electric transmission line poles have the potential to mix highly productive topsoil with underlying less productive and potentially rocky subsoils. Deep rutting also has the potential to intermix topsoil. If intermixing of topsoil occurs, the resulting soils are generally known to be less productive and in-turn reduce the agricultural productivity of the impacted area. When excavation is needed, the Project Initiators is required by [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(c\)](#) to segregate and stockpile topsoil from subsoil.

The Department recommends that the Project Initiators take the following steps to prevent the mixing of topsoil with subsoil layers within the Project ROW:

- 1) Do not spread mixed soils or segregated subsoils over cropland, pastures or other agricultural fields.
- 2) Prevent and monitor for erosion to keep topsoil segregated and within the ROW.
- 3) The Project Initiators should apply the mitigation techniques outlined in Section 5.5.2 "Soil Compaction".
- 4) If rutting occurs, allow sufficient time for the soil to dry before repairing the ruts.
- 5) If topsoil mixing occurs, remove the intermixed soil and replace with new topsoil.

5.5.2. Soil Compaction

Equipment used to construct electric transmission lines has the potential to compact soil and reduce soil productivity on the farmland traversed during construction. Soil compaction is widely known to have a range a potential negative impacts to the productivity of soil, including reduced crop productivity, reduced crop uptake of water and nutrients, restriction of plant rooting depth, decreased water infiltration and increased surface runoff.

Several factors influence whether soil becomes compacted. An important influence is soil moisture: the wetter the soil, the more likely it is to be compacted from traffic. The potential for compaction also depends on the soil texture. Coarser textured soils, like sand or sandy loam, are less likely to become compacted than are clay or silty clay loams. Finally, the axle weight of the construction equipment affects compaction. UW-Extension report A3367 states that heavy equipment with axle loads that exceed 10 tons increase the risk of soil compaction into subsoil layers that cannot be removed by conventional tillage (Wolkowski and Lowery, 2008). The expected compaction depth increases as the axle load and soil moisture content increases.

The Department recommends taking the following steps to prevent soil compaction and rutting wherever possible. Measures to prevent soil compaction within the Project ROW include:

- 1) Using low-ground pressure and/or wide tracked equipment to reduce axel weight applied to soils.
- 2) Using construction matting in wet areas, areas prone to rutting, or wetlands to spread out ground pressure.
- 3) When possible, conducting construction work during winter months when the ground is frozen.
- 4) Avoiding work in areas with recently saturated soils.
- 5) If rutting occurs, allowing sufficient time for the soil to dry before repairing the ruts.

After construction is complete, the ROW will be compacted to some degree. Due to the large scale of the project, the Department recommends measuring for soil compaction post-construction when it is suspected or when a landowner has filed an inquiry with the Agricultural Specialist, NSPW's land agents, and/or if hired, the IEM/IAM. Potential compaction testing should be done with a penetrometer throughout the soil horizon and comparing the measurements from within and outside of the Project ROW. If soil measurements within the Project ROW are comparatively higher, this is an indication that compaction has occurred. In areas where soil compaction occurred, the Department recommends the Project Initiators take steps to de-compact the soils by conducting a sufficient amount of deep tillage (V-ripper, chisel plow, para plow or other depth appropriate tillage implement) within the ROW to help restore the soil structure to pre-construction productivity. Following de-compactation, the soil should be measured again for signs of compaction to ensure proper de-compactation has occurred throughout the topsoil and subsoil profile. The Department also recommends the Project Initiators monitor soil moisture conditions post-construction throughout the Project ROW for signs of standing water. Areas with standing water may also have experienced soil compaction and should be measure for compaction.

5.5.3. Drainage

Proper field drainage is vital to a successful farm operation. Construction of an electric transmission line can disrupt improvements such as drainage tiles, grassed waterways, and drainage ditches, which regulate the flow of water on farm fields. If drainage is impaired, water can settle in fields and cause substantial damage, such as killing crops and other vegetation, concentrating mineral salts, flooding farm buildings, or causing hoof rot and other diseases that affect livestock.

Construction-caused soil compaction or damaged drain tiles can lead to ponded water where none existed prior to construction. If drain tiles are damaged, the Project Initiators are required by [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(c\)](#) to repair or replace the damage drain tile.

To help mitigate the potential for drainage impacts, the Department recommends the following:

- 1) Agricultural landowners should inform the Project Initiators about the existence and location of drainage systems or planned drainage systems that could be affected by the Project.

- 2) Agricultural landowners should document field moisture conditions and the historic presence/absence of ponded water prior to the start of construction for post-construction comparisons.
- 3) The Project Initiators should consider using the techniques outlined in Section 5.5.2 "Soil Compaction" when crossing a known drain tile.
- 4) Where construction activities have created new wet areas, the Project Initiators should work with the landowner to determine the best means to return the agricultural land to pre-construction function.

5.5.4. De-watering

During excavation/auguring of the structure foundation for a transmission line pole, dewatering may be necessary. Improper dewatering can result in soil erosion, sedimentation and deposition of gravel, sand, or silt onto adjacent agricultural lands, and the inundation of crops. The discharge of these construction waters must be in compliance with current drainage laws, local ordinances, WisDNR permit conditions, and the provisions of the Clean Water Act. The Project Initiators are required by [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(c\)](#) to compensate the landowner for any damage to agricultural fields caused by construction de-watering activities

The Department recommends the following to mitigate the impacts of construction water discharge on agricultural lands:

- 1) The Project Initiators should identify prior to construction 1) excavation sites with low areas and/or hydric soils where de-watering is likely and 2) suitable upland areas for discharge.
- 2) Discharge locations should be well-vegetated areas with topography that will prevent the water from returning to the ROW, resist soil erosion, and allow for infiltration and settling of gravel and other unwanted sediments prior to entering a field, pasture, or waterbody.
- 3) The Project Initiators should consider using pre-filter bags or other filter devices, prior to discharge, in order to capture sediments, gravel and rocks.
- 4) Cropland, pasturelands and other agricultural areas selected for discharge should not be inundated for more than 24 hours, as longer durations could result in crop damage.
- 5) The Project Initiators should not directly discharge or allow construction waters from non-organic farms to enter an organic farming operation.

5.5.5. Irrigation

Electric transmission line construction activities and the placement of transmission line poles can interfere with the operation of linear or center pivot irrigation systems used to irrigate crops. Soil compaction from construction equipment may also impact or damage underground piping that

supplies irrigation systems. Any interruption to irrigation systems cause by the Project can deprive crops from needed water and nutrients resulting in decrease crop yields.

The Department recommends the following to mitigate the impacts to irrigation systems:

- 1) Prior to construction, agricultural operations that use irrigation within or adjacent to the Project ROW should inform the Project Initiators of their irrigation system, how the Project may impact the system, irrigation schedules frequency of irrigation and weather conditions that may change the irrigation schedule.
- 2) The Project Initiators should consider using the techniques outlined in Section 5.5.2 "Soil Compaction" when crossing a known irrigation pipeline.
- 3) If the Project plans to disrupt an irrigation system, the Project Initiators should notify the landowner beforehand and establish a mutually acceptable amount of time that the system will be taken out-of-service.
- 4) If any part of an irrigation system is damage as a result of construction activities, the Project Initiators should pay for and repaired reported damages as soon as possible.
- 5) If an irrigation system needs to be reconfigured as a result of the Project, the Project Initiators should work with the irrigation operators to reconfigure the irrigation equipment where necessary and to compensate them for any portion of cropland where the irrigation system no longer operates.

5.5.6. Deicing & Traction Control

Construction crews commonly apply various products to improve vehicle traction within the construction ROW to control for wet, slippery, or icy conditions. The application of chloride based deicing agents, such as rock salt, to temporary road matting within the construction ROW during the winter season can lead to chloride rich runoff that has potentially detrimental impacts to the health of nearby soils, ecosystems and surface waters (Richburg *et al.*, 2001; Kelly *et al.*, 2008; Corsi *et al.*, 2010).

Ultimately the applicability of this mitigation practice depends upon the construction timeline. Alternative deicing products, which are less damaging to the health of soil, vegetation and ecosystems as compared to chloride, do exist. For example, county highway departments commonly apply sand or small lime chips (1/8" to 3/16" diameter), or a combination of the two as an alternative to rock salt, especially when surface temperatures are colder than 15°F when rock salt is less effective. However, chloride may still be required to mitigate situations that pose elevated safety risks.

If construction for the Project takes place during winter, the Department recommends the Project Initiators considers alternatives to chloride based deicing products based on the list of alternative deicing products contained within the University of Wisconsin Madison - Extension publication [A3877](#).

5.5.7. Erosion and Conservation Practices

Electric transmission line construction activities and the placement of transmission line poles can destabilize existing erosion control practices such as diversion terraces, grassed or lined waterways, outlet ditches, water and sediment control basins, vegetated filter strips, etc. The destabilization of these erosion control practices have the potential to cause soil erosion within the ROW, but also from upland fields. During wet conditions the risk of soil erosion is increased, as exposed soils, especially areas with increased slope, may more easily erode and move downslope. Wind erosion may also be of concern if existing windbreaks are removed from the ROW, especially when soils are dry. If left unchecked, significant erosion can have an adverse effect on the long-term productivity of agricultural lands. The Project Initiators are required by [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(c\)](#) to restore existing erosion control practices such as diversion terraces, grassed or lined waterways, outlet ditches, water and sediment control basins, vegetated filter strips, etc. that are damaged by construction activities to pre-construction condition and function.

The Department recommends the following to mitigate soil erosion within the Project ROW:

- 1) Once construction is complete, pending soil decompaction, impacted agricultural lands within the ROW should be returned to cropland or seeded with the appropriate seed mix.
- 2) The Project Initiators should inspect all temporary erosion controls structures on a weekly basis and after significant rain events throughout construction and restoration phases and undertake erosion control structure maintenance as required to prevent soil erosion within the ROW.
- 3) The Project Initiators should avoid impacting any existing permanent erosion control structure (e.g diversion terraces, grassed or lined waterways, outlet ditches, water and sediment control basins, vegetated filter strips, etc.) that's intended to prevent soil erosion from an upland agricultural area.
- 4) Should the Project Initiators disrupt an existing permanent erosion control structure, a temporary structure should be installed until the permanent erosion control is restored.

5.5.8. Temporary Access Roads

The Project Initiators has proposed to install temporary access roads as part of the Project, when an alternative access road does not exist, to allow personnel and construction equipment to access the Project corridor. When a temporary access road is constructed there is a range of potential

negative effects to agricultural lands including the mixing of topsoil with subsoil & rocks, soil compaction, soil erosion, and interference with existing drainage & irrigation. New temporary access roads also have the potential to impact agricultural operations by severing cropland or pastures, limiting field access or limiting access to agricultural infrastructure & buildings. Any of these impacts can result in lost agricultural productivity whether from lost soil productivity, crop losses or the direct loss of agricultural revenue when access to agricultural infrastructure is limited. When the Project has completed, the Project Initiators are required by [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(c\)](#) to restore the land to its original condition, clear all debris and remove all stones and rocks associated with the access roads. However, if desired by the landowner and in consultation with the Project Initiators, temporary access roads may be left in place after construction.

The Department recommends the following to mitigate the impacts of access roads when they cross agricultural lands within the Project ROW:

- 1) The Project Initiators should consult with agricultural landowners before siting any temporary access roads.
- 2) The Project Initiators should strip and stockpile the topsoil for later reuse during restoration.
- 3) After top soil removal, the Project Initiators should install a geotextile construction fabric along the roadbed prior to the placement of gravel/rock roadway.
- 4) Access roads should also be designed to allow proper drainage and minimize soil erosion.
- 5) The Project Initiators should consider using the techniques outlined in Section 5.5.3 "Drainage" when siting an access road over drain tiles.

5.5.9. Managed Forest Law, Trees and other Woody Vegetation

As proposed, the Project will impact up to the 307.78 acres of MFL enrolled land. An explanation of the state's MFL program and what that means for the woodlands enrolled within the program is provided in Section 3.1.4 "Managed Forest Law". Additional acres of unmanaged forest lands will also be impacted, but are beyond the scope of this AIS as unmanaged forest lands are not defined as an agricultural use according to [Wis. Stat. § 91.01\(2\)](#). Both managed and unmanaged woodlands can provide financial benefit to the landowner either directly through the sale of managed forest for timber, the sale of firewood, or the harvest of tree sap for sale. The removal of any trees from a property may also decrease the market value of the property.

Prior to the start of construction, the Project Initiators will remove all woody vegetation, trees and brush not already removed by the landowner from the full width of the Project ROW. Vegetation will be cut at or slightly above the ground surface using mechanized equipment or by hand. Tree stumps are generally left in place, except in areas where stump removal is necessary to facilitate the movement of construction vehicles, or required by the landowner. Once removed, trees are not permitted to regrow or be replanted in the Project ROW after construction is complete or while

maintained by the Project Initiators. According to [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(e\)](#) affected landowners will maintain ownership of all trees removed by the Project Initiators during construction. The Project Initiators are also required to provide the landowner a reasonable amount of time, prior to construction, to harvest the trees on their own. Post construction and restoration, the deforested land could be used for farming so long as the intended crop or agricultural equipment does not interfere with transmission line facilities. The Project Initiators will manage and maintain deforested areas, including vegetation removal and management within the deforested ROW for those areas that landowners do not wish to crop or maintain.

The Department recommends the following to mitigate the impacts of tree and woody material removal from the Project ROW:

- 1) The PSC should select a route that avoids the fragmentation of major blocks of forest and prioritize the preservation of windbreaks, MFL lands and forestlands used for specialty forest products.
- 2) The Project Initiators should adjust the placement of transmission line poles to minimize the need for tree removal and prioritize the preservation of trees used for windbreaks.
- 3) The Project Initiators should compensate agricultural landowners for the construction of any additional structures that serve in the place of the harvested trees.
- 4) The Project Initiators should hire an appraiser who has experience and expertise in valuing trees.
- 5) Landowners who wish to obtain their own appraisal should also hire an appraiser who has experience and expertise in valuing trees.
- 6) Landowners who wish to farm within the deforested area should discuss tree stump removal with the Project Initiators during the easement negotiation process.

