

**BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN**

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

05-CE-146

JEWELL JINKINS INTERVENORS

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF ALAN JEWELL

1 **Q: Please state your name and address.**

2 A: My name is Alan Jewell. My address is 3362 County Rd B, Dodgeville, WI. I
3 am the representative of Jewell Jinkins Intervenors, intervenors with full party status in
4 this docket. I have submitted prefiled Direct and Supplemental Testimony in this docket.

5 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

6 A: I am offering this testimony on behalf of Jewell Jinkins Intervenors regarding the
7 Direct testimony of others in this docket and the full Agricultural Impact Statement which
8 was filed with the Direct of the PSC's Weiss. I personally am potentially affected by the
9 "Preferred" route segment Q02 and by an "Alternative" route segments R04, R08 and
10 R09, meaning that the transmission route is proposed to encumber either land my family
11 owns, land held in trusts in which we have an interest, or land owned as a principle in a
12 along the route. That land is held in the names of Oakdale Farms, the Jewell Trust, the
13 Evelyn Mueller Trust and the Charles Mueller Trust.

14 **REBUTTAL TO TESTIMONY OF PSC'S VEDVIK**

15 **Q: Do you have questions and concerns regarding PSC's Alexander Vedvik's testimony?**

16 A: Yes. I am intrigued with Mr. Vedvik's statement that "One route for study that is
17 electrically viable could include the U.S. Highway 151 corridor from Platteville,
18 Wisconsin to Dodgeville, Wisconsin." Direct-PSC-Vedvik-25. He says:

19 For purposes of assessing whether the location of the Hill Valley substation could
20 have a meaningful impact on the proposed project's costs, I assumed a
21 hypothetical route that would follow the applicants' alternative route from
22 Cassville, Wisconsin to a new Hill Valley Substation located near Platteville,
23 Wisconsin, then follow the U.S. Highway 151 corridor from Platteville,
24 Wisconsin to Dodgeville, Wisconsin, and then follow the applicants' preferred
25 route along the U.S. Highway 151 corridor from there on.

26
27 This is a route that must be considered by the Commission. It is raised in the FEIS but

1 the PSC's FEIS has failed to fully analyze that route. As I quoted in my Supplemental
2 Direct testimony, which is worth repeating, Vedvik testifies regarding Ex.-PSC-Data
3 Request:

4 Response 8.3³¹ states that this route would add approximately 5.5 miles of
5 345 kV transmission line, as compared to the applicants' preferred route.
6 The applicants' applied an approximately \$3.6 million/mile cost to
7 calculate the cost of this route to be \$19.8 million more than the preferred
8 route. However, the applicants have pointed out that as the project is
9 eligible for MVP cost sharing, this \$19.8 million increase in capital cost
10 would cost Wisconsin transmission network customers approximately \$2
11 million on a net present value basis. The applicants' alternative route is
12 approximately \$51 million more than the applicants' preferred route.
13

14 Direct-PSC-Vedvik-25-26. The importance of this alternative is that the cost to
15 Wisconsin would be only \$2 million of the \$19.8 million additional cost because the costs
16 of the transmission line is distributed across all of the MISO states. The benefits to
17 Wisconsin landowners of utilizing an existing highway corridor, and not traversing cross-
18 country, would be much, much greater than that \$2 million. Wisconsin landowners would
19 benefit then from both the utilization of the highway corridor and through avoiding most
20 of the increased cost of that route to other states through the MISO MVP cost allocation
21 scheme! Use of this Highway 151 route seems to be a win-win alternative.

