

## AGRICULTURAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

We prepare an agricultural impact statement (AIS) when a public project will require either the outright purchase of farmland or the purchase of easements on farmland, and the utility/company has the potential authority to condemn.

To prepare the AIS, our staff interviews affected farmers and conveys any concerns in a report. Our staff also evaluates the agricultural impacts of proposed projects, and recommend measures to reduce or avoid impacts to farm operations and farmland. Our staff is available to answer farmers' questions about the process and help them present their concerns.

The AIS helps governments, utilities, and agencies in making decisions about project alternatives. We distribute it to property owners, concerned individuals, and government entities.

## WHO WE ARE

AIS staff works to provide farmers with resources and a voice when public projects are proposed.

We are available to answer your questions about specific projects, the project review process and timelines, how to effectively comment on proposed projects, and what actions can be recommended that will lessen the impacts to your property and for your operation.

## CONTACT US:

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DATCP.wi.gov and search for "AIS"



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## Agricultural Impact Statements

*Help for farm owners  
when public projects  
cross your land*



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture,  
Trade and Consumer Protection





## PUBLIC PROJECTS AND YOUR FARMLAND

Electric and natural gas utility projects always raise questions for landowners. You want to know if and when the project will cross your land, what rights you have, how you can protect your cropland, and how easements work.

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's agricultural impact statement, or AIS, program can help. Through our outreach, analysis, and reports, we provide information to farmland owners about projects that could affect your property, and help convey your concerns and possible solutions to the utilities/companies and authorities involved.

We strive to increase landowner awareness when public projects such as electric transmission lines, substations, and natural gas pipelines are first proposed. This allows you to be involved from the beginning.

## DATCP can assist you with answers and resources

We provide farmland owners with information about:

- Types of construction impacts you can anticipate
- Potential solutions to your concerns
- The range of alternate routes
- Where to find additional information sources
- How to participate in the project review process



## POTENTIAL UTILITY IMPACTS TO FARMLAND

Project construction across your land can impact many aspects of your farming operation.

Utility projects often require temporary and permanent easements that give the utility's maintenance workers access to your property. We work to reduce impacts to your land before, during and after construction. Potential impacts to your land could include:

- Impaired topsoil, through erosion, compaction and mixing with underlying soils
- Increased rock content in soils
- Damage to drain tiles and drainage
- Disruption of irrigation practices and damage to equipment
- Damaged or altered fencing
- Changes to field access
- Introduction or spread of weeds
- Loss of organic certification

Our staff is available to help - from project proposal to land restoration.