5.5.10.Fencing

The construction process may require fences that cross the Project ROW to be severed. According to Wis. Stat. § 182.017(7)(c), if the Project Initiators are required to cut or sever a fence, they are required to install a temporary gate and repair all damages to fencing. Changes to existing fence lines can interfere with grazing activities, particularly for rotational grazing operations that depend on precise, scheduled grazing in particular areas.

To mitigate the impacts to fencing, the Department recommends the following:

- 1) Prior to construction, the Project Initiators should consult with agricultural landowners with grazing operations in and adjacent to the Project ROW and modify construction activities and timing to mitigate impacts to livestock.

- 2) The Project Initiators and agricultural landowners should agree on the appropriate measures to prevent livestock from entering the Project ROW.
- 3) The Project Initiators should develop a plan for livestock to access pastures adjacent to the Project ROW or otherwise compensate the landowner for the costs related to restricted grazing.

5.5.11. Weed Control

The Project may introduce noxious weeds or other invasive plants species into the Project ROW that compete with agricultural crops. Noxious weeds may also spread from parcel to parcel by construction equipment and project activities. Once weeds establish, they can interfere with agricultural harvesting equipment, attract unwanted insects, and require physical removal or chemical applications to remove.

Post construction and restoration, agricultural operations may resume normal agricultural cropping activities within the ROW so long as the crop or agricultural equipment do not interfere with transmission line facilities. After construction and during the operation of the line, the Project Initiators is required by [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(d\)](#) to control weeds and brush around the transmission line facilities. However, the Project Initiators shall not use herbicide for weed and brush control without the express written consent of the landowner ([Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(d\)](#)).

The Department recommends the following to control for and manage the spread of noxious weeds within the project ROW:

- 1) Agricultural landowners should state in writing whether they do or do not give the Project Initiators their consent for herbicide to be applied within the ROW they own.
- 2) The Project Initiators should clean construction equipment and materials prior to entering an area of certification.
- 3) The Project Initiators should clean all roadways (private, county, state etc.) of construction debris, dirt and rocks.
- 4) The Project Initiators should use tracking pads at frequently used access points.
- 5) Agricultural landowners and beekeepers should consider using the free online [DriftWatch™](#) and [BeeCheck™](#) registries, operated by [FieldWatch™](#) to communicate areas containing specialty crops or beehives with pesticide applicators, in order to minimize the risk of accidental exposure. For more information on DriftWatch, please visit the [DATCP DriftWatch website](#) at the provided link or at <https://wi.driftwatch.org/>.

- 6) The Project Initiators and its contractors that are applying herbicide or pesticides should utilize the Department's Driftwatch™ [online mapping tool](#) to locate agricultural lands and operations that are susceptible to herbicide or pesticides. If the online mapping tool locates an agricultural operation on or near areas that will receive herbicide or pesticide applications, the Project Initiators should contact the operation to discuss the appropriate methods required to minimize the risk of accidental exposure.

5.5.12. Aerial Application of Seeds and Sprays

The location of an electric transmission line on cropland can restrict the aerial application of seeds and chemicals and can increase the danger of making aerial applications. In turn, agricultural pilots have to maneuver to avoid transmission lines, which may result in uneven, imprecise or missed aerial applications. When aerial applications are restricted or prevented agricultural produces may experience 1) increased weed growth and pest infestations that reduce crop yields, 2) increased cost and labor from land based application of seeds and chemical in non-applied areas.

To mitigate the potential for impacts to aerial application, the Department recommends the following:

- 1) Agricultural landowners inform the Project Initiators if they use aerial applications.
- 2) The Project Initiators and the impacted agricultural landowners work to determine the most effective techniques to minimize the impact to their aerial applications.
- 3) The Project Initiators install colored wire shielding near fields that utilize aerial applications.

5.5.13. Construction Debris

After construction is complete, there may be construction debris remaining on the field. If large pieces of debris or rocks are left in the field, agricultural machinery may be damaged when the landowner first works the land. The Project Initiators are required by [Wis. Stat. § 182.017\(7\)\(c\)](#) to clear all debris and remove all stones and rocks resulting from construction activity upon completion of construction. To that end, the Project Initiators shall also clear the ROW of signage, construction mat debris, litter, and spoil piles etc.

To mitigate the potential impact of construction debris, the Department recommends the following:

- 1) Should a landowner find construction debris remaining in the field after the Project Initiators has cleared the field, the landowner should contact ATC's Agricultural Specialist, NSPW's land agents, and/or if hired, the IEM/IAM to report the debris prior to operating agricultural equipment in the field.
- 2) Should the Project Initiators remove an existing power line pole from within or immediately adjacent to cropland, the Project Initiators should remove the old structure at a minimum of four feet below the ground surface.

- 3) Should the Project Initiators create a hole within croplands during the removal of any part of the existing transmission structure, the Department recommends that the Project Initiators would preserve each layer and then backfill in soil sequence to keep it to the original soil to the degree possible, dressing with topsoil as needed. If backfilling with gravel is determined to be necessary and if it is within or immediately adjacent to cropland, then the Department suggests backfilling with gravel to a minimum of four feet from the ground surface to ensure tillage equipment would not be impacted or spread gravel throughout the soil horizons, or the Project Initiators should the agricultural operator for an appropriate depth depending on how deep their tillage equipment runs.

5.5.14. Crop Rotation and Dairy Operations

The construction of an electric transmission line may disrupt a planned crop or crop rotation. Impacts to alfalfa fields and planned alfalfa seeding are especially disruptive to dairy operations as they need to maintain a proper supply of alfalfa to feed dairy cows. Any delays, yield reductions or damages to an alfalfa crop may require the dairy operation to buy haylage or hay, obtain more corn silage, and/or provide protein supplements such as soybean oil meal to make up for the lost alfalfa. With advanced notice of the Project's construction schedule, a dairy operator would be better able to adjust forage requirements and plan for any increased associated costs.

If the Project is approved, the Department recommends that the Project Initiators provide any impacted dairy operations with advanced notice of the construction schedule across their operations and compensate the landowner for any increased costs associated with construction impacts to forage requirements.

5.5.15. Organic Farms & Other Areas with Certifications

Construction and ongoing maintenance activities for the Project may jeopardize a farm's organic certification or other certifications such as *pesticide-free* (certified areas) if a prohibited chemical is used on their certified land, drifts from a neighboring field or enters their land on construction machinery, construction matting or improper de-watering. The Project Initiators and their contractors must use caution and care where the Project ROW borders or crosses an area with certification. Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 29.50(2) states that no pesticides (includes herbicides) may be used in a manner that results in pesticide overspray or significant pesticide drift. In addition, any oil or fuel spill on these farms could prevent or remove a farm's certification.

To mitigate impacts to areas with certifications, the Department recommends the following:

- 1) The Project Initiators should not apply pesticides to organic farms or other certified farms that preclude the use of these chemicals without the expressed written consent of the landowner.
- 2) The Project Initiators shall not apply a pesticide in a manner that results in overspray or significant drift.

- 3) The Project Initiators should clean construction equipment and materials prior to entering an area of certification.
- 4) The Project Initiators should post signs at entry points to an area of certification denoting its existence and reminding personnel of appropriate mitigation steps to take.
- 5) Landowners with organic certification or other certifications should inform ATC of their certifications, provide documentation of certification and inform ATC of prohibited and/or limited activities and the range and type of substances that are and are not permitted according to their certifications.
- 6) Agricultural landowners and beekeepers should consider using the free online [DriftWatch™](#) and [BeeCheck™](#) registries, operated by [FieldWatch™](#) to communicate areas containing specialty crops or beehives with pesticide applicators, in order to minimize the risk of accidental exposure. For more information on DriftWatch, please visit the [WDATCP DriftWatch website](#) at the provided link or at <https://wi.driftwatch.org/>.
- 7) The Project Initiators and their contractors that are applying herbicide or pesticides should utilize the Department's Driftwatch™ [online mapping tool](#) to locate agricultural lands and operations that are susceptible to herbicide or pesticides. If the online mapping tool locates an agricultural operation on or near areas that will receive herbicide or pesticide applications, the Project Initiators should contact the operation to discuss the appropriate methods required to minimize the risk of accidental exposure.
- 8) The Project Initiators should generate and distribute a list of organic farms or other certified farms and the prohibited chemicals to their construction staff and contractors.
- 9) Prior to construction, the Project Initiators and the farms with areas of certification should agree to the appropriate methods to avoid unintentional contacts or applications of prohibited chemicals from entering their farms.
- 10) The Project Initiators may wish to underlay heavily used areas of the ROW with geotextile fabric in order to limit the potential for prohibited substances from contaminating areas with certification.
- 11) The Project Initiators should consult with farms with areas of certification prior to the application of seeds for revegetation efforts on their property.

5.5.16. Biosecurity

Farm biosecurity is the implementation of measures designed to protect a farm operation from the entry and spread of diseases and pests. Construction activities can spread weeds, diseases, chemicals and genetically modified organisms (GMO's) that impact an agricultural operation. Certified organic farms and farms with other certifications such as pesticide-free are susceptible to

the widest range of biosecurity impacts and may suffer greater negative impacts if their agricultural operation is exposed to a biosecurity threat. For more information on basic biosecurity protocols, please visit the Department's [Basic Biosecurity](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/BasicBiosecurity.aspx) website at the provided link or at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/BasicBiosecurity.aspx.

The Department recommends the following to mitigate biosecurity risks within the Project ROW:

- 1) the Project Initiators and agricultural operations within the Project ROW should develop a biosecurity plan that contains a set of protocols including but not limited to: Cleaning construction equipment between parcels; handling manure within the ROW; identifying responsible parties that can move livestock and manure within the ROW; and establishing communication channels to report construction and farm activities within the ROW.
- 2) The Project Initiators and their contractors should avoid contact with livestock and manure throughout the Project.
- 3) If livestock need to be moved, the Project Initiators should work with the livestock owner to move the livestock.

5.5.17. Stray Voltage

Electric distribution systems are grounded to the earth to ensure safety and reliability. At the site of the grounding, electrical current enters the earth where voltage can be detected. This is generally known Neutral to Earth Voltage (NEV). When a person, animal or object is near an NEV, the voltage may pass to them resulting in electrical contact (i.e. shock); this is generally known as stray voltage. Stray voltage often goes unnoticed by humans, but stray voltage from NEV may affect animals on farms. Animals may encounter stray voltage any time the animal makes contact with an electrified point such as a fencing, feeder, the earth or stalls. Animals affected by stray voltage may show changes in behavior or milk production.

The PSC administers Wisconsin's Stray Voltage program under [Wis. Stat. § 196.857](#) in cooperation with the Department. The PSC established the Phase II Stray Voltage Testing Protocol to fulfill its duty to create a standard stray voltage NEV testing protocol as required by Wis. Stat. § 196.857(b). Under the Phase II testing protocol, a utility is mandated to take corrective action to resolve any electrical contact at or above 0.5 volts (Reines and Cook, 1999). The Stray Voltage program is able to review voltage testing data generated by the utility and the conclusions the utility has reached. For more information on the PSC Stray Voltage program, impacts to agricultural operations and mitigation steps, visit <https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/StrayVoltageHomePage.aspx>.

Should additional concerns for the health of a herd arise from stray voltage testing, the Department's [Herd-Based Diagnostic Program](#) may be able to assist. The program provides a licensed veterinarian, free of charge, to help producers investigate concerns with milk production,

milk quality, herd health, and more. For more information on the Herd-Based Diagnostic Program visit <https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Herd-basedDiagnostics.aspx>.

The Project Initiators reported within the CPCN (ATC and NSPW, 2024b) that 33 confined animal dairy operations are located within ½ mile of the proposed project area that meet transmission/distribution collocation criteria for pre- and post-construction NEV testing. To ensure agricultural landowners along the route the PSC selects are aware of their ability to request pre- and post-NEV testing, at no cost, the Department recommends that the Project Initiators inform each landowner with livestock facilities within ½-mile of the selected Project ROW of their ability to request Phase II Stray Voltage Testing from their local utility, the Project Initiators or the PSC. Should the PSC select the proposed alternative project route, the Department recommends that the Project Initiators inform the five pre-identified confined animal dairy operations that it's recommended they conduct pre- and post-construction NEV testing.

The Department recommends the following to mitigate the impact of stray voltage within the project ROW:

- 1) Confined animal feeding operations or any operation with livestock facilities within ½-mile of the proposed power line should request Phase II Stray Voltage Testing pre- and post-transmission line energization testing from their utility provider, the Project Initiators, or the PSC.
- 2) The Project Initiators should inform each landowner with livestock facilities within ½-mile of the Project ROW of their ability to request Phase II Stray Voltage Testing from their local utility, the Project Initiators or the PSC. The Project Initiators should be responsible for costs associated with Phase II Stray Voltage Testing within ½-mile of the Project corridor.
- 3) As required by PSC guidance set forth under [Wis. Stat. § 196.857](#), the Project Initiators shall take action to resolve electrical contacts at livestock feeding operations detected at or above 0.5 volts that are a result of the Project.

5.5.18. Construction Noise and Dust

During each phase of the Project, noise and dust is likely to be generated. Landowners near the Project ROW may experience noises and dust associated with construction techniques, movement of heavy equipment, and helicopters. This noise and dust may cause dairy, beef cattle and other grazing livestock to stampede, break through fences, and escape from the farm property. Fur animals, poultry and other confined livestock may also be impacted by these sounds.

To mitigate impacts of noise and dust, the Department recommends the following:

- 1) Livestock owners & operators within the Project ROW whom are concerned about the noise potential for the Project should inform the Project Initiators or their representatives during the easement negotiation process.