22 **Q: Have the applicants considered this route alternative?**

23 A: Yes, Applicant's did review electrical impacts by modeling a substation located in
24 Platteville as requested by PSC staff. The FEIS did include this route with some
25 information regarding Applicants' :

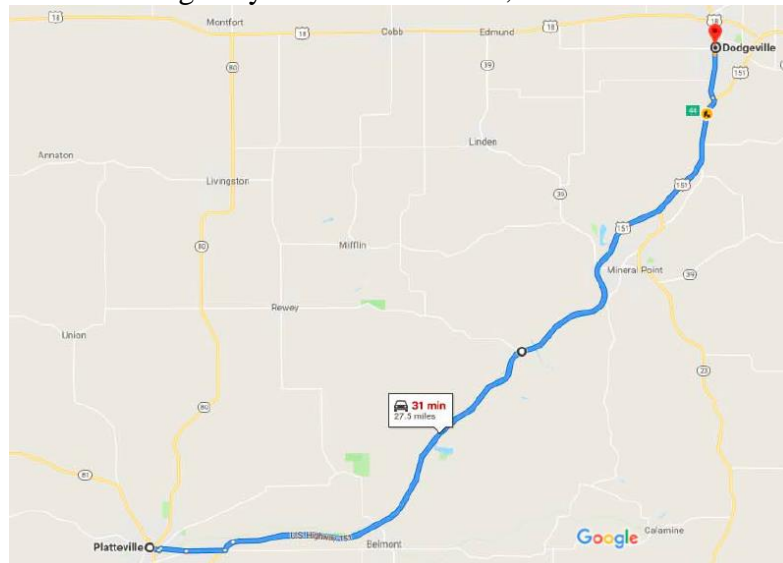
26 The applicants' response to Data Request 8.2³⁰ included PowerWorld
27 modeling with the proposed Hill Valley Substation located in the
28 Platteville area. The modeling showed no significant changes to power
29 flows in southwestern Wisconsin. The applicants' response states that
30 "based on these results, changing the intermediate substation location from
31 Montfort to Platteville would not impact the Avoided Reliability Benefits

1 included in the Joint Application.” If the proposed Hill Valley Substation
2 could instead be placed in the Platteville area, the USH 151 corridor from
3 Platteville to Dodgeville could be a viable route alternative that may have
4 a lower cost than Western-South and may have less associated impacts
5 than Western-North. This route alternative was not considered by the
6 applicants.

7
8 FEIS-PSC-30-31.

9 **Q: And again, what does this route look like on a map?**

10 **A:** An approximation of the Highway 151 corridor route, looks like this:



11
12 **Q: Is there any additional specific information regarding this route alternative?**

13 **A:** Yes. The FEIS added some details:

14
15 Locating the intermediate substation in the Platteville area could enable
16 additional routing options for the 345 kV transmission line from the
17 proposed substation to the Cardinal Substation. One such route could
18 include the USH 151 corridor from Platteville to Dodgeville. For purposes
19 of assessing whether the location of the proposed substation could have a
20 meaningful impact on project costs, this route alternative could follow
21 Western-South from Cassville to a new substation near Platteville, then
22 follow the USH 151 corridor from Platteville to Dodgeville, and then
23 follow Eastern-South along the USH 151 corridor from there on. The
24 applicants’ response to Data Request 8.3³⁶ states that this route would add
25 approximately 5.5 miles of 345 kV transmission line, as compared to the
26 Western-North with Eastern-South alternative.

27
28 The estimated total increase in cost for such an option is estimated to be

1 approximately \$19.8 million, for a total estimated cost of approximately
2 \$512 million.³⁷ For comparison, this route would be less costly than any
3 route alternative supplied by the applicants that uses the entire Western-
4 South route from Cassville to Montfort, since the lowest cost proposed
5 route alternative involving Western-South is estimated to be
6 approximately \$51 million³⁸ more than using the Western-North with
7 Eastern-South alternative. Wis. Stat. § 1.12(6) requires as a first priority
8 use of existing utility corridors to the greatest extent feasible for new
9 transmission lines. The second-highest priority listed in Wis. Stat. §
10 1.12(6) is highway and railroad corridors. Much of Western-North is
11 existing transmission corridor, and the USH 151 corridor is a highway
12 corridor.

13
14 FEIS-PSC-32-33 [FEIS Footnotes omitted].

