



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Lon Roberts, Chairperson
Mike Huebsch, Commissioner
Rich Zipperer, Commissioner

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Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
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October 4, 2018

Mr. Thomas Malanowski, Regulatory Relations Manager
American Transmission Company LLC
W234 N2000 Ridgeview Parkway Court
Waukesha, WI 53188-1022

Re: Joint Application of American Transmission Company, ITC
Midwest LLC, and Dairyland Power Cooperative, for
Authority to Construct and Operate a New 345 kV
Transmission Line from the Existing Hickory Creek
Substation in Dubuque County, Iowa, to the Existing
Cardinal Substation in Dane County, Wisconsin, to be
Known as the Cardinal-Hickory Creek Project

5-CE-146

Dear Mr. Malanowski:

On April 30, 2018, American Transmission Company LLC, ITC Midwest LLC, and Dairyland Power Cooperative (together, applicants) filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) for authority to construct and place into operation a new high-voltage transmission line, referred to by the applicants as the Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. The project would include construction of a new 345 kilovolt transmission line from the Cardinal Substation in Dane County, Wisconsin, to the Hickory Creek Substation in Dubuque County, Iowa, connecting to a new intermediate substation to be constructed in Grant County, Wisconsin, and associated facility upgrades and modifications.

The Commission and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reviewed the application to construct the facilities described above. On May 24, 2018, the Commission, under Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2. and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 111.51, found the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity application to be incomplete. ([PSC REF#: 343192.](#)) A list of items identified as missing, incomplete, or requiring clarification was attached to that determination. Wisconsin Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2. provides that an applicant may supplement and refile an application that the Commission deems incomplete. The applicants supplemented and refiled the application on July 30, 2018. The Commission and DNR subsequently reviewed the revised application, and determined that the revised application was incomplete. ([PSC REF#: 349322.](#)) On September 28, 2018, the applicants supplemented and refiled a second revised application. Based on the review of this additional information, I have determined that the application is complete and, by this letter, notify you of this determination as required by Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2.

The day after the date of this letter is the first day of the Commission's initial 180-day review period under Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(g). Please be aware that application information that is

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

Wisconsin Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2. requires the Commission to send an electronic copy of the complete application to the clerk of each municipality and town in which the proposed facilities are to be located and to the main public library in each such county. The copies must be distributed not more than 10 days after the application is found complete. Wisconsin Admin. Code § PSC 111.51(4)(b)3. allows the Commission to direct the applicant to send the electronic copies of the application. By this letter, the Commission directs the applicants to send electronic copies of the complete application to the local government and library locations.

Please provide to the Commission an electronic MS Word file of the application. In addition, please contact the docket coordinator listed below regarding the number and content of printed copies of the application and appendices required by Commission staff.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the docket coordinator Akanksha Craft at (608) 267-9509.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin R. Day". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Martin R. Day
Administrator
Division of Energy Regulation

MRD:JAL;jlt:DL: 01653606