- 2) Livestock owners & operators near the Project ROW who are concerned about the noise potential for the Project should inform the Project Initiators of their concerns prior to the project construction.
- 3) The Project Initiators should identify agricultural livestock operations with sensitive animals within and adjacent to the Project ROW and provide them appropriate advance warning of construction activities, including the use of helicopters, so they may take steps to safeguard their animals.
- 4) The Project Initiators should avoid loud and dusty construction activities in the early morning (before 7am) or evening (after 6pm) to the extent possible. If construction activities must occur outside of this time window, inform the agricultural operator ahead of time so they may take steps to safeguard their animals.
- 5) The Project Initiators should clean all roadways (private, county, state etc.) of debris, dirt and rocks caused by the Project Initiators' construction activities.
- 6) The Project Initiators should use tracking pads at frequently used access points.
- 7) When construction activities have the potential to generate substantial amounts of dust that could impact livestock or an agricultural operation, the Project Initiators should apply water over the dust generating areas to reduce dust output.

6. REFERENCES

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DATCP Legislative Liaison – Patrick Walsh

DATCP Interim Administrator, Agricultural Resource Management Division – Brian Kuhn

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Chairperson - Brian Westra

Town Clerk - Maxine DeYoung

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Chairperson - Airling Gunderson

Town Clerk - Michelle Goldade

Village of Wyocena

Village President - Kim Bauer

Village Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer – Lori Kratky

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Land Use Planning & Zoning Director Matt Kirkman

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 Zoning Administrator Jon Hemp

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County Conservationist Pat Kilbey

Zoning Administrator Jean Potter

Marquette County Towns, Cities and Villages

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Town Clerk - Lisa Fenner

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Trempealeau County Wisconsin

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Trempealeau County Towns, Cities and Villages

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Town Clerk - Cathy Nelson

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Waushara County Wisconsin

County Conservationist - Josh Saykally

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Town Clerk - Cheryl Pionke

Town of Hancock

Town Clerk - Myra Zwetz

Town of Plainfield

Town Clerk - Linda Carlson

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Town Clerk - Petty Nett

City of Wautoma

Adminsitrator/City Clerk/Treasurer - Tommy Bohler

Wood County Wisconsin

County Conservationist Shane Wucherpfennig

Planning & Zoning Director Jason Grueneberg

Wood County Towns, Cities and Villages

Town of Arpin

Town Clerk - Shelly Grim

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Chairperson - Mark Gosh

Town of Cary Town Clerk - Jean Gansch

Town of Dexter

Town Clerk

Town of Hansen

Clerk - Diane Kohls

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Town of Hiles

Chairperson - Tom Gardner

Town Clerk - Kimm Wojtalewicz

Town of Saratoga

Town Clerk - Paulette Weinfurter

Town of Seneca

Town Clerk

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Town of Sherry

Town Clerk

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City Clerk - Kallee Dhein
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City Clerk - Tami Hahn
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Portage Daily Register
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Interest Groups, Entities and Individuals

The Project Initiators

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Kim Stratton
Aaron Hartman

Agricultural Landowners

Daryl Boe
Mark & Susan Florence
Cory Gerzmehle (Mortenson Brothers Farms Inc)
Green Acre Investments
Adam Hahn
J & C Family Farm LLC% Cynthia K. Hanson

Gerald & LaVon Ladsten

Arlene Lorch

Gerard & Mary Anne Nonn

Bruce Olson

Daniel Ortner

Pride View Dairy LLC

Todd Quame

Eric Rasmussen

Carl J. Stiemsma

Daniel Thiem

David Vander Werff

Raymond Weinfurter

Ronald Wells

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Jim Weinfurter

Paul & Lori Abel

Chad Brusveen

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David Ernst

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Marc Jackowski

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Craig Kronberger

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Barry & Beverly Wilson

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**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

**DIVISION OF
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Agricultural Impact Program

P.O. Box 8911

Madison, WI 53708-8911

608-224-4650

agimpact.wi.gov

APPENDICES

DATCP #4605

Grid Forward – Central Wisconsin Transmission Line Project

Adams, Clark, Columbia, Green Lake, Jackson, Marquette,
Portage, Trempealeau, Waushara, and Wood Counties

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 20, 2024

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APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL FIGURES & TABLES

Table 1: List of Agricultural Landowners with 5 acres or more of proposed impact that were contacted by the Department.

Landowner Name	Impacted Acres
AARON L HELMER	5.13
ADAM J HAHN & JILL HAHN	21.01
ANGELINE L KACZOR & CARY R KACZOR	7.11
AOA FARMS LLC	6.49
ARNOLD S FISCHER & DARLA A FISCHER	15.38
BABETTE J BECKER IRREVOCABLE TRUST	9.96
BACON FARMS INC	8.99
BADGER MINING CORPORATION	29.70
BARRY K & BEVERLY A WILSON REVOCABLE TRUST	10.09
BLUE MOO LAKE LLC	6.51
BOE'S VILLAGE VIEW FARM	12.90
BROCK R REICHARDT & DANICA T REICHARDT	6.00
BROOKS FARM PROPERTIES LLC	9.47
BRUCE & GAYLE OLSON	6.73
BRUCE E OLSON	8.37
CARL & RITA STIEMSMA JT REV TR DATED 10/6/2006	10.64
CHAD J DILLINGHAM & KATHY J DILLINGHAM	5.21
CHANTELL C ALSUM & CORY T ALSUM	5.51
CHARLES E SMITH	5.19
CHARLES M AND BARBARA J JACOBSON REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST 7/9/2019	9.32
CHRISTOPHOR E HENDRICKSON & SARA M HENDRICKSON	8.31
COLLEN J KECKEISEN & REBECCA S KECKEISEN	5.15
CRAIG KRONBERGER & DIANE KRONBERGER	7.40
CRR HOLDINGS LLC	5.33
DALE F CURTIS & SHEILA A CURTIS	14.69
DAMEROW BROTHERS & LEE A DAMEROW	6.16
DANIEL DORSHORST & CINDY DORSHORST	44.54
DANIEL J ORTNER	9.24
DARREL & ARLENE E LORCH	9.17
DARRELL AND SHELLY WIERSMA FAMILY TRUST DATED 5/20/2022	9.69
DAVID D DOUMA	5.93
DAVID J & DIANNE VANDER WERFF	7.61
DAVID JOHN BANCROFT	7.58
DAVID W ERNST & SHARON A ERNST	6.42
DENNIS G & DIANN K JONES REV LIV TR DATED 5/21/2012	20.84
DIXIE K KIEFFER	8.17
DYKSTRA FARM, INC	8.66
ELLIS INDUSTRIES LLC	25.56
ERIC B RASMUSSEN	10.10
ERIC R LOFGREN & KIMBERLY A LOFGREN	14.37
FERKEY REVOCABLE TRUST	5.26
FLYTES FOREST EDGE ACRES LLC	18.01

FOX VALLEY & WESTERN LTD	7.05
FOX VALLEY AND WESTERN LTD C O CN PROP TX	12.28
FOX VALLY	6.03
FULL CIRCLE FARMLAND LLC	11.80
G&L LAND LLC	21.70
GARY J & BRENDA L WOYAK REVOCABLE TRUST	10.06
GERARD NONN & MARY A NONN	7.18
GLEN BRUDNOWSKI	5.09
GLEN R BRUDNOWSKI	5.03
GREEN ACRE INVESTMENTS LLC	9.03
HAGAN JOLLY FOLLY FARM LLC	7.29
HEUER BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION	6.10
HORIZON PROPERTIES LLC	6.05
J&C FAMILY FARM LLC	17.49
JAMES & KATHLEEN CASEY FAMILY TRUST DATED 1/8/2016	5.24
JAMES E PRINDLE LIVING TRUST 5/24/2006	20.99
JAMES J A JOLING & TIFFANY N THOMSON JOLING	9.22
JAMES WEINFURTER JR & TONYA J WEINFURTER	9.10
JEFFREY IGNATOWSKI & GRACE IGNATOWSKI	8.89
JEFFREY JANKE & VERONICA JANKE	6.96
JEROME J AND HOPE F LAUFENBERG REVOCABLE TRUST 4/8/2015	7.93
JESSE M LUTZ & MELISSA A LUTZ	5.00
JJW CRANBERRIES LLC	8.79
JOHN HANCOCK LIFE & HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY	22.55
JOHN PRESCOTT & VANEECE PRESCOTT	5.92
JOSEPH A RUESCH & STARR M RUESCH	5.96
JOSEPH G MASSMAN & JAN L MASSMAN	11.39
JOSEPH N J & BARBARA S SCHWARTZ	9.80
JOYCE ISENSEE	5.46
JUANITA E HARRIS	14.18
KARL MELNIK REVOCABLE TRUST	6.06
LADSTEN FAMILY TRUST	14.77
LAKE JAKE, LLC	6.23
LANDSVERK FARMS LLC	7.88
LARRY BACON FAMILY LLC	9.21
LARRY J & BARBARA J SCHULTZ	5.38
LARRY J SCHULTZ & BARBARA J SCHULTZ	9.47
LEE A SIXT	9.10
LEE D MCDONALD & LYNNE L MCDONALD	6.53
LEE R NELSON & BECKY S NELSON	5.41
LINCK AGGREGATES INC	9.83
LONNIE A MACHA & LUCRETIA I MACHA	6.05
LORI A BEMKE	6.95
LOUIS R MEISTER & DEBRA S MEISTER	12.14
LYNN R AND BARBARA A SEDELBAUER REVOCABLE TRUST DATED JUNE 20, 2003	10.47
MAM FARMS LLC	8.14
MARC S & KAREN J JACKOWSKI	5.04
MARK D FLORENCE & SUSAN K FLORENCE	11.17
MATTHEW JAHNKE & VICKI JAHNKE	6.63

MICHAEL E RAY & JEAN R RAY	9.59
MICHAEL J SCHROEDER	7.82
MORTENSON BROTHERS FARMS INC	12.68
NARCIS DUGENSKE & PRISCILLA DUGENSKE	5.96
NEAL F HENDRICKSON & PAMELA K HENDRICKSON	6.05
NICHOLAS STIBB & JESSICA STIBB	5.43
NORMAN F NOBBS & MARIE E NOBBS	8.76
NORTHERN FAMILY FARMS LLP	10.11
OWEN ROCK CRANBERRIES LP	5.12
PAUL ABEL	5.53
PERRY J KUJAK & RENEE L KUJAK	6.76
PHILIP D VRUWINK	19.36
PHILIP T & JENNY HANSEN REVOCABLE TRUST-SURVIVORS TRUST	5.78
PHILIP T & JENNY HANSEN REVOCABLE TRUST FAMILY TRUST	7.65
PHILIP VRUWINK & STACEY VRUWINK	5.32
PIONKE BROTHERS FARM	6.09
PIONKE BROTHERS FARM	5.57
PRIDE VIEW DAIRY LLC	6.36
PRINDLE FARMS INC	15.61
RAYMOND D WEINFURTER	6.37
RICHARD EVANS & JOANN EVANS	15.77
RICHARD J TREDER	10.59
ROBERT C HALDERSON	5.10
ROBERT E & GLORIA F KELM REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST	10.20
ROBERT J ALSUM & JENNA N ALSUM	6.47
ROBIN & ANN HEIN & STEVEN DRAEGER	6.20
RONALD G DAYE	7.55
RONALD G WELLS	5.03
RONALD W SENFT & DELORES A SENFT	7.81
RUSSELL BROCKMAN & ARLENE BROCKMAN	6.95
SAM & SONS INC GAASTRA	7.49
SAND LAND LLC	9.50
SANDCASTLE ACRES LLC	11.68
SANDRA M PETERS	7.93
SCOTT L HALBERSMA	6.50
SPRING CREEK FARMS INC	27.82
STEVE SCHIMELPFENIG	5.17
STEVEN KOK & LINDA KOK	9.30
SUNSET DAYDREAM TRUST	5.11
TAYLOR REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS LLC	5.91
TERRY J BOE & KIM M BOE	11.04
THIEM FARMS LLC	14.76
TIMOTHY W PRITCHARD	6.25
TODD A QUARNE	6.62
TODD R GOHLKE	7.48
TREMPEALEAU SERVICES INC	8.43
US FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE	5.07
WASHKOVICK FARMS INC	9.68
WAYNE GAASTRA & DIXIE M GAASTRA	15.91
WEEKLY AND SON LLC	10.55

WEEKLY LAND CO LLC	10.62
WELSH PRAIRIE, LLC	10.96
WILLIAM R GRANCORVITZ	5.47
WISCONSIN POWER & LIGHT CO	5.61
WJL REVOCABLE TRUST 10/28/2014	10.71

Table 2: List of Agricultural Landowners who had less than 5 acres of land proposed to be impacted, who were not contacted by the Department.

