

**TOWN OF JEFFERSON  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-2026**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ROUTING AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
PROPOSED BELL CENTER–COLUMBIA–SUGAR CREEK–ILLINOIS/WISCONSIN  
STATE LINE (BECI) 765 kV TRANSMISSION PROJECT THROUGH  
THE TOWN OF JEFFERSON**

**WHEREAS**, Midcontinent Grid Solutions Wisconsin, LLC ("MGS") is developing the proposed Bell Center–Columbia–Sugar Creek–Illinois/Wisconsin State Line ("BECI") 765-kilovolt transmission project in Wisconsin, and portions of Jefferson County are presently included within the project study area;

**WHEREAS**, as of the date of this Resolution, the project remains in the study and routing process, no final route through Jefferson County has been selected, and the Town Board desires to state the Town's position before final routing decisions are made;

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Jefferson has adopted the Town of Jefferson Comprehensive Plan 2022–2042 as the guiding document for land-use decision-making and as an expression of the Town's long-range vision, goals, and objectives;

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive Plan's Land Use Vision states that the Town seeks to provide a high quality of life to current and future residents through protection of environmentally sensitive areas and agricultural land, proactive growth management, and land-use policies that maintain the Town's character;

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive Plan's Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Vision provides that the Town serve as a steward of its agricultural, natural, and cultural resources by preserving environmentally sensitive areas, protecting high-quality agricultural land, and maintaining and promoting the Town's heritage, character, and history;

**WHEREAS**, agriculture and agricultural lands are integral to the economy, landscape, history, and rural character of the Town of Jefferson, and the Town has identified preservation of farmland, productive soils, environmentally sensitive areas, and natural resources as important community priorities;

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive Plan establishes Utilities Goal 1: "Be proactive in the siting of utilities, energy production, and communications towers," and includes objectives addressing proposed electric lines and coordination with Jefferson County and the State of Wisconsin concerning utility structures;

**WHEREAS**, construction of a new 765 kV transmission corridor through agricultural and rural lands within the Town has the potential to convert or fragment agricultural land, disrupt farming operations, affect environmentally sensitive areas and natural resources, and substantially alter the rural landscape and character the Comprehensive Plan seeks to preserve;

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board recognizes the importance of a safe and reliable electric transmission system and does not, by this Resolution, oppose responsible improvements to electric infrastructure were demonstrated to be necessary and appropriately located; however, such infrastructure should, to the greatest extent practicable, avoid unnecessary impacts to agricultural lands, residences, environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and the established rural character of the Town;

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board finds that routing a new high-capacity transmission corridor through the Town in a manner that creates substantial new impacts to agricultural lands, natural resources, residences, or rural landscapes would conflict with significant goals, objectives, and policies contained in the Town of Jefferson Comprehensive Plan 2022–2042;

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board believes that existing utility corridors and other previously disturbed or developed corridors should receive full and careful consideration before creation of new utility corridors across agricultural and rural lands; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has a responsibility to represent the interests of Town residents and to advocate for land-use decisions consistent with the Town’s duly adopted Comprehensive Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Jefferson, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, hereby opposes the routing and construction of the proposed BECI 765 kV transmission line through the Town of Jefferson where such routing would establish a new transmission corridor or would materially conflict with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Town of Jefferson Comprehensive Plan 2022–2042, including its policies concerning preservation of agricultural land, environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and rural community character;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Board requests that Midcontinent Grid Solutions Wisconsin, LLC, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, and all other agencies and entities involved in the planning, review, and approval of the BECI project give substantial consideration to the Town of Jefferson Comprehensive Plan and avoid routes that unnecessarily affect productive agricultural land, farm operations, residences, environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and the rural landscape of the Town;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Board requests full evaluation of reasonable alternatives utilizing existing utility corridors and other previously disturbed corridors before consideration of any new transmission corridor through the Town of Jefferson;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town of Jefferson requests meaningful and timely consultation with the Town Board concerning any study segment, proposed route, facility location, access road, easement, tower location, or other project component that may affect property within the Town; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Chair and Town Clerk are authorized and directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Midcontinent Grid Solutions Wisconsin, LLC; the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin; Jefferson County; the Town’s representatives in the Wisconsin Legislature; and such other governmental agencies and interested parties as the Town Board determines appropriate.

**Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Jefferson, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2026.**

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Michael Hollinger, Chair

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Curtis Backlund, Supervisor

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Steve Habeck, Supervisor

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Deb Kind, Supervisor

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Deborah McCool-Cloute, Supervisor

I hereby certify this is a true copy of a Resolution passed by the Town Board of the Town of Jefferson on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2026.

ATTEST:

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Tina Barnes, Clerk  
Town of Jefferson

Date Adopted: October 8, 2026  
Date Posted: October 9, 2026  
Effective Date: October 9, 2026