



CITY OF ONALASKA

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Joe Chilsen, Mayor
E-mail: jchilsen@cityofonalaska.com

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
RECEIVED: 07/24/12, 9:19:41 AM

June 13, 2012

Public Service Commission
Attn: Sandra Paske, Secretary
PO Box 7854
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854

Dear Commission Members:

The Onalaska City Council recently passed a resolution in opposition to running the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line through the City of Onalaska. Our opposition is strictly due to economic concerns for our city.

We do not oppose the construction of the line but rather the route utilized for the transmission of the power. Passing the power lines along the purposed route through the City of Onalaska would be overly detrimental to our economic well-being. The budget dollars coming from Madison are shrinking each and every year. Being able to continue to fund city initiatives will have to come through growth and that growth hinges on tax revenues. While the economy remains sluggish a raise in the mill rate would prove to be inadvisable leaving development as the only plausible method of increasing tax revenues.

The proposed ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line cuts through prime development land where developers have put a hold on their plans until the route is announced. We feel that this is putting an undue hardship on the City of Onalaska and this route should be changed or abandoned. We thank you for your consideration in giving the City of Onalaska a way to continue to be a great place to live and a place where the property taxes are reasonable.

Sincerely,

Joe Chilsen
Mayor, City of Onalaska

RESOLUTION 20 – 2012

RE: Opposition to the Badger Coulee Transmission Line running through the City of Onalaska

WHEREAS, American Transmission Company (ATC) has proposed a route corridor for their 345 kV Badger Coulee Transmission Line that crosses through parcels of land that are included in the City of Onalaska;

WHEREAS, the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line disrupts the Greenway Plan set out by the City of Onalaska;

WHEREAS, the presence of the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line increases erosion of soil in the City of Onalaska;

WHEREAS, the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line cuts a wide swath of trees and vegetation;

WHEREAS, the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line diminishes the bluff land views;

WHEREAS, the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line negatively impacts the Mississippi Valley Conservancy land that is crossed by the line;

WHEREAS, future development in the Sand Lake Road area, the La Crosse Country Club area and the French Road area would be greatly impacted in a negative way;

WHEREAS, the Citizens of Onalaska will be adversely affected by the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line;

WHEREAS, the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line does not adhere to the 2005-2025 Comprehensive Plan;

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Onalaska hereby opposes the planned grid expansion of the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line specifically the 345 kV power line crossing through land that are part of the City of Onalaska.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is authorized to send this Resolution to the Public Service Commission regarding Docket #5-CE-136 and Docket #137-CE-160, and to the Administrative Law Judge conducting proceedings for the ATC Badger Coulee Transmission Line 345 kV Project.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to the City of Onalaska

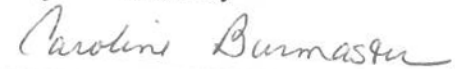
Dated this 12th day of June 2012



CITY OF ONALASKA

BY:


Joe Chilsen, Mayor


Caroline Burmaster, City Clerk

Caroline Burmaster, City Clerk

PASSED: 6/12/12
APPROVED: 6/12/12
PUBLISHED: 6/22/12