OWNER_NAME	Impacted Acres
AAND PROPERTY LLC	1.88
ACCOLA FAMILY TRUST	1.92
ADAM HAHN & JILL HAHN	2.44
ADAM J HAHN	4.84
ADAMS COUNTY	0.06
ALAN & JOYCE AFFELDT	3.45
ALEXANDER L BACON	1.57
ALLAN WILCOX	0.36
ALLEN J PRONDZINSKI	3.79
ALLEN PRONDZINSKI & NANCY KATOVICH-PRONDZINSKI	0.20
ALYCE J SCHREIBER	4.93
AMBROSINO BROTHERS LLC	4.36
AMY S SLARK & DEAN W SLARK JR	2.77
ANDREA M BERTOTTO	4.41
ANDREW A BERNHAGEN & SHELLY M BERNHAGEN	3.49
ANDREW S HEUP & MICHAEL D HEUP	0.59
ANTHONY FRANCIS & LAURA FRANCIS	0.13
ANTHONY J HUIZENGA & JILENE R HUIZENGA	4.40
ANTHONY S FRANCIS & LAURA L FRANCIS	0.97
APRIL SCHMELZER	0.07
ARDELL JACOBSON	0.40
ARDEN DEWERFF	1.84
ARDEN R HARDIE & JUDITH A HAASE HARDIE	2.07
ARNOLD SCHWANEBECK & LINDA SCHWANEBECK	4.35
BASIC CHEMICALS COMPANY LLC	1.75
BEHSELICH FARMS	3.23
BLAIR CAR WASH LLC	0.06
BLAIR SPORTSMEN'S CLUB & INC	2.13
BLAIR TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT	0.27
BOREK BERRY FARM LLC	2.78
BOREK CRANBERRY MARSH INC	0.03
BRADLEY A BECKER & REGGIE A BECKER	3.36
BRADLEY B SIMONSON & BARBARA A SIMONSON	3.73
BRADLEY DANIEL DORSHORST	3.57
BRANDON J STEINHORST & DARCY L STEINHORST	2.87
BRIAN C RUESCH	0.84
BRIAN F WUERCH & AMY A WUERCH	2.57
BRIAN J IVERSON & JENNIFER L IVERSON	1.90
BRIAN J MASSMAN & BRIANNE P MASSMAN	4.28
BRIAN JAY STEMPER	0.66
BRITTANY M HUGHES & RHONDA M HUGHES	1.04
BRUCE E RADEMAN	1.23
BURMESTER WYOCENA FARM TRUST	4.91
CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY	0.40
CARL A CEPRESS	3.71
CARL M RAAB	3.46

CAROL JOHNSON	0.12
CAROLYN MAYE PLATNER	3.82
CASTLE HILL SUPPER CLUB	1.71
CECIL A RICHTMYRE & DAWN M RICHTMYRE	1.14
CECIL FEATHERSTON	1.05
CHARLENE E DRAKE IRREVOCABLE LIVING TRUST DATED 8/30/2021	3.74
CHARLES & MARY AMICO	3.45
CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN RR CO	0.37
CHRISTOPHER BOHL & JENNIFER BOHL	4.10
CHRISTOPHER P ABEL & TONYA S ABEL	3.34
CMC HEARTLAND PARTNERS	0.77
COLUMBIA COUNTY	1.83
COMSTOCK TREES AND SERVICE INC	1.90
COURTNEY E & JOANNE E TER HORST	2.37
CRAIG D BUTTERFIELD & CARLA JO BUTTERFIELD	2.33
CRAWFORD OIL CO INC	0.17
CSP PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC	0.77
DAHLKE REVOCABLE TRUST	3.85
DALE A HUIZENGA & LAUREL L HUIZENGA	3.00
DALE F CURTIS & SHEILA A CURTIS	0.62
DALE MUEHLENHAUPT & DEBRA I MEILAHN	2.87
DANIEL D & JILL M BIELMEIER JOINT REVOCABLE TRUST AGRMT	1.80
DANIEL J DORSHORST & CINDY M DORSHORST	4.33
DANIEL J TOMPKINS JR & CHARITY B TOMPKINS	4.59
DANIEL L MADSEN & LINDSAY M MADSEN	2.46
DANIEL ORTNER & LORI ORTNER	1.82
DANIEL P BOHN	2.81
DANIEL R BERKHOLTZ	1.85
DARREL HOHENSTEIN & JOYCE HOHENSTEIN	2.36
DARYL A & KATHY A BOE REVOCABLE TRUST 4/8/2015	2.61
DAVID E KRAUSE & KATHLEEN B KRAUSE	1.89
DAVID J & SUSAN J TORUM JOINT REV LIVING TRUST DTD 4/23/2019	1.90
DAVID M & CHERYL M ADDIS	1.61
DAVID R & RUTH I SCHWANDT	1.85
DAVID R SCHWANDT IRREVOCABLE TRUST & SCHWANDT IRREVOCABLE FAMILY TRUST	1.59
DEAN E REGEZ	0.15
DEANE MATHEWS & JOANN MATHEWS	1.81
DEBRA K HOFFMAN	0.04
DELBERT P & AUDREY B GRIMM REV TR DATED 2/16/2012	0.48
DENNIS A BURKWALD	0.62
DENNIS BRUNNER	4.67
DENNIS F RUESS	0.99
DENNIS G PLAWMAN & JULIE A PLAWMAN	2.26
DENNIS SCHILLER	3.66
DENNIS W WOPAT & DEBRA L HEALY WOPAT JT REV TR-10/15/2007	2.62
DENNIS WILHELM & BONITA WILHELM	3.25
DERALD W LADSTEN	0.68
DICK SEVERSON	2.95
DIDION MILLING INC	3.01

DIETRICH VEDDER LIVING TRUST	3.27
DONALD N DAMEROW & DAMEROW BROTHERS	2.54
DONNA E KOHNKE & LUTHER P POHL	3.59
DOUGLAS & ASHLEY JUNG LIVING TRUST DATED 3/10/2021	0.14
DOUGLAS A FREESE & SUSAN M FREESE	0.07
DUANE EDDY & DEBRA HOLMAN	1.79
DUANE P MOORE	0.65
DUKELOW FARMS INC	0.42
DWAYNE FULK & DENISE FULK	0.79
DWIGHT D QUARNE	4.48
EDWARD A BORNTRAGER	2.08
EDWIN R MOBERG & HELEN E MOBERG	1.41
EMIL J GIESE	2.27
ERCO WORLDWIDE (USA) INC	2.89
ERIC C LISIUS & MARIA R LISIUS	1.31
ERNEST VAN STEDUM	1.95
ERVIN KIEFFER	1.97
EUGENE H HAHN	0.26
FANNING CRANBERRY CO INC	3.09
FLOWAGE LLC	0.28
FRED GRUBOFSKI	2.61
FREDERICK C MILLER	0.49
G R KIRK COMPANY	2.50
GARY & BRENDA WOYAK	3.03
GARY J & BRENDA L WOYAK	0.98
GARY J & ELLEN M KIISKILA	4.61
GERALD A & LAURA J KURZ REV TRUST & JOHN H & MARGARET M KURZ REV TRUST	3.98
GERALD R MUNDT	0.50
GERALDINE M FERK	3.17
GERLACH TRUST	2.38
GLEN C SJOERDSMA IRREVOCABLE TRUST DATED 5/13/2021	4.56
GLEN M JAHN	2.16
GLENN BROCK	0.13
GLENN TIBBLE & SUSAN TIBBLE	1.67
GORDON E GROSSMANN	4.67
HALDERSON JT REV TRUST	4.98
HARLAN B CUPERY & JULIANNE K CUPERY	0.16
HARLAN CUPERY & JULIANE CUPERY	2.00
HAROLD D & ADELINE T FEATHERSTON JOINT REVOCABLE TRUST	4.23
HARUO MCKINLEY & PATRICIA ANN MCKINLEY	0.21
HARVEY PETERSEN JR & PETER PETERSEN REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST	2.31
HARVEY R PETERSEN JR & ANEVA A PETERSEN	1.78
HELLER FARM INC	2.32
HIXTON MALL LLC	0.62
HOYT STRANDBERG & HUGH H STRANDBERG	1.94
JACK R WILKE	1.77
JACKSON COUNTY	0.31
JACOB R KENOWSKI & FAITH N KENOWSKI	1.53
JAMES & JANET DEVRIES REV TR DTD 5-18-2015	1.16

JAMES A & LOU ELLEN FREI	0.0093
JAMES A FREI	0.09
JAMES E MANN	2.34
JAMES J WEINFURTER JR	1.57
JAMES K DUPREE & BRENDA DUPREE	1.34
JAMES K LARSON & DEBORAH J LARSON	2.19
JAMES LASSA	1.79
JAMES M WILKE	2.23
JAMES P & LISA R VEZINA	0.09
JAMES P SCHULZ & LISA A SCHULZ	0.51
JAMES SCHILL & NICOLE PETERS	1.39
JAMES SCHULZ & LISA SCHULZ	0.70
JASON SOPPE	0.29
JASON T ALSUM & SARAH K ALSUM	2.27
JASON T ALSUM & SCOTT E ALSUM	0.80
JEAN A FILUT	0.13
JEAN M O'SHASKY REV TRUST	0.33
JEAN O'SHASKY	2.52
JEFF BROCKMAN & CONNIE BROCKMAN	4.59
JEFFREY J & LAURIE A GUZA	4.85
JEFFREY M MARTZ & SARA P MARTZ	3.38
JEFFREY W CHANDLER	3.50
JEPSON CRANBERRY LLC	1.94
JEREMY R KLEVENE	1.20
JEREMY S KRINGS & TONYA B KRINGS	0.84
JESSICA L SCHOLL	2.36
JOEL A & KAY ARLENE AANENSEN	3.24
JOHN E WEINFURTER	3.51
JOHN HALBERSMA & CATHERINE HALBERSMA	1.02
JOHN JURGERSON & JEROME C JURGERSON	4.94
JOHN K HALBERSMA & CATHERINE F HALBERSMA	1.48
JOHN PRESCOTT & VANECE PRESCOTT	2.17
JOHN PRESCOTT & VANECE PRESCOTT	1.72
JON E LINGO & VICKIE L LINGO	1.73
JON M & PENNY L PAULSON	0.57
JORDAN T PRINDLE & MEGAN PRINDLE	0.80
JOSEPH & LINDA DWORSHAK	0.29
JOSEPH HOLMAN & DEBRA HOLMAN	0.16
JOSEPH N J & BARBARA S SCHWARTZ & JACOB J & POLLY SCHWARTZ	3.62
JOSHUA HENKE & DIANA HENKE	2.42
JOSHUA L ABEL & MICHELLE D ABEL	3.41
JOYCE AFFELDT	2.80
JUANITA HARRIS	1.02
JUDITH A SPATH	0.49
JUDITH A SUSMILCH LIVING TRUST DATED 8/22/2007	1.02
JUDY PASKO	0.64
JULIE M BARTON & LAURIE A HARTMAN	0.25
KALEB B DUNHAM & MARISA P DUNHAM	0.84
KATHARINE M PLACE & AARON E EICHSTEADT	0.22
KENNETH ANDERSON	1.28

KERMIT PEDERSON	0.73
KEVIN L HORN	2.70
KEVIN MANTHEY & PAMELA MANTHEY	1.61
KIM R BAUER	4.20
KITTERMAN INCOME TRUST DATED 8/8/2007	0.53
KRUEGERSTEAD LLC	2.93
KURTIS J MANN & TRACIE L MANN	0.25
LAMONT W & NANCY A HELMER	2.20
LARRY J & CHRISTINE J TRUST BRAAKSMA	1.28
LARRY J HEFTY	4.97
LARRY SCHULTZ & BARBARA SCHULTZ	0.05
LAURA EWER	0.71
LAVERE D EHLERS	1.85
LAWRENCE D & MICHELE L SCHIMKE	2.60
LEE A DAMEROW & DONALD N DAMEROW	1.81
LEE N ACCOLA	4.04
LEI YAO & YEPING SUN & TRUST AGREEMENT OF	1.80
LINDA EWER	2.65
LOUIS JAHNKE	2.59
LUKE L BOELTER REVOCABLE TRUST	2.52
LYLE TENPAS & JANE L TENPAS ROSENTHAL	1.45
MABEL M REDCAY	0.99
MARC D & KATHLEEN ADDIS	1.98
MARIE KRUEGER	0.64
MARK A HASENFANG & SUSAN HASENFANG	3.08
MARK A LANDSVERK & LINDA L LANDSVERK	1.72
MARK K ALSUM & SARAH M ALSUM	1.59
MARY E LADICK	1.73
MATTHEW A SUSA	0.72
MATTHEW J DOHM & ALEXANDRIA M DOHM	0.0049
MATTHEW P SCHOLZE & REBECCA M SCHOLZE	0.57
MAUREEN HILLMER	4.60
MELISSA A BROCK	3.11
MELVIN G & ELIZABETH M LEEDLE LIVING TRUST	1.76
MELVIN N SCHWARTZ & ANNIE J SCHWARTZ	1.97
MERLIN J WOULDSTRA	0.11
MERLYN D & CORRINE KRUEGER	4.27
MICHAEL NIMMO REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST	3.80
MICHAEL A BOGDANSKY & MARILYN A BOGDANSKY	0.34
MICHAEL A HOHENSTEIN & BETH E WEGENER	1.33
MICHAEL A POPP & GINA M POPP	1.92
MICHAEL BALTUS & SALLY BALTUS	4.81
MICHAEL J EAGAN & SANDRA L EAGAN	4.69
MICHAEL J HENNINGFIELD & NANCY J HENNINGFIELD	3.71
MICHAEL J SHRAMEK & SUSAN J SHRAMEK	3.44
MICHAELENE HAYASHI	4.83
MICHELLE & JEFFREY LORCH	0.60
MICHELLE M KAWLEWSKI & KRISTINA L RECKNER	1.87
MORTENSON BROS FARMS INC	3.76
NATHAN R OLESON & ASHLEE K ZAKRZEWSKI	0.43

NICHOLAS J KLOOS	1.30
NITZ MARITAL TRUST	3.92
NOAH D SCHWARTZ & MATTIE W SCHWARTZ	2.56
NORBERT C & PHYLLIS M SEDELBAUER TRUST DATE JULY 11, 2001	1.36
NORTHERN STATES POWER CO	0.07
NOT AVAILABLE & NOT AVAILABLE	2.11
OOP'S ACRES LLC	0.06
OWEN P HILGART	1.66
P & Q WEST LLC	1.67
PATRICIA A JUNG	0.12
PATRICIA L COULTHARD	2.21
PAUL D & CAROL A WUERCH	1.02
PAUL E GALSTER & DONNA L GALSTER	2.27
PAUL H BECRAFT	0.22
PAUL M GEREAU & KRISTINE M GEREAU	4.92
PAUL R ESSER	0.0021
PAUL WILCOX & JANIS WILCOX	1.22
PAUL WILCOX & JANIS WILCOX	3.28
PETER R PETERSEN & MARISSA M PETERSEN	2.41
PHILIP HENDRICKSON	2.32
PHILIP T AND JENNY HANSEN FAMILY TRUST & PHILIP T HANSEN AND JENNY HANSEN REVOCABLE TRUST	1.41
PHILIP VRUWINK & STACEY VRUWINK	0.14
PIT PROPERTIES	4.84
POTTER & SON INC	3.80
PRINCETON GUN & ARROW COMPANY LLC	1.78
PRISCILLA DUGENSKE & NARCIS DUGENSKE	4.79
PTL PROP SOLUTIONS LLC	0.04
PURKART FAMILY TRUST	4.44
RANDAL J LINK & SCOTT & KIMBERLY LINK REVOCABLE TRUST CREATED 1/21/2019	1.58
RANDALL J HOFFMAN & DAWN E HOFFMAN	1.55
RANDALL J HOFFMAN & DAWN HOFFMAN	3.67
RANDY L FORBUSH	1.21
RANDY R & SANDRA M MUELLER	0.67
RAYMOND J SEEFELDT	1.63
RAYMOND SCOTT SIEMERS & HEATHER M SIEMERS	4.02
RAYMOND SEEFELDT	1.42
REBA W EMERSON LIVING TRUST DATED 3/29/2000	1.88
REBECCA L. GUTZMAN REV TR	0.02
REKIS FARMS LLC	0.96
RICHARD A FREESE	3.54
RICHARD A KURZ	0.71
RICHARD J NEVILLE & WADE S NEVILLE	3.14
RICHARD J WEILER & CYNTHIA L WEILER	2.85
RICHARD P BURKWALD	0.30
RICHARD W FISCHER & CARLYN A FISCHER	3.50
RICKIE L MARTEN & TRACEY MULLINEX	4.51
ROBERT A MUSCH & MILDRED MUSCH	1.36
ROBERT COHEN & ETTA LOVITT	1.75
ROBERT E ZIEMENDORF & STEVEN L ZIEMENDORF	0.14