15
16 **Q: Is the EIS adequate without the “additional information characterizing the**
17 **impacts” of this route?**

18 A: No, it is not. The FEIS explains:

19
20 Additional study would be required to determine whether siting a new substation
21 in the Platteville area would have any meaningful difference in impacts as
22 compared to the route alternatives proposed by the applicants. For the
23 Commission to select such an alternative, additional information characterizing
24 the impacts would need to be developed.

25
26 FEIS-PSC-33. The applicants admit that there would not change electrical performance
27 and would not be a detrimental impact on the electrical system, and it appears the cost
28 may be lower. This route deserves consideration.

29 **Q: Does the FEIS state what procedure would be necessary for the Commission to**
30 **consider this route?**

31 A: Yes. Notice is required to affected landowners, and the route would need to be
32 evaluated according to the state’s siting priorities. The FEIS suggests that this would
33 cause a delay, and that costs and benefits may change if there is a delay in the in-service
34 date, but the specifics are unknown. FEIS-PSC-93-94. The specifics need to be
35 determined. The potential of this route for having lower cost and less impact is summed

1 up at the end of route descriptions. FEIS-PSC-33. Because the part of the route is
2 entirely in an existing highway corridor, on this alone it is more compatible with
3 Wisconsin's siting priorities, where the applicants' preferred and alternate routes are not.
4 Wis. Stats. 1.12(6). FEIS-PSC-538. We need the FEIS to include this information.

5 **Q: Why are you interested in the Platteville - Dodgeville 151 Highway corridor**
6 **alternative?**

7 A: That's easy. Using that highway corridor is not only more observant of the siting
8 priorities, but it would remove any possibility of the transmission line being routed on my
9 property. Because of the numbers of parcels I own that would be affected, I believe I
10 would suffer extreme individual hardships that the Commission must consider, as would
11 other landowners on the applicants' preferred and alternate routes. Use of the Platteville-
12 Dodgeville 151 Highway corridor would avoid that hardship. Avoidance is a far better
13 routing strategy than mitigation after harms are caused. The FEIS is not complete
14 without finishing and filling in the details of this alternative and inclusion of this route as
15 one for consideration.

16 **Q: What will it take for the PSC to include a thorough review of this route alternative**
17 **that will be sufficient for the Commission to consider this route for permitting?**

18 A: I don't know – I think we'll have to leave that for the lawyers and judge!

19 **REBUTTAL TO TESTIMONY OF CINDY BURTLEY**

20 **Q: Do you have concerns regarding Burtley's testimony?**

21 A: Yes. Ms. Burtley's testimony, and areas of responsibility in the Environmental
22 Impact Statement, cover areas of my particular interest as a landowner affected by this
23 project.

1 On page 3, Burtley lists “routing and siting” first as her responsibility in this
2 docket, and lists those routes considered on the following pages. The testimony lists the
3 steps in the EIS and many parties that provided additional information from agencies,
4 parties, individuals comments “and its own professional expertise and judgement where
5 needed or appropriate in the development of the final EIS.” Page 4. With all this joint
6 back and forth communication between everyone involved, why is the “Highway 151”
7 alternative route not in the EIS in enough detail to be fully considered by the
8 Commission? One would think that because this alternative was developed in-house, by
9 PSC staff, that it would have heightened credibility and receive full treatment as a worthy
10 alternative. The Highway 151 alternative route must be included.

11 **REBUTTAL TO TESTIMONY OF ANDREW CRAFT**

12 **Q: Do you have concerns regarding Andrew Craft’s testimony?**

13 A: Yes. I have located a reference to my home and property, a historical site, in the
14 FEIS. Craft’s testimony, stated on page two, is regarding “aesthetics and visual impacts
15 sections and the archaeological and historical resources sections of Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 9
16 of the EIS.”

