



634 State Road 19 PO Box 37, Marshall, WI 53559
www.townofmedina.wi.gov

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01__

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF MEDINA, DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN, ESTABLISHING FORMAL REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED BELL CENTER–COLUMBIA–SUGAR CREEK–ILLINOIS STATE LINE (BECI) 765-kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

WHEREAS, Midcontinent Grid Solutions (MGS), a joint venture of Transource Energy and BHE Transmission, has proposed the construction of a 190-mile, 765-kilovolt (kV) transmission line infrastructure project, known as the BECI Project, which identifies potential study segments routed through the Town of Medina; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project outlines a 250-foot-wide right-of-way corridor and transmission towers reaching up to 200 feet in height, presenting substantial land-use conflicts with the Town of Medina's natural ecosystems, local topography, and the Maunasha River watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Medina features highly productive agricultural soils, and the current routing segments present material risks of fragmenting active farming operations, restricting the operational use of center-pivot irrigation systems, and introducing potential stray voltage concerns to local livestock operations; and

WHEREAS, initial documentation indicates the BECI Project operates primarily as an interstate transmission facility designed to transport electricity across state lines, lacking a currently demonstrated local reliability or economic benefit to the residents, businesses, or municipal utility ratepayers of the Town of Medina; and

WHEREAS, the proposed multi-billion-dollar project construction cost impacts Wisconsin ratepayers, and the developer's compressed seven-month study timeline restricts the comprehensive, transparent public and environmental review required for a project of this scale;

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WHEREAS, the Town of Medina Comprehensive Plan, adopted pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.1001, explicitly mandates the permanent preservation of the Township's prime agricultural land base and enforces strict conservation protections over the Maunasha River watershed, meaning the proposed BECI project directly conflicts with the Town's legally adopted, long-range land-use planning goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Medina, Dane County, Wisconsin, as follows:

1. **Formal Expression of Concern and Objection:** The Town of Medina formally registers its objection to the current proposed routing of the BECI 765-kV Transmission Line Project within the Township based on unresolved agricultural, environmental, and local economic impact concerns and notes that the project stands in direct contradiction to the goals, objectives, and statutory land-use maps of the **Town of Medina Comprehensive Plan**.
2. **Rigorous Enforcement of Local Authority:** The Town Board directs all departments, engineers, and staff to strictly review, scrutinize, and enforce the maximum extent of the Town's regulatory authority regarding road right-of-way permits, weight limits, drainage district protections, and local land-use ordinances to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.
3. **Intermunicipal Cooperation:** The Town of Medina will actively share information and coordinate regulatory review efforts with neighboring municipalities, including but not limited to the Town of Bristol, the Town of Sun Prairie, and the Village of Marshall, to evaluate regional infrastructure impacts. The Town of Medina authorizes the Town Chair to confer with other municipalities to seek intervenor financing and to intervene in the pending Public Service Commission process.
4. **Demand for More Time:** The review and comment period on this major proposal is extremely short. The deadline for responding appears to be September 7, 2026. The proposal primarily affects farms, small towns and small communities which lack resources to respond quickly to major proposals. In the interest of a fair process, the response deadline should be extended at least six months.
5. **Legislation Need:** This proposal is the latest in a large number of proposed solar collectors, wind farms, power lines and other utility projects which are being

forced on communities which have no effective voice in the process. The
preemption of local zoning approval is outdated and needs to be repealed. The
Town of Medina calls for legislation to repeal Wis. Stats. sec. 196.491 (3)(i).

6. **Distribution:** A copy of this resolution shall be transmitted immediately to Midcontinent Grid Solutions, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC), State Senator Melissa Ratcliff (Senate District 16), State Representative Joan Fitzgerald (Assembly District 46), Dane County Board Supervisor Paula Brandmeier (County District 20), Dane County Board Supervisor Kerry Marren (County District 37) and Dane County Executive Melissa Agard to ensure the Town's objective regulatory concerns are formally entered into the preliminary project record.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 2ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

Town Board Chair: Todd Weinberger TODD WEINBERGER

Attest (Town Clerk): Stephanie Lulling Stephanie Lulling