ROBERT EARL III WINTERS	1.42
ROBERT J KOK	2.55
ROBERT J KOK	2.76
ROBERT J NIELEN & DONALD J NIELEN	1.35
ROBERT M KOOPMANS & SHERRY L KOOPMANS	4.88
ROBERT P BROCKMAN TRUST	3.43
RODNEY D JEPSEN	1.05
RODNEY D JEPSEN	3.50
ROGER E JENSEN & BONNIE L JENSEN	0.85
RONALD C TOMLINSON	1.44
RONALD SEVERSON & MICHELLE SEVERSON	1.97
RONNIE L DAANE & HELENE M DAANE	0.25
ROSETTA GOLZ FAMILY LLC	3.65
RUESCH CRANBERRY LLC	1.46
RUSSELL C PECK	1.63
SALLY R PETERSEN TESTAMENTARY SUPPLEMENTAL NEEDS TRUST	2.25
SAND LAND LLC	4.81
SAND RIDGE TRUST	3.30
SANDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	0.00093
SCOTT E ALSUM & LONA L ALSUM	3.27
SCOTT FORMAN	1.97
SEBESTA LIV TR AGRMT & JERALD R AND LYNN M	0.31
SENECA FOODS LLC	4.64
SETH T DAFFINSON	0.17
SHANE T O'NEILL	0.82
SHANNON P RILEY & BRENDA A RILEY	4.26
SHARON D WOODFORD & SHAWN R WOODFORD	3.05
SHARON L SOPPA	0.79
SHAWN M FROST	3.96
SHIRLEY M OLESON	0.10
SMART SAND HIXTON LLC	4.73
SMITH'S WILDWOOD ACRES LLC	1.05
SPRINGVALE LINK LLC	2.43
STATE OF WI CONSERVATION COMM	4.69
STATE OF WISCONSIN - DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	0.17
STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPT TRANSPORTATION	1.40
STEPHEN H NELSON & BRENDA M NELSON	0.06
STEVEN DAVISON & ANNA DAVISON	2.35
STEVEN J HUGHES & SANDRA HUGHES	0.89
STEVEN J KOK & LINDA KOK	1.45
STEVEN S SODA & KEVIN K SODA	2.44
SUZANNE K POWELL & ROBERT A CHURCHILL	0.71
TAKE A KID HUNTING & FOUNDATION INC	4.65
TERRY EVERSON & JACQUELYN KAY LINDBERG	3.42
TERRY R NEISES & KIMBERLY K NEISES	3.90
THERON C PRINDLE & CAROL B PRINDLE	0.72
THOMAS & LINDA NEHRING TRUST 9/26/05	3.68
THOMAS E SCHNEIDER TRUST	4.21
THOMAS G ALSUM & DEBRA S ALSUM	1.08
THOMAS G ALSUM & DEBRA S ALSUM	3.65

THOMAS H & DIANE F WEEKLY	3.57
THOMAS H WEEKLY	0.011
THOMAS JR HANUTKE & MATTHEW HANUTKE	1.79
THOMAS LAND TENET LLC	0.28
THOMAS PATZNER	2.64
TIM M VANDERHEI & BRENDA S VANDERHEI	4.87
TIM M VANDERHEI & BRENDA S VANDERHEI	2.54
TIMOTHY A SAUL	0.92
TIMOTHY ANDRYK & KIMBERLY J ANDRYK	0.26
TIMOTHY J SAAVEDRA JR	0.73
TIMOTHY M MOORE & JODI L MOORE	2.69
TIMOTHY STONE	2.27
TIMOTHY WESLEY PRITCHARD	1.68
TODD A LEYSTRAS & SARAH M LEYSTRAS	2.66
TODD FOX & JULIE FOX	1.70
TOM G ALSUM & DEBRA S ALSUM	1.14
TOM R & DIANE L GUENTHER	0.69
TONY S SAY	2.75
TRAVIS MARTI FARMS LLC	3.97
TRENTON M BEMIS	1.25
TROY A JONES	0.90
TROY D KEMPFERT & COURTNEY KEMPFERT	3.55
VILLAGE OF HIXTON	0.12
VILLAGE OF TAYLOR	0.10
VILLAGE OF VESPER	0.35
VOBORA FARMS LLC	0.52
WALTER ALAN AFFELDT	4.69
WAUSHARA COUNTY	1.78
WAYNE D STEIN	4.53
WAYNE R GARDNER & TREVOR W GARDNER	0.13
WESLEY J & JULIANNE M COX	1.84
WESTLEY K RESHEL & GINGER RESHEL	0.15
WILLIAM & DENISE LYNNE VOS	1.15
WILLIAM A JR & ROSLYN M PHILLIPS	0.49
WILLIAM F RISCH	4.90
WILLIAM J GEBERT & DEBRA A GEBERT	1.14
WILLIAM R JOHNSON	0.19
WILLIAM R MITCHELL & NANCY L MITCHELL	0.93
WIS BEAGLE CLUB INC	3.26
WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD	2.18
WISCONSIN POWER & LIGHT CO	1.13
WISCONSIN POWER & LIGHT CO	1.32
WISCONSIN POWER & LIGHT REAL ESTATE DEPT	1.38
YELLOW RIVER ACRES LLC	4.54

Table 3: Table of parcels enrolled within MFL that are impacted by the project.

Landowner Name	Parcel ID Number	Route Option	Acres within Parcel	Proposed Impact to Parcel (Acres)	Percentage of Parcel to be impacted by Project
ALLEN J BOHAC	008.0122.000	Primary	17.59	1.24	7.06
ANDREA M BERTOTTO	1300667	Primary and Alternate	52.38	4.41	8.43
APRIL BUELT	01212150350	Alternate	40	3.55	8.86
ARLENE E LORCH	024-00577-0000	Primary and Alternate	29.14	1.24	4.25
ARLENE E LORCH	024-00607-0000	Primary and Alternate	40	1.98	4.94
ARLYN D BRYAN	028.0347.000	Primary	40	0.70	1.75
BANTA BROTHERS LLC	058.0394.000	Primary	40	3.61	9.03
BEVERLY J WERT	028.0384.000	Primary	40	0.86	2.15
BRIAN K CEPRESS	0800220	Primary and Alternate	37.7	4.52	12.00
BRIAN LANG	0100407	Primary and Alternate	40	1.26	3.15
CARL A CEPRESS	0800219A	Primary and Alternate	31.23	3.57	11.43
CARL A CEPRESS	0800224	Primary and Alternate	33.56	3.70	11.02
CAROLYN M PLATNER	00604640010	Primary	33.18	3.81	11.49
CHAD H HENKE	0800184	Primary and Alternate	40	0.86	2.16
CHARLES & MARY AMICO	022-03522-0100	Primary and Alternate	25	3.45	13.79
CHARLES J COOK	00603970000	Primary	19.92	2.44	12.27
CHARLES L & CAROL A BRONK	016-00650-0005	Primary and Alternate	4.68	2.91	62.28
CHAULKLIN MARITAL PROP REV LIV TR	008.0356.000	Alternate	40	3.61	9.03
CHRISTOPHER G TRICKLE	050.0320.000	Primary	40	1.00	2.51
COLLEN J KECKEISEN	018210732-02	Primary and Alternate	40	5.16	12.89
CRAIG SKRIVSETH	1900001	Primary and Alternate	40.6	0.12	0.30
CRANMOOR COOPERATIVE CO	1900324	Primary and Alternate	40	5.13	12.82

CRANMOOR COOPERATIVE CO	1900437	Primary and Alternate	40	0.00	0.01
CRANMOOR COOPERATIVE CO	1900449	Primary and Alternate	40	3.40	8.51
CRANMOOR COOPERATIVE CO	1900450	Primary and Alternate	40	2.14	5.35
CRANMOOR COOPERATIVE CO	1900453	Primary and Alternate	36.95	5.58	15.09
DALE J KUNDINGER	050.0334.000	Primary	40	3.58	8.94
DALE J KUNDINGER	050.0337.000	Primary	40	3.62	9.04
DALE J KUNDINGER	050.0338.000	Primary	39	3.57	9.15
DANIEL BACKAUS	0400394	Primary	48.25	3.36	6.95
DANIEL J & DAWN M SPAULDING	014001100010	Primary and Alternate	20	3.10	15.48
DAVID A & DAWN M JARAPKO	008-00232-0300	Primary and Alternate	3	0.24	7.96
DAVID A & DAWN M JARAPKO	008-01122-0200	Primary and Alternate	3.39	0.58	16.97
DAVID C BRYAN	01203950000	Alternate	40	3.99	9.97
DAVID C BRYAN	01203960000	Alternate	40	3.68	9.19
DAVID C DOBSON JR	028.0309.310	Primary	11	0.40	3.65
DEAN C HENKE	0800183B	Primary and Alternate	33	0.44	1.32
DEANNA L LEIGH	2200476	Alternate	32.76	1.44	4.38
DEBRA L CRAWFORD	00606460000	Alternate	40	1.03	2.57
DENNIS L RADDEMAN	028.0412.000	Primary	40	4.32	10.80
DENNIS R EMPERLEY ETAL	028.0506.000	Primary	40	4.24	10.60
DENNIS R EMPERLEY ETAL	028.0507.000	Primary	40	3.78	9.46
DENNIS W ROBUS	0800152	Primary and Alternate	30	0.49	1.62
DENNIS W ROBUS	0800155	Primary and Alternate	40	0.95	2.38
DINO & STACY VALERI	008-03613-0100	Primary and Alternate	8	1.18	14.80
DINO & STACY VALERI	008-03613-1300	Primary and Alternate	5.01	2.35	46.81
DINO & STACY VALERI	008-03613-1400	Primary and Alternate	5.01	1.14	22.83
DINO & STACY VALERI	008-03613-1500	Primary and Alternate	5.01	0.90	17.90

DINO & STACY VALERI	008-03642-0100	Primary and Alternate	30	2.29	7.62
DJS INCOME TRUST	0900382	Alternate	40	0.04	0.10
DONALD & MELINDA MITTAG	01212171700	Alternate	37	2.61	7.04
DONALD M ENGEL AND MARLENE F ENGEL REVOCABLE TRUST DATED AUGUST 5 202	04202560005	Primary and Alternate	4	0.51	12.74
DONALD M ENGEL AND MARLENE F ENGEL REVOCABLE TRUST DATED AUGUST 5 202	04202570010	Primary and Alternate	36	4.79	13.32
DORENE J BINDER	01212161000	Alternate	37	4.22	11.40
DOUGLAS W KEUNTJES	2000338	Primary and Alternate	40	0.53	1.33
EAST FORK TRUST	0400481	Primary	70.5	1.55	2.20
EDWIN R MOBERG	1300336C	Primary and Alternate	18.57	1.41	7.61
EHLERS TRUST	028.0405.000	Primary	40	0.24	0.61
ELLEN MARIE MOREHOUSE	016-00651-0000	Primary and Alternate	9.35	0.24	2.52
EM3 HOLDINGS 2 LLC	008.0110.000	Primary	39.53	3.50	8.85
ERIC J JESKE	1900569	Primary and Alternate	40	1.60	4.01
FERKEY REVOCABLE TRUST	1800428	Primary and Alternate	40	5.22	13.04
FERKEY REVOCABLE TRUST	1800429	Primary and Alternate	40	0.05	0.12
FOREST LANDS LLC	058.0375.000	Primary	40	2.67	6.67
FOR-EVER-GREEN INC	028.0348.000	Primary	40	0.57	1.43
FOR-EVER-GREEN INC	028.0351.001	Primary	40	0.59	1.48
GARY J & ELLEN M KIISKILA	291-00324-0200	Primary and Alternate	24	1.33	5.56
GLENN TIBBLE	2200333	Primary	40	3.57	8.94
GUY W ROBUS	0800152A	Primary and Alternate	10	0.50	5.01
HARVEY PETERSEN	2200496	Primary	38.48	1.38	3.58
HASELOW GRANDCHILDRENS TRUST	036-03332-0200	Primary and Alternate	32.01	3.06	9.55
HENRY J KOKKE	04202610000	Primary and Alternate	39.48	3.92	9.94
IRA W GIESE	036-03031-0110	Primary and Alternate	14.8	0.34	2.30