17 My home and property is located at 3362 County Road B, Dodgeville, Wisconsin,
18 and is on the “Other Route Segment” R09. It is listed by the Wisconsin Historical Society
19 in its Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory, reference number 46941. I brought
20 this up in my Direct Testimony, in particular the existence of this historic site, its value,
21 and that building a transmission on this property or directly across the road from this
22 property would ruin the historical and aesthetic value, as well as severely decrease the
23 monetary value of this property. I have more closely reviewed the FEIS since this time,

1 and found references to my property that I thought I may have missed in the DEIS, but
2 which were NOT included previously, unless in Table 10-45, but not identified.



3
4 The reference I have found regarding my home and property is on page 497 of the FEIS
5 states:

6 **AHI 46941 (Subsegment R09)** consists of a stone house constructed in
7 1860 in the town of Linden that is in close proximity to Subsegment R09.
8 The architectural historian consultant stated that changes in appearance of
9 the building constituted a loss of integrity. Therefore, the property would
10 not be eligible for listing on the NRHP and the project would cause no
11 adverse effects.

12
13 The referenced historical review is the APPLICANT’S review by the
14 CONSULTANTS hired by the APPLICANTS. In Appendix J, page 7, of the Application,
15 it lists “46941” as “Previously surveyed but unevaluated.” On page 11, the consultants
16 dismiss many historical properties and did not survey them, stating they “were not
17 resurveyed due to changes in appearance that constitute a loss of integrity, and about my
18 property specifically, it states:

1 AHI #46941, 3362 CTH B, Town of Linden, Iowa County – replacement windows,
2 altered porch design (Figures 2v, 3n, and 11)
3

4 What is not stated is that the windows were rebuilt with period glass harvested
5 from other windows of that era to maintain the original look. Any new windows were
6 custom made to match the original windows, at a significant expense above a standard
7 window replacement. The porch design was matched to an inspection of over 6,000
8 historical photos to find a proper match to what may have been built originally. A local
9 historian was employed in that quest. Again, this historically accurate porch replacement
10 was done at a significant expense above a standard porch replacement. Further, no
11 outside money or governmental funds were used, this historically accurate preservation
12 work was done at my own expense. Statements that this necessary replacement work,
13 performed with professional historical advice and practices, constitutes a loss of integrity
14 are uninformed at best.

15 The Wisconsin Historical Society has not changed the status of this property, has
16 not informed me that this building or the property has suffered “a loss of integrity.” The
17 presumption that “the project would cause no adverse effects” to this state historical
18 property is absurd. Reliance on the Applicants’ consultant rather than the state Historical
19 Society is not a credible approach.

20 In that same FEIS section, on the same page, impacts on a cemetery are brushed
21 aside:

22 **BIA-0019 (Subsegment R09)** consists of a marked cemetery built by
23 settlers in 1855 in the town of Linden. An archaeological consultant field
24 surveyed the burial site and stated that the site is approximately 50 feet to
25 the north of Subsegment R09. They stated that the project would not affect
26 the burial site.
27

28 Again, on this same subsegment, R09, the FEIS relies on Applicants’ statements

1 rather than the Historical Society.

2 The FEIS makes unfounded presumptions based on the consultants paid by the
3 Applicants. This “review” is inadequate to meet the requirements of the Wisconsin
4 Environmental Policy Act, Wis. Stat. §1.11 and the identification, management and
5 protections afforded to historical properties by the Wisconsin Historical Society.

6 Mr. Craft is also responsible for the EIS section regarding aesthetics and visual
7 impacts. The evaluation of viewshed and aesthetics is also inadequate. Considering
8 residences and “receptors” within 300 feet of a transmission centerline does not address
9 the obvious fact that this transmission line, any transmission line, affects aesthetics and
10 visual impacts at a distance far beyond 300 feet. The PSC recognizes, in the FEIS, page
11 500, that “the discussions in this document will most likely not adequately address all the
12 issues felt by many individuals owning property along the proposed routes.” Yes, I
13 wholeheartedly agree with this statement.

