

Town of Elba
Resolution No. 2026-09-15

A Resolution Opposing the routing and construction of the proposed Bell Center-Columbia-Sugar Creek – Illinois/Wisconsin State Line (BECI) 765-Kilowolt Electric Transmission Line Project through the Town of Elba, Dodge County, Wisconsin

WHEREAS, the Town of Elba, Dodge County, Wisconsin is a predominantly rural and agricultural community characterized by productive farmland, family farms, rural residents, wetlands, woodlands, open space, and natural resources that contribute substantially to the Town's economy, environment, rural character and quality of life, and

WHEREAS, Midcontinent Grid Solutions (MGS) — a joint venture of Transource Energy and BHE Transmission — is proposing the construction of a 765-kilovolt electric transmission line extending from Bell Center-Columbia-Sugar Creek-Illinois/Wisconsin state line, commonly referred to as the BECI Project (Bell Center–Columbia–Sugar Creek–IL/WI State Line)], and identified as part of MISO's Long-Range Transmission Plan, Tranche 2.1; and

WHEREAS, the BECI Project is proposed to consist of approximately 190 miles of new single-circuit 765-kV transmission facilities extending across Wisconsin to an interconnection at the Illinois/Wisconsin state line, and the final transmission line route has not yet been selected; and

WHEREAS, the proposed BECI 765-kV transmission project is intended to service regional transmission needs and would provide little or no direct benefit to the residents, farms, businesses, or taxpayers of the Town of Elba while imposing significant local burdens; and

WHEREAS, construction of a new 765-kV transmission corridor through the Town could require substantial rights-of-way, clearing of vegetation, installation of large transmission structures, construction access, and permanent restrictions on the use and development of affected property; and

WHEREAS, such a corridor could reduce property values, limit the use and enjoyment of private property, fragment productive farmland, interfere with farming practices and drainage systems, compact soils, cause crop losses, restrict agriculture operations, and reduce the productivity and long-term agricultural value of farmland; and

WHEREAS, the proposed corridor could affect wetlands, woodlands, waterways, wildlife habitat, environmental corridors, and other natural resources, while permanently altering the rural landscape, agricultural heritage, scenic character, open space, and residential quality of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the potential loss of property value, agricultural productivity, tourism activity, local economic development, tax-base stability, and use of local land and natural resources would result in an overall negative impact on the Town's economy, revenues, residents, and resources; and

WHEREAS, the final route has not yet been selected, the Town Board believes that concerns expressed by affected municipalities and landowners should receive meaningful consideration during the route-

development process, including consideration of alternatives that avoid the Town of Elba and minimize impacts to existing homes, farmsteads, productive agricultural operations, private property, and environmentally sensitive areas; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board believes transmission planning and routing decisions should fully evaluate alternatives that avoid or minimize impacts on established rural communities, productive agricultural lands, residences, environmentally sensitive areas, and private property, with meaningful participation by affected municipalities and landowners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Elba, Dodge County, Wisconsin, formally and unequivocally oppose the routing and construction of the proposed BECI 765-kV high-voltage transmission line through the Town of Elba, finding that the project would provide little to no direct benefit to the Town of Elba residents while placing disproportionate burdens upon the Town through potential reductions in property values, loss or fragmentation of productive farmland, impacts upon agricultural operations, restrictions on private property, deterrence of tourism and recreation, disruption of the rural landscape, and negative effects upon the Town's local economy, tax base, natural resources, and quality of life. The Town Board further urges Midcontinent Grid Solutions (MGS), MISO, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, and all other agencies and entities involved in the planning and approval of the project to select a route that avoids the Town of Elba and minimizes impacts upon existing homes and farmsteads, agricultural lands, rural residences, private property, tourism, environmentally sensitive areas, and local economic resources.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that nothing in this Resolution is intended to conflict with or supersede any applicable state or federal law or the lawful jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin or any other governmental agency. The Town Clerk is authorized and to transmit this Resolution to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, Midcontinent Grid Solutions, MISO, Dodge County and the Town's state and federal representatives, the Governor of Wisconsin, and other appropriate officials and agencies.

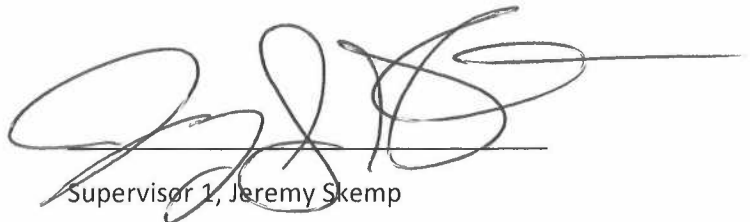
Submitted to the Town Board for consideration this 15th day of September 2026.

Adopted this 15th day of September 2026.

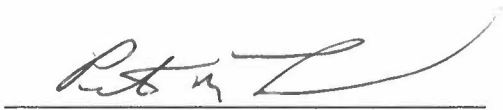
BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD:



Town Chair, Roger Parpart



Supervisor 1, Jeremy Skemp



Supervisor 2, Peter Larson



ATTESTED BY: Town Clerk, Lori Koenig-Fry