JACOB J WANICHEK	018210733-09	Primary and Alternate	40	5.65	14.11
JACOB J WANICHEK	018210733-10	Primary and Alternate	40	0.52	1.31
JAMES E PRINDLE LIVING TRUST 5 24 2006	00606830000	Alternate	40	0.33	0.83
JAMES PETE	028.0333.000	Primary	40	0.95	2.39
JAMES PETE	028.0334.000	Primary	40	0.99	2.47
JEAN E FLATHOM	0800168	Primary and Alternate	40	0.97	2.42
JEFFREY A & DEBORAH J BUCHHOLZ	008-00413-0110	Primary and Alternate	16.72	1.35	8.09
JEFFREY E MCMILLER	0900383	Alternate	40	0.49	1.21
JEFFREY KEUNTJES	0800202	Primary and Alternate	40	0.98	2.44
JEFFREY KEUNTJES	0800203	Primary and Alternate	38.66	0.82	2.11
JEFFREY M STARR	01204610000	Alternate	40	4.44	11.09
JEFFREY MCMILLER	0900378A	Alternate	15	0.96	6.41
JENNIFER M WENDLAND	008.0104.000	Primary	19.17	4.33	22.57
JENNIFER M WENDLAND	008.0106.000	Primary	39.33	4.37	11.10
JEROME M FERK	2100605	Primary and Alternate	55.2	3.15	5.71
JOAN M BOTH TRUSTEE	016008230000	Primary and Alternate	40	4.74	11.85
JOAN M BOTH TRUSTEE	016008310000	Primary and Alternate	40	0.70	1.75
JOAN M BOTH TRUSTEE	016008330000	Primary and Alternate	40	0.02	0.04
JOEL A & KAY ARLENE AANENSEN	010-00624-0100	Primary and Alternate	20	3.24	16.19
JOHN DIBB	2200301	Alternate	40	2.21	5.53
JOHN E DIBB	2200276	Alternate	40	2.38	5.95
JOHN KERHIN	016006830000	Primary and Alternate	46.59	4.77	10.24
JOHN P YETTER	0400431	Primary	37.78	2.52	6.67
JOSEPH D RANDALL	008.0109.001	Primary	19.76	1.75	8.88
JOSEPH R BEHLEN	2100567	Primary and Alternate	37.74	2.78	7.37
JUDITH M RADANK	016008180000	Primary and Alternate	40	0.01	0.02

KEVIN J DRESEN	2241128	Primary and Alternate	40	5.64	14.10
KEVIN J DRESEN	2241145	Primary and Alternate	7	0.01	0.11
KEVIN KAWLESKI	0800307	Primary and Alternate	87.4	2.80	3.20
KEVIN SCHMIDTKE	2200341	Primary	42.53	0.01	0.03
KIM M BOE	04202860000	Primary and Alternate	40	4.47	11.19
KIM M BOE	04203040005	Primary and Alternate	30	4.08	13.61
KIM M BOE	04203050000	Primary and Alternate	40	2.46	6.16
KURT K POST	028.0310.000	Primary	49	0.51	1.04
LAKE GORD LLP	050.0321.000	Primary	40	0.98	2.46
LEAH SIMMONS	058.0343.000	Primary	40	0.93	2.32
LORI A BEMKE	2100088	Primary and Alternate	53.7	4.56	8.49
LORI A BEMKE	2100090	Primary and Alternate	40	2.36	5.90
LORI J WIGGERT	00603450000	Primary	40	0.40	1.00
LORI J WIGGERT	00603700000	Primary	26.67	3.33	12.49
LYLE TENPAS	2000570	Primary and Alternate	40	1.43	3.59
MARK A PHILLIPPI	3100031	Alternate	40	0.65	1.62
MARK LEE STANFORD	008.0121.000	Primary	44.82	3.58	7.99
MARY T KIEDROWSKI	1800277	Primary and Alternate	40	4.26	10.66
MAURER SURVIVOR'S TR	058.0404.000	Primary	35	1.69	4.83
MAURER SURVIVOR'S TR	058.0406.000	Primary	40	3.33	8.33
MELWAY ACRES LLC	016008730000	Primary and Alternate	89.2	8.30	9.31
MICHAEL A HOHENSTEIN	058.0431.000	Primary	14.5	1.33	9.18
MICHAEL RAY FRANK	008.0119.001	Primary	37	0.19	0.51
MICHAEL ROGINSKI	2200285	Alternate	39.85	1.32	3.31
MICHAEL WADINA	00202640010	Alternate	15.21	0.18	1.19
MICHAEL WADINA	00202640000	Alternate	29.72	0.41	1.38
MOSIER REVOCABLE TRUST	008-02752-0900	Primary and Alternate	31.17	0.52	1.66
OOP'S ACRES LLC	0400262A	Primary and Alternate	11.73	0.05	0.47

PAUL M GEREAU	010-01523-0100	Primary and Alternate	30	2.82	9.38
PAUL M GEREAU	010-01523-0210	Primary and Alternate	10.12	2.11	20.88
RANDY HEISZ	008.0084.000	Primary	40	2.48	6.19
RANDY R & SANDRA M MUELLER	010-02342-0000	Primary and Alternate	39.01	0.66	1.70
RDK INCOME TRUST	058.0325.000	Primary	40	0.71	1.77
RICHIE A FELCH	1800263	Primary and Alternate	40	1.03	2.58
ROBERT & LORRAINE WALLNER REVOCABLE TRUST	022-02022-0000	Primary and Alternate	40	0.73	1.83
ROBERT E ZIEMENDORF	050.0303.002	Primary	30	0.52	1.73
ROBERT P BROCKMAN TRUST	010-02433-0000	Primary and Alternate	40	3.42	8.55
ROBERT P BROCKMAN TRUST	010-02434-0000	Primary and Alternate	40	4.38	10.94
RODNEY D GATZKE	058.0264.000	Primary	40	0.84	2.09
RONALD GANSCH	0800290A	Primary and Alternate	24	2.16	9.01
RONNALD GUMZ	1900568	Primary and Alternate	40	2.41	6.03
RUSSELL T BARBER	00202800000	Alternate	54.41	1.09	2.01
RYAN A GALLUP ETAL	050.0353.000	Primary	40	3.60	8.99
SAMUEL STECHMANN	01005640000	Primary and Alternate	50	0.05	0.10
SCOTT A EVANS	008-02212-0100	Primary and Alternate	41.35	1.65	4.00
SCOTT A EVANS	008-02213-0100	Primary and Alternate	40.15	1.52	3.78
SCOTT C KILLIAN	0800206	Primary and Alternate	40	3.49	8.72
SEAN J HENKE	0800293	Primary and Alternate	40	3.65	9.12
SHAD J WILLIAMS	050.0333.000	Primary	40	3.53	8.83
SHAWN X THAO	008.0136.000	Primary	40	3.54	8.84
SMAGACZ FARM LLC	01212190700	Alternate	37	1.49	4.03
SMART SAND BLAIR LLC	04202840000	Primary and Alternate	40	0.09	0.24
STASZAK FAMILY TRUST	00202590000	Alternate	23.83	0.23	0.95

STEPHEN J NOLAN	018210732-01	Primary and Alternate	40	3.41	8.53
STEVEN & SUE ELLEN BERGNER 2023 REVOCABLE TRUST	022-01844-0000	Primary and Alternate	40	2.64	6.60
TERRY J BOE	04202830000	Primary and Alternate	40	0.49	1.23
TERRY L GATZKE	050.0331.000	Primary	38.88	0.84	2.16
TIMOTHY A COATES	01211640000	Alternate	40	0.69	1.73
TODD J PELOT	0800257	Primary and Alternate	34	0.26	0.76
TOWNSAW YANG	1900323	Primary and Alternate	40	3.02	7.55
TRAVIS RANDALL	008.0109.000	Primary	19.76	1.72	8.73
VIRGIL BOHAC	008.0082.000	Primary	36.31	2.12	5.85
WALLACE D EVERSON	02403000000	Primary and Alternate	38	0.00	0.00
WASHKOVICK FARMS INC	010009010000	Primary and Alternate	40	0.57	1.43
WASHKOVICK FARMS INC	010009990000	Primary and Alternate	40	6.80	16.99
WAYNE LUDWIG	028.0493.000	Primary	40	3.64	9.11
WAYNE LUDWIG	028.0494.000	Primary	38.16	2.50	6.56
WAYNE MITCHEL CRAIG	010-00934-0200	Primary and Alternate	20	4.11	20.55
WAYNE MITCHEL CRAIG	010-00943-0310	Primary and Alternate	19.96	0.00000050	0.0000025
WILLIAM H & SANDRA C SCHAFFER	010-00934-0100	Primary and Alternate	20	0.86	4.31
WILSON REVOCABLE TRUST	1900287	Primary and Alternate	40.19	1.68	4.18
WIS BEAGLE CLUB INC	2240990	Primary and Alternate	40	3.21	8.01
XENA ZUPAN	008-02251-0111	Primary and Alternate	11.25	0.00	0.00

APPENDIX B: APPRAISAL AND COMPENSATION PROCESS

The acquisition of land by entities including but not limited to departments, municipalities, boards, commissions, public officers, and business with eminent domain authority in Wisconsin, is stipulated under [Wis. Stat. §32.06](#). If the entity (the condemnor) actualizes their powers of eminent domain by exercising condemnation, the condemnor shall first provide an appraisal of the affected property to each landowner prior to the start of land acquisition negotiations. An appraisal is an estimate of fair market value, additional information about the appraisal process and landowners rights can be found in the Wisconsin Department of Administration publication, "[The Rights of Landowners under Wisconsin Eminent Domain Law](#)," also listed in Appendix D.

The condemnor may conduct a market study to determine current area property values of affected property. If the landowner signs an appraisal waiver form, the market study will be the basis for the condemnor's offer of compensation and no individual property appraisal will be conducted. The condemnor may also offer additional compensation to landowners who choose to sign the appraisal waiver form.

Landowners have the right to obtain their own appraisal of their property under Wisconsin's eminent domain law ([Wis. Stat. §32.06](#)) and will be compensated for the cost of this appraisal if the following conditions are met:

- 1) The appraisal must be submitted to the condemnor or its designated real estate contractor within 60 days after the landowner receives the initial appraisal
- 2) The appraisal fee must be reasonable
- 3) The appraisal must be a full, narrative appraisal
- 4) The appraisal must be completed by a qualified appraiser

Through the process of condemnation, a jurisdictional offer made to the landowner in accordance with [Wis. Stat. §32.06\(3\)](#) will include an appraisal of the fair market value for the land acquisition or easement and any anticipated damages to the property. The fair market value means the price that a willing buyer would pay to a willing seller in the market. This will be based on at least one full narrative appraisal for each property the condemnor intends to acquire. The appraisal must be presented to the landowner. The amount of compensation is based on the appraisal(s) and is established during the negotiation process between condemnor and the individual landowners.

The condemnor is required to provide landowners with information about their rights in this process before negotiations begin. [Wis. Stat. § 32.035\(4\)\(d\)](#) additionally stipulates that if the condemnor actualizes their condemnation authority, the condemnor cannot negotiate with a landowner or make a jurisdictional offer until 30 days after the AIS is published.

APPENDIX C: AGRICULTURAL LANDOWNER COMMENTS

See attachment on next page

APPENDIX D: WISCONSIN STATUTES

The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (the Department) is required to prepare an AIS whenever more than five acres of land from at least one farm operation will be acquired for a public project if the agency/company acquiring the land has the authority to use eminent domain for property acquisitions. The Department has the option to prepare an AIS for projects affecting five or fewer acres from each farm if the proposed project would have significant effects on a farm operation. The entity proposing a construction project is required to provide the Department with the necessary details of the project so that the potential impacts and effects of the project on farm operations can be analyzed. DATCP has 60 days to make recommendations and prepare the AIS. DATCP shall publish the AIS upon receipt of the fee required to prepare the AIS. The Department provides the AIS to affected farmland owners, various state and local officials, local media and libraries, and any other individual or group who requests a copy. Thirty days after the date of publication, the project initiator may begin negotiating with the landowner(s) for the property.

I. AGRICULTURAL IMPACT STATEMENT STATUTE

[Wisconsin Statute § 32.035](#) is provided below and describes the Wisconsin Agricultural Impact Statement procedure and content.

(1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

- (a) "Department" means department of agriculture, trade, and consumer protection.
- (b) "Farm operation" means any activity conducted solely or primarily for the production of one or more agricultural commodities resulting from an agricultural use, as defined in s. 91.01 (2), for sale and home use, and customarily producing the commodities in sufficient quantity to be capable of contributing materially to the operator's support.

(2) EXCEPTION. This section shall not apply if an environmental impact statement under s. 1.11 is prepared for the proposed project and if the department submits the information required under this section as part of such statement or if the condemnation is for an easement for the purpose of constructing or operating an electric transmission line, except a high voltage transmission line as defined in s. 196.491(1) (f).

(3) PROCEDURE. The condemnor shall notify the department of any project involving the actual or potential exercise of the powers of eminent domain affecting a farm operation. If the condemnor is the department of natural

resources, the notice required by this subsection shall be given at the time that permission of the senate and assembly committees on natural resources is sought under s. 23.09(2)(d) or 27.01(2)(a). To prepare an agricultural impact statement under this section, the department may require the condemnor to compile and submit information about an affected farm operation. The department shall charge the condemnor a fee approximating the actual costs of preparing the statement. The department may not publish the statement if the fee is not paid.

(4) IMPACT STATEMENT.

(a) *When an impact statement is required; permitted.* The department shall prepare an agricultural impact statement for each project, except a project under Ch. 82 or a project located entirely within the boundaries of a city or village, if the project involves the actual or potential exercise of the powers of eminent domain and if any interest in more than 5 acres from any farm operation may be taken. The department may prepare an agricultural impact statement on a project located entirely within the boundaries of a city or village or involving any interest in 5 or fewer acres of any farm operation if the condemnation would have a significant effect on any farm operation as a whole.

(b) *Contents.* The agricultural impact statement shall include:

1. A list of the acreage and description of all land lost to agricultural production and all other land with reduced productive capacity, whether or not the land is taken.
2. The department's analyses, conclusions, and recommendations concerning the agricultural impact of the project.

(c) *Preparation time; publication.* The department shall prepare the impact statement within 60 days of receiving the information requested from the condemnor under sub. (3). The department shall publish the statement upon receipt of the fee required under sub. (3).

(d) *Waiting period.* The condemnor may not negotiate with an owner or make a jurisdictional offer under this subchapter until 30 days after the impact statement is published.