14 The Direct Testimony of DALC/WWF’s Curt Meine more accurately covers the
15 cultural, historical, aesthetic, agricultural, and natural resource perspectives. Direct-
16 DALC/WWF-Meine. Meine describes these impacts in great detail, and, because I am
17 not an expert in this field, other than being a life-long farmer on this land, I ask that the
18 Commission strongly consider the points raised by Meine. In his testimony, on page 12,
19 Meine agrees that this project will put this community at risk. The Commission should
20 pay particular attention to agricultural impacts, noting that “cultural” aspect, as
21 agricultural impacts are not “just” impacts to the soils, drainage, crop production, and the
22 process of farming, embedded in agriculture is “culture,” the culture of this community,
23 that will be affected by the Cardinal-Hickory Creek project. Meine’s statements about

1 cumulative impacts, in his testimony beginning on page 19, is particularly important
2 when looking at viewshed and visual impacts. This project is the latest in many
3 transmission projects across Wisconsin, following on another through this area, the
4 Badger-Coulee transmission project, where the viewshed is suffering “death by a
5 thousand cuts.”

6 The FEIS should clearly state that the best way to minimize impacts is avoidance,
7 and that mitigation can only perhaps relieve impacts after a project has been built, and
8 mitigation is often not successful. DALC/WFF’s Meine, on page 15 of his direct
9 testimony agrees that mitigation measures are inadequate. The impacts suffered as a
10 result of this project would be unavoidable, and there is no mitigation that would really
11 mitigate those impacts, and compensation, paying money for those impacts, does not
12 change the detrimental impacts.

13 Mr. Craft’s testimony and the FEIS is not credible in these above areas.

14 **REBUTTAL TO TESTIMONY OF PSC’S MARILYN WEISS**

15 **Q: Do you have concerns regarding Marilyn Weiss’s testimony?**

16 A: Yes. I am particularly concerned about the Agricultural Impact Statement and aspects of
17 Weiss’s testimony. For example, on page 5, Ms. Weiss states that “Most of the potential
18 routes for this project are cross-country.” Cross-country routes are dead last in the state’s
19 priority for transmission routes. The Agricultural Impact Statement does not take into
20 account the state’s transmission routing priorities.

21 **Q: Have you reviewed the Agricultural Impact Statement?**

22 A: Yes, I have. Appendix G of the DEIS and FEIS contains only a short summary,
23 and not the full Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS). The full AIS was filed with Ms.

1 Weiss' testimony.

2 **Q: Do you have comments about the process for collecting information about**
3 **agricultural impacts?**

4 A: Yes, I do. Weiss' testimony, page 3, states that "DATCP sent a questionnaire to
5 agricultural property owners who may have 3 or more acres acquired as an easement or
6 purchased for this project." I do not recall receiving such a survey. I've looked at the
7 mailing list, and do not see Oakdale Farms or Jewell Trust on this list, and we have many
8 acres of land that may be affected by this transmission project. I see the Evelyn Mueller
9 Trust and the Charles Mueller Trust on the mailing list, and again, I do not recall
10 receiving a survey, and certainly did not fill out one and return it. I cannot tell what
11 address it was sent to, and Ms. Weiss should provide that information.

12 I have had no opportunity to comment on a draft of the AIS, to my knowledge, I
13 didn't receive the survey. As a landowner with numerous parcels of land that may be
14 affected by this project, I am upset that I did not have the option of commenting and
15 letting the Commission know the impacts of this project. I also question the process itself
16 where a landowner with as many acres as I have an interest in is not included in the
17 process. I want to know why Oakdale Farms and the Jewell Trust are not listed in the
18 mailing list and why we were excluded from this process and how that will be corrected.

19 How would the public know an Agricultural Impact Statement exists and where to
20 look? Do the other many participants in this docket know of the Agricultural Impact
21 Statement?