(5) PUBLICATION. Upon completing the impact statement, the department shall distribute the impact statement to the following:

(a) The governor's office.

- (b) The senate and assembly committees on agriculture and transportation.
- (c) All local and regional units of government that have jurisdiction over the area affected by the project. The department shall request that each unit post the statement at the place normally used for public notice.
- (d) Local and regional news media in the area affected.
- (e) Public libraries in the area affected.
- (f) Any individual, group, club, or committee that has demonstrated an interest and has requested receipt of such information.
- (g) The condemnor.

II. STATUTES GOVERNING EMINENT DOMAIN

The details governing eminent domain as it relates to WisDOT projects are included in Wis. Stat. Ch. 32 (<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/32.pdf>).

The Department recommends that farmland owners concerned about eminent domain powers and the acquisition of land should review this statute in its entirety. Landowners may also wish to consult with an attorney who should have expertise in eminent domain proceedings. In addition, any Wisconsin licensed appraiser that landowners employ regarding a project where eminent domain could be used should be knowledgeable in partial takings.

Section 32.09 of the Wisconsin Statutes describes the compensation provided for property acquisition and certain damages:

(6) In the case of a partial taking of property other than an easement, the compensation to be paid by the condemnor shall be the greater of either the fair market value of the property taken as of the date of evaluation or the sum determined by deducting from the fair market value of the whole property immediately before the date of evaluation, the fair market value of the remainder immediately after the date of evaluation, assuming the completion of the public improvement and giving effect, without allowance of offset for general benefits, and without restriction because of enumeration but without duplication, to the following items of loss or damage to the property where shown to exist:

- (a)** Loss of land including improvements and fixtures actually taken.
- (b)** Deprivation or restriction of existing right of access to highway from abutting land, provided that nothing herein shall operate to restrict the power of the state or any of its

subdivisions or any municipality to deprive or restrict such access without compensation under any duly authorized exercise of the police power.

(c) Loss of air rights.

(d) Loss of a legal nonconforming use.

(e) Damages resulting from actual severance of land including damages resulting from severance of improvements or fixtures and proximity damage to improvements remaining on condemnee's land. In determining severance damages under this paragraph, the condemnor may consider damages which may arise during construction of the public improvement, including damages from noise, dirt, temporary interference with vehicular or pedestrian access to the property and limitations on use of the property. The condemnor may also consider costs of extra travel made necessary by the public improvement based on the increased distance after construction of the public improvement necessary to reach any point on the property from any other point on the property.

(f) Damages to property abutting on a highway right of way due to change of grade where accompanied by a taking of land.

(g) Cost of fencing reasonably necessary to separate land taken from remainder of condemnee's land, less the amount allowed for fencing taken under par. (a), but no such damage shall be allowed where the public improvement includes fencing of right of way without cost to abutting lands.

Section 32.19 of the Wisconsin Statutes outlines payments to be made to displaced tenant occupied businesses and farm operations.

(4m) BUSINESS OR FARM REPLACEMENT PAYMENT. (a) Owner-occupied business or farm operation. In addition to amounts otherwise authorized by this subchapter, the condemnor shall make a payment, not to exceed \$50,000, to any owner displaced person who has owned and occupied the business operation, or owned the farm operation, for not less than one year prior to the initiation of negotiations for the acquisition of the real property on which the business or farm operation lies, and who actually purchases a comparable replacement business or farm operation for the acquired property within two years after the date the person vacates the acquired property or receives payment from the condemnor, whichever is later. An owner displaced person who has owned and occupied the business operation, or owned the farm operation, for not less than one year prior to the initiation of negotiations for the acquisition of the real property on which the business or farm operation lies may elect to receive the payment under par. (b) 1. in lieu of the payment under this paragraph, but the amount of payment under par. (b) 1. to such an owner displaced person may not exceed the amount the owner displaced person is eligible to

receive under this paragraph. The additional payment under this paragraph shall include the following amounts:

1. The amount, if any, which when added to the acquisition cost of the property, other than any dwelling on the property, equals the reasonable cost of a comparable replacement business or farm operation for the acquired property, as determined by the condemnor.
2. The amount, if any, which will compensate such owner displaced person for any increased interest and other debt service costs which such person is required to pay for financing the acquisitions of any replacement property, if the property acquired was encumbered by a bona fide mortgage or land contract which was a valid lien on the property for at least one year prior to the initiation of negotiations for its acquisition. The amount under this subdivision shall be determined according to rules promulgated by the department of administration.
3. Reasonable expenses incurred by the displaced person for evidence of title, recording fees and other closing costs incident to the purchase of the replacement property, but not including prepaid expenses.

(b) Tenant-occupied business or farm operation. In addition to amounts otherwise authorized by this subchapter, the condemnor shall make a payment to any tenant displaced person who has owned and occupied the business operation, or owned the farm operation, for not less than one year prior to initiation of negotiations for the acquisition of the real property on which the business or operation lies or, if displacement is not a direct result of acquisition, such other event as determined by the department of commerce, and who actually rents or purchases a comparable replacement business or farm operation within 2 years after the date the person vacates the property. At the option of the tenant displaced person, such payment shall be either:

1. The amount, not to exceed \$30,000, which is necessary to lease or rent a comparable replacement business or farm operation for a period of 4 years. The payment shall be computed by determining the average monthly rent paid for the property from which the person was displaced for the 12 months prior to the initiation of negotiations or, if displacement is not a direct result of acquisition, such other event as determined by the department of administration and the monthly rent of a comparable replacement business or farm operation and multiply the difference by 48; or
2. If the tenant displaced person elects to purchase a comparable replacement business or farm operation, the amount determined under subd. 1 plus expenses under par. (a) 3.

(5) EMINENT DOMAIN. Nothing in this section or ss. 32.25 to 32.27 shall be construed as creating in any condemnation proceedings brought under the power of eminent domain, any element of damages.

Section 32.25 of the Wisconsin Statutes delineates steps to be followed when displacing persons, businesses, and farm operations.

(1) Except as provided under sub.(3) and s. 85.09 (4m), no condemnor may proceed with any activity that may involve the displacement of persons, business concerns or farm operations until the condemnor has filed in writing a relocation payment plan and relocation assistance service plan and has had both plans approved in writing by the department of administration.

(2) The relocation assistance service plan shall contain evidence that the condemnor has taken reasonable and appropriate steps to:

(a) Determine the cost of any relocation payments and services or the methods that are going to be used to determine such costs.

(b) Assist owners of displaced business concerns and farm operations in obtaining and becoming established in suitable business locations or replacement farms.

(c) Assist displaced owners or renters in the location of comparable dwellings.

(d) Supply information concerning programs of federal, state and local governments which offer assistance to displaced persons and business concerns.

(e) Assist in minimizing hardships to displaced persons in adjusting to relocation.

(f) Secure, to the greatest extent practicable, the coordination of relocation activities with other project activities and other planned or proposed governmental actions in the community or nearby areas which may affect the implementation of the relocation program.

(g) Determine the approximate number of persons, farms or businesses that will be displaced and the availability of decent, safe and sanitary replacement housing.

(h) Assure that, within a reasonable time prior to displacement, there will be available, to the extent that may reasonably be accomplished, housing meeting the standards established by the department of administration for decent, safe and sanitary dwellings. The housing, so far as practicable, shall be in areas not generally less desirable in regard to public utilities, public and commercial facilities and at rents or prices within the financial means of the families and individuals displaced and equal in number to the number of such displaced families or individuals and reasonably accessible to their places of employment.

(i) Assure that a person shall not be required to move from a dwelling unless the person has had a reasonable opportunity to relocate to a comparable dwelling.

(3) (a) Subsection (1) does not apply to any of the following activities engaged in by a condemnor:

1. Obtaining an appraisal of property.
2. Obtaining an option to purchase property, regardless of whether the option specifies the purchase price, if the property is not part of a program or project receiving federal financial assistance.

III. STATUTES GOVERNING ACCESS

Section 86.05 of the Wisconsin Statutes states that access shall be provided to land which abuts a highway:

Entrances to highway restored. Whenever it is necessary, in making any highway improvement to cut or fill or otherwise grade the highway in front of any entrance to abutting premises, a suitable entrance to the premises shall be constructed as a part of the improvements, and if the premises are divided by the highway, then one such entrance shall be constructed on each side of the highway. Thereafter, each entrance shall be maintained by the owner of the premises. During the time the highway is under construction, the state, county, city, village or town shall not be responsible for any damage that may be sustained through the absence of an entrance to any such premises.

Section 84.25 of the Wisconsin Statutes describes access restrictions concerning a controlled-access highway.

(3) CONSTRUCTION; OTHER POWERS OF DEPARTMENT. In order to provide for the public safety, convenience and the general welfare, the department may use an existing highway or provide new and additional facilities for a controlled-access highway and so design the same and its appurtenances, and so regulate, restrict or prohibit access to or departure from it as the department deems necessary or desirable. The department may eliminate intersections at grade of controlled-access highways with existing highways or streets, by grade separation or service road, or by closing off such roads and streets at the right-of-way boundary line of such controlled-access highway and may divide and separate any controlled-access highway into separate roadways or lanes by raised curbing, dividing sections or other physical separations or by signs, markers, stripes or other suitable devices, and may execute any construction necessary in the development of a controlled-access highway including service roads or separation of grade structures.

(4) CONNECTIONS BY OTHER HIGHWAYS. After the establishment of any controlled-access highway, no street or highway or private driveway, shall be opened into or connected with any

controlled-access highway without the previous consent and approval of the department in writing, which shall be given only if the public interest shall be served thereby and shall specify the terms and conditions on which such consent and approval is given.

(5) USE OF HIGHWAY. No person shall have any right of entrance upon or departure from or travel across any controlled-access highway, or to or from abutting lands except at places designated and provided for such purposes, and on such terms and conditions as may be specified from time to time by the department.

(6) ABUTTING OWNERS. After the designation of a controlled-access highway, the owners or occupants of abutting lands shall have no right or easement of access, by reason of the fact that their property abuts on the controlled-access highway or for other reason, except only the controlled right of access and of light, air or view.

(7) SPECIAL CROSSING PERMITS. Whenever property held under one ownership is severed by a controlled-access highway, the department may permit a crossing at a designated location, to be used solely for travel between the severed parcels, and such use shall cease if such parcels pass into separate ownership.

IV. STATUTES GOVERNING DRAINAGE

Section 88.87(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes describes regulations concerning rights of drainage:

(a) Whenever any county, town, city, village, railroad company or the department of transportation has heretofore constructed and now maintains or hereafter constructs and maintains any highway or railroad grade in or across any marsh, lowland, natural depression, natural watercourse, natural or man-made channel or drainage course, it shall not impede the general flow of surface water or stream water in any unreasonable manner so as to cause either an unnecessary accumulation of waters flooding or water-soaking uplands or an unreasonable accumulation and discharge of surface water flooding or water-soaking lowlands. All such highways and railroad grades shall be constructed with adequate ditches, culverts, and other facilities as may be feasible, consonant with sound engineering practices, to the end of maintaining as far as practicable the original flow lines of drainage. This paragraph does not apply to highways or railroad grades used to hold and retain water for cranberry or conservation management purposes.

(b) Drainage rights and easements may be purchased or condemned by the public authority or railroad company having control of the highway or railroad grade to aid in the prevention of damage to property owners which might otherwise occur as a result of failure to comply with par. (a).

(c) If a city, village, town, county, or railroad company or the department of transportation constructs and maintains a highway or railroad grade not in accordance with par. (a), any property owner damaged by the highway or railroad grade may, within 3 years after the alleged damage occurred, file a claim with the appropriate governmental agency or railroad company. The claim shall consist of a sworn statement of the alleged faulty construction and a description, sufficient to determine the location of the lands, of the lands alleged to have been damaged by flooding or water-soaking. Within 90 days after the filing of that claim, the governmental agency or railroad company shall either correct the cause of the water damage, acquire rights to use the land for drainage or overflow purposes, or deny the claim. If the agency or company denies the claim or fails to take any action within 90 days after the filing of the claim, the property owner may bring an action in inverse condemnation under ch. 32 or sue for such other relief, other than damages, as may be just and equitable.

WisDOT [specification 205.3.3](#) further describes its policies concerning drainage:

- (1)** During construction, maintain roadway, ditches, and channels in a well-drained condition at all times by keeping the excavation areas and embankments sloped to the approximate section of the ultimate earth grade. Perform blading or leveling operations when placing embankments and during the process of excavation except if the excavation is in ledge rock or areas where leveling is not practical or necessary. If it is necessary in the prosecution of the work to interrupt existing surface drainage, sewers, or under drainage, provide temporary drainage until completing permanent drainage work.
- (2)** If storing salvaged topsoil on the right-of-way during construction operations, stockpile it to preclude interference with or obstruction of surface drainage.
- (3)** Seal subgrade surfaces as specified for subgrade intermediate consolidation and trimming in 207.3.9.
- (4)** Preserve, protect, and maintain all existing tile drains, sewers, and other subsurface drains, or parts thereof that the engineer judges should continue in service without change. Repair, at no expense to the department, all damage to these facilities resulting from negligence or carelessness of the contractor's operations.

V. LANDOWNER BILL OF RIGHTS

[Wisconsin Statute § 182.017](#) **Transmission lines; privileges; damages** is provided below:

(1g) Definitions. In this section:

(a) "Commission" means the public service commission.

(b) "Project Initiators" means any of the following:

1. A corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other business entity organized to furnish telegraph or telecommunications service or transmit heat, power, or electric current to the public or for public purposes.
2. An independent system operator, as defined in s. 196.485 (1) (d).
3. An independent transmission owner, as defined in s. 196.485 (1) (dm).
4. A cooperative association organized under ch. 185 or 193 to furnish telegraph or telecommunications service.
5. A cooperative association organized under ch. 185 to transmit heat, power, or electric current to its members.
6. An interim cable operator, as defined in s. 66.0420 (2) (n).
7. A video service provider, as defined in s. 66.0420 (2) (zg).

(bm) "Municipal regulation" means any contract, ordinance, resolution, order, or other regulation entered into, enacted, or issued by a municipality before, on, or after July 2, 2013.

(c) "Municipality" means a city, village, or town.

(cq) "Telecommunications service" means the offering for sale of the conveyance of voice, data, or other information, including the sale of service for collection, storage, forwarding, switching, and delivery incidental to such communication regardless of the technology or mode used to make such offering.

(ct) "Urban rail transit system" means a system, either publicly or privately owned, which provides transportation by rail in a municipality to the public on a regular and continuing basis and which begins service on or after July 2, 2013.

(d) "Video service network" has the meaning given in s. 66.0420 (2) (zb).

(1r) Right-of-way for. Any company may, subject to ss. 30.44 (3m), 30.45, 86.16, and 196.491 (3) (d) 3m. and to reasonable regulations made by any municipality through which its transmission lines or systems may pass, construct and maintain such lines or

systems with all necessary appurtenances in, across or beneath any public highway or bridge or any stream or body of water, or upon any lands of any owner consenting thereto, and for such purpose may acquire lands or the necessary easements; and may connect and operate its lines or system with other lines or systems devoted to like business, within or without this state, and charge reasonable rates for the transmission and delivery of messages or the furnishing of heat, power, or electric light.

(2) Not to obstruct public use. But no such line or system or any appurtenance thereto shall at any time obstruct or incommode the public use of any highway, bridge, stream or body of water.

(3) Abandoned lines removed. The commission after a public hearing as provided in s. 196.26, and subject to the right of review as provided in ch. 227, may declare any line to have been abandoned or discontinued, if the facts warrant such finding. Whenever such a finding shall have been made the company shall remove such line, and on failure for 3 months after such finding of abandonment or discontinuance, any person owning land over, through or upon which such line shall pass, may remove the same, or the supervisors of any town within which said lines may be situated, may remove the said lines from the limits of its highways, and such person or supervisors shall be entitled to recover from the company owning the lines the expense for labor involved in removing the property.

(4) Location of poles. In case of dispute as to the location of poles, pipes or conduits, the commissioners appointed in condemnation proceedings under ch. 32 may determine the location. In no case, except where the owner consents, shall poles be set in front of or upon any residence property, or in front of a building occupied for business purposes, unless the commissioners find that the same is necessary and the court may review the finding.

(5) Tree trimming. Any company which shall in any manner destroy, trim or injure any shade or ornamental trees along any such lines or systems, or, in the course of tree trimming or removal, cause any damage to buildings, fences, crops, livestock or other property, except by the consent of the owner, or after the right so to do has been acquired, shall be liable to the person aggrieved in 3 times the actual damage sustained, besides costs.

(6) Municipal franchise required. No lighting or heating corporation or lighting or heating cooperative association shall have any right hereunder in any municipality until it has obtained a franchise or written consent for the erection or installation of its lines from such municipality.

(7) High-voltage transmission lines. Any easement for rights-of-way for high-voltage transmission lines as defined under s. 196.491 (1) (f) shall be subject to all of the following conditions and limitations:

- (a) The conveyance under ch. 706 and, if applicable, the petition under s. 32.06 (7), shall describe the interest transferred by specifying, in addition to the length and width of the right-of-way, the number, type and maximum height of all structures to be erected thereon, the minimum height of the transmission lines above the landscape, and the number and maximum voltage of the lines to be constructed and operated thereon.
- (b) In determining just compensation for the interest under s. 32.09, damages shall include losses caused by placement of the line and associated facilities near fences or natural barriers such that lands not taken are rendered less readily accessible to vehicles, agricultural implements and aircraft used in crop work, as well as damages resulting from ozone effects and other physical phenomena associated with such lines, including but not limited to interference with telephone, television and radio communication.
- (c) In constructing and maintaining high-voltage transmission lines on the property covered by the easement the utility shall:
 - 1. If excavation is necessary, ensure that the top soil is stripped, piled and replaced upon completion of the operation.
 - 2. Restore to its original condition any slope, terrace, or waterway which is disturbed by the construction or maintenance.
 - 3. Insofar as is practicable and when the landowner requests, schedule any construction work in an area used for agricultural production at times when the ground is frozen in order to prevent or reduce soil compaction.
 - 4. Clear all debris and remove all stones and rocks resulting from construction activity upon completion of construction.
 - 5. Satisfactorily repair to its original condition any fence damaged as a result of construction or maintenance operations. If cutting a fence is necessary, a temporary gate shall be installed. Any such gate shall be left in place at the landowner's request.
 - 6. Repair any drainage tile line within the easement damaged by such construction or maintenance.
 - 7. Pay for any crop damage caused by such construction or maintenance.

8. Supply and install any necessary grounding of a landowner's fences, machinery or buildings.
- (d) The utility shall control weeds and brush around the transmission line facilities. No herbicidal chemicals may be used for weed and brush control without the express written consent of the landowner. If weed and brush control is undertaken by the landowner under an agreement with the utility, the landowner shall receive from the utility a reasonable amount for such services.
- (e) The landowner shall be afforded a reasonable time prior to commencement of construction to harvest any trees located within the easement boundaries, and if the landowner fails to do so, the landowner shall nevertheless retain title to all trees cut by the utility.
- (f) The landowner shall not be responsible for any injury to persons or property caused by the design, construction or upkeep of the high-voltage transmission lines or towers.
- (g) The utility shall employ all reasonable measures to ensure that the landowner's television and radio reception is not adversely affected by the high-voltage transmission lines.
- (h) The utility may not use any lands beyond the boundaries of the easement for any purpose, including ingress to and egress from the right-of-way, without the written consent of the landowner.
- (i) The rights conferred under pars. (c) to (h) may be specifically waived by the landowner in an easement conveyance which contains such paragraphs verbatim.
- (8) Commission review.**
- (a) Upon complaint by a company that a regulation by a municipality under sub. (1r) is unreasonable, the commission shall set a hearing and, if the commission finds that the regulation is unreasonable, the regulation shall be void. Subject to pars. (am) to (c), if the commission determines that a municipal regulation that was in effect on January 1, 2007, and immediately prior to January 9, 2008, or that a community standard, as demonstrated through consistent practice and custom in the municipality, that was in effect on January 1, 2007, and immediately prior to January 9, 2008, is substantially the same as the municipal regulation complained of, there is a rebuttable presumption that the latter regulation is reasonable.
- (am) A municipal regulation is unreasonable if it has the effect of creating a moratorium on the placement of company lines or systems under sub. (1r) or on

the entrance into the municipality of a video service provider, as defined in s. 66.0420 (2) (zg), or is inconsistent with the purposes of s. 66.0420.

- (as) Notwithstanding sub. (2), a municipal regulation is unreasonable if it requires a company to pay any part of the cost to modify or relocate the company's facilities to accommodate an urban rail transit system.
- (b) A municipal regulation is unreasonable if it requires a company to pay more than the actual cost of functions undertaken by the municipality to manage company access to and use of municipal rights-of-way. These management functions include all of the following:
1. Registering companies, including the gathering and recording of information necessary to conduct business with a company.
 2. Except as provided in provided in par. (c), issuing, processing, and verifying excavation or other company permit applications, including supplemental applications.
 3. Inspecting company job sites and restoration projects.
 4. Maintaining, supporting, protecting, or moving company equipment during work in municipal rights-of-way.
 5. Undertaking restoration work inadequately performed by a company after providing notice and the opportunity to correct the work.
 6. Revoking company permits.
 7. Maintenance of databases.
 8. Scheduling and coordinating highway, street, and right-of-way work relevant to a company permit.
- (c) A municipal regulation is unreasonable if it requires a company to be responsible for fees under s. 182.0175 (1m) (bm) that may be assessed to a municipality as a member of the one-call system under s. 182.0175.
- (d) It is reasonable for a municipal regulation to provide for the recovery of costs incurred under par. (b) 1., 2., 3., and 7. through a preexcavation permit fee.
- (e) It is reasonable for a municipal regulation to provide for the recovery of costs incurred under par. (b) 4., 5., and 6. only from the company that is responsible for causing the municipality to incur the costs.

(9) Time limit for permits. If a municipality establishes a permit process under sub. (1r), the municipality shall approve or deny a permit application no later than 60 days after receipt of the application, and, if the municipality fails to do so, the municipality shall be considered to have approved the application and granted the permit. If a municipality denies a permit application, the municipality shall provide the applicant a written explanation of the reasons for the denial at the time that the municipality denies the application.

APPENDIX E: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES

Wisconsin State Statutes

- 1) Wisconsin Statute Chapter 91: [Farmland Preservation](#)
 - a. Subchapter 91.46(4): [Conditional Uses](#)
- 2) Wisconsin Statute Chapter 32: [Eminent Domain](#)
 - a. Subchapter 32.035: [Agricultural Impact Statement](#)

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Website Links

- 3) [DATCP \(datcp.wi.gov\)](#)
- 4) [Farmland Preservation](#)
- 5) [Agricultural Impact Statements](#)
- 6) [Wisconsin Farm Center](#) (Information on services provided to Wisconsin farmers including financial mediation, stray voltage, legal, vocational, and farm transfers)
- 7) [Drainage Districts](#)

Department of Administration (DOA) Website Links

- 8) [DOA \(doa.wi.gov\)](#)
- 9) [Relocation Assistance](#) (Publications on landowner rights under Wisconsin's eminent domain law)
- 10) [Wisconsin Relocation Rights Residential](#)
- 11) [Wisconsin Relocation Rights for Businesses, Farm and Nonprofit Organizations](#)
- 12) [The Rights of Landowners under Wisconsin Eminent Domain Law](#), Procedures under sec. 32.06 Wis. Stats. (Condemnation procedures in matters other than highways, streets, storm & sanitary sewers, watercourses, alleys, airports and mass transit facilities)

Department of Natural Resources (facility plan) Website Links

- 13) [DNR \(dnr.wi.gov\)](#)
- 14) [Managed Forest Law](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- 15) [USDA \(usda.gov\)](#)
- 16) [National Agricultural Statistics Service](#)
- 17) [Web Soil Survey](#)
- 18) [Soil Quality – Urban Technical Note No. 1, Erosion and Sedimentation on Construction Sites](#)

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS)

- 19) [DSPS \(dps.wi.gov\)](https://dps.wisconsin.gov)
- 20) [Real Estate Appraisers](#) (Look-up for state certification status of different types of real estate appraisers)

State Bar of Wisconsin

- 21) [State Bar of Wisconsin \(www.wisbar.org\)](http://www.wisbar.org) (For general legal information and assistance in finding a lawyer)

APPENDIX F: DATCP AG. MONITORING FORM - ARM-LWR-543

See attachment on next page



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Division of Agricultural Resource Management

PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911

Phone: (608) 224-4646 Fax (608) 224-4615

Agricultural Monitoring Form for Transmission Line Projects

s. 32.035, Wis. Stats.

Please complete this form at the end of the week for the duration of the transmission line construction project, summarizing the daily construction activities and inspection observations on agricultural land for that week. This form should be submitted to DATCP electronically at DATCPAgricultureStatements@wisconsin.gov, unless another electronic project document storage location is specified.

Personal information you provide may be used for purposes other than that for which it was originally collected (s. 15.04 (i)(m), Wis. Stats.)

Section 1: Project/Site Information.

INSPECTION DATES:	DATCP PROJECT # AND NAME:
MONITOR NAME:	MONITOR PHONE # AND EMAIL:
LOCATION OF WORK CONDUCTED THIS WEEK (AGRICULTURAL PARCEL NUMBERS OR STRUCTURE NUMBERS):	
WEEKLY WEATHER/ SITE CONDITIONS:	

Section 2: Summary of Daily Construction Activities for the Week.

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Section 3: Landowner Communication - Complete for each landowner correspondence that week. Add additional rows as necessary.	
NAME OF LANDOWNER:	DESCRIBE COMMUNICATION:
LOCATION (PARCEL NO. OR STRUCTURE NO.):	
DATE:	

Section 4: Weekly Inspection Summary - Indicate the status of each inspection item on agricultural land, summarized for the week. If an item was observed as not acceptable but was corrected later in that week, make note in the comments section that the item was already corrected.					
Items Inspected On Agricultural Land	Acceptable	Not Acceptable	Follow Up Required	N/A	Comments
Clearing Practices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dewatering Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Erosion Control Practices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Soil Segregation and Storage of Topsoil Spoils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Soil Mixing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Soil Compaction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Excess Rock Content in Soil	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rutting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Crop Damage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Damage to Drainage Improvements (tile, ditches, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Unnatural Field Flooding or Ponding of Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Biosecurity Concern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Organic Farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Damage to Conservation Techniques (grassed waterways, terraces, contour strips, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Section 5: Outstanding Ag Impact Items to Date – Complete for all locations requiring follow-up actions as identified in Section 4. Previously identified issues should remain in this table on each weekly report until they are corrected. Add additional rows as necessary.				
ISSUE LOCATION	ISSUE	DATE OBSERVED	ACTION/RESOLUTION NEEDED	DATE CORRECTED

Section 6: Photos of Construction Observations - Include at least one photo for each item inspected in Section 4. The photo(s) of each inspection item should be representative of the daily observations that week. Add rows as needed.

INSERT PHOTO	<p><u>PHOTO 1</u></p> <p>DATE:</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED:</p>
INSERT PHOTO	<p><u>PHOTO 2</u></p> <p>DATE:</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED:</p>
INSERT PHOTO	<p><u>PHOTO 3</u></p> <p>DATE:</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED:</p>

<p>INSERT PHOTO</p>	<p><u>PHOTO 4</u></p> <p>DATE:</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED:</p>
<p>INSERT PHOTO</p>	<p><u>PHOTO 5</u></p> <p>DATE:</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED:</p>
<p>INSERT PHOTO</p>	<p><u>PHOTO 6</u></p> <p>DATE:</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED:</p>

INSERT PHOTO	<p><u>PHOTO 7</u></p> <p>DATE:</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED:</p>
INSERT PHOTO	<p><u>PHOTO 8</u></p> <p>DATE:</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED:</p>



**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

**DIVISION OF
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Agricultural Impact Program

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