22 **Q: Do you have other comments on the AIS and Ms. Weiss' testimony?**

23 A: Yes, I do have comments. A very important statement that I need to point out is

1 one sentence that is of great importance. On page 5, it says, “Most of the potential routes
2 for this project are cross-country.” That sentence alone shows that this project is not
3 following basic transmission routing priorities that are state law. Weiss’ testimony
4 discusses many detrimental impacts associated with cross-country routing:

5 Constructing through the middle of farms and fields instead of along field
6 edges or property boundaries often increases the impact of a project on
7 agricultural operations. The increased impact is felt during construction
8 and long afterwards.
9

10 Cross-country routing increases the potential for: damage to topsoil
11 which can significantly affect future crop yields; interference with or
12 damages to agricultural erosion control and/or water management
13 practices and facilities necessary for farming in hilly terrains; interference
14 with fencing and livestock management; contamination of organic farms;
15 and extensive tree removal causing forest fragmentation, interference with
16 forest management plans, and a reduction in farm income from timber.
17

18 The cross-country nature of the routes also may require electric
19 poles to be located within farm fields. After construction is completed, the
20 areas around these electric poles become islands of non-farmable land that
21 can become havens for weed and insect pests that require additional
22 management from the farmer. Depending on their locations, poles in fields
23 may also become obstacles to fieldwork, which could lower the efficiency
24 of farming these fields.
25

26 Cross-country routes also require the construction and use of numerous
27 and lengthy access roads to reach these structures not accessible by road, causing
28 additional acres of farmland impacts. These off right-of-way (ROW) access roads
29 may be located in less than optimal places for the farmer, especially if they
30 become permanent maintenance roads. Permanent off-ROW access roads are
31 possible for any access road identified in the application.
32

33 **Q: Does this testimony cover some of the problems you have identified with**
34 **transmission on your property?**

35 A: Yes. However, despite this long list of anticipated, expected problems and agricultural
36 impacts in the AIS, the summary does not make sense: “Due to the increased impacts
37 associated with cross country routes, DATCP generally prefers routes that follow the

1 edges of fields or property boundaries.” Edges of fields or property boundaries are not a
2 transmission corridor or highway corridor either, and are not listed in the state’s
3 transmission corridor routing priorities. Edges of fields and property boundaries should
4 not be used for transmission.

5 **Q: Do you have any specific issues with the AIS as summarized?**

6 A: Yes, there are many issues. Because I am a farmer, I am paying attention to the
7 Agricultural Impact Statement. Overall, the AIS lists many impacts, as it should, but it
8 minimizes the impacts, unfairly leaning towards an approval of this transmission project.
9 In particular, in light of the many issues raised above, it is surprising that there is no
10 mention of routing in keeping with state routing priorities, is not as direct a manner as co-
11 locating with existing infrastructure such as existing transmission or highway corridors,
12 including the Highway 151 corridor between Platteville and Dodgeville.

13 In places, the AIS, EIS and the Weiss testimony state the transmission route would
14 follow fence lines. A fence line is not an existing corridor, and does not comply with
15 state routing priorities. Routing along a fence line would create farming issues and
16 agricultural impacts on both sides of the fence.

17 The cross-country routes, where diagonal are an increased problem, because if
18 diagonal in row cropped fields, it makes efficient use of machinery impossible. Three-
19 cornered fields waste machine effort, labor and time to perform basic operations.

20 Generally, in a tilled area, a Right of Way provides a perfect environment,
21 essentially hatcheries, where seeds and plants infest surrounding crop ground. There is
22 extensive testimony regarding invasives and the impact this line has on invasive
23 propagation.

1 The farmland that is impacted by the Right of Way far exceeds the acres involved,
2 directly included, in the easement. There is no plan in place to compensate those adjacent
3 to the land who will suffer impacts, and for those whose land is condemned, to
4 compensate those landowners for impacts that go beyond the easement boundary.
5 DALC/WWF's witness Waller, beginning on page 15, testifies extensively about impacts
6 to expanded areas beyond easements, and that clearing, disruption of habitat,
7 maintenance, drip and drift of herbicides, and other actions will have an impact on many
8 more acres than just the easement. Waller notes on page 33 that much of the opinions of
9 applicants and staff are from a "desktop" analysis rather than boots on the ground, and
10 that is not enough.

11 A "minor route modification" does not go far enough to protect landowners,
12 property and businesses. What is the distance or criteria that triggers a route
13 modification? Does the landowner have a say in this, can a landowner request and push
14 for a modification, and to what extent can a route be modified? Is it that the squeaky
15 wheel is greased? It seems not. I have been raising these issues and it seems no one is
16 listening. A route modification does not solve the incursion, and does not resolve the
17 monetary loss, immediately, or over time. Further consideration also must be given to
18 those on adjacent land, where impacts are demonstrated, and who would receive no
19 compensation.

20 Another problem is that although the AIS correctly states that "no residence
21 should be located within the approved ROW," but this does not address immediately
22 adjacent homes and businesses, close enough to be impacted by the transmission line.
23 For example, there is a route deviation proposed for the Dammen property on the Eastern

1 South alternative, but our Bloomfield Farms grain facility at Highway 18 and Olson
2 Road, east of Edmund, is compromised by the proposed line going directly overhead.
3 Please see my prior testimony and comments on the importance of buildings being
4 grounded. The route on the map goes right over our grain bins, office and shop, and will
5 need to be abandoned if the line is near. My partner in this venture owns a home just east
6 of Cobb, Brad Walter and Megan Anderson, and their house is within a few feet of the
7 Right of Way. Nothing is noted, in the AIS or the EIS. Forced abandonment of our grain
8 facility is as extreme an impact as I can imagine, and even if money could solve all
9 problems, which it cannot, there is no compensation proposed for the loss of our business.

10 Many of the impacts described by Weiss are impacts that are non-compensable – it
11 is difficult to determine the value of these impacts and harms, and the applicants are not
12 offering compensation beyond that of the easement, and the state has no scheme to
13 compensate landowners for these impacts.

14 The AIS notes special considerations for organic farms. Why are impacts on land
15 taken more seriously for organic farms? It is my hope, and expectation, that all farm
16 operations receive this level of consideration, particularly farms that have been in
17 continuous operation for over 100 years.

18 The AIS refers to “working with affected owners” and conservation easements.
19 We have many acres of Oak savanna planted that could be impacted by the Right of Way,
20 plantings that we initiated, and paid for, without compensation from any source,
21 government or private, in our continuing efforts to be good stewards of the land. We also
22 have conservation easements that could be affected. We are listed in the AIS Appendix
23 with CRP and CREP land listed. Regarding prairie restoration, we have parcels with

1 prairie restoration plats that are near or under the ROW. It's my understanding that these
2 are listed as Oakdale Farms parcels on the Q02 and R09 segments, and there may be
3 others. Routing transmission on conservation easements is contrary to the point of a
4 conservation easement. What is the plan if a conservation easement would be use? In
5 Dodgeville Township, Iowa County, there are mandated agricultural conservancy areas,
6 such as building requirement of 35-40 acres in a permanent agricultural easement. In
7 such a case, if land were used for transmission easement, would additional land be
8 required to satisfy the permanent agricultural easement requirement? The Applicants and
9 the Commission should address this requirement with Dodgeville Township and other
10 townships with the same type of restriction before any routing decision is made.

11 Vegetation management has been an issue for many in this docket, and it has been
12 difficult for intervenors to learn of the plans utilities have. I have not been able to review
13 these plans, and the level of secrecy is a problem. Vegetation management is not rocket
14 science and for the record, I fail to understand how this level of secrecy is justified.
15 The AIS recommends that "farm operators discuss any operation or facility safety
16 concerns related to the construction or operation of this electric project Applicants."
17 Again, we do not have advance knowledge of the vegetation management plans, and it
18 puts the burden on landowners, with unequal knowledge and power, and requires that we
19 know what we do not know.

20 Again, I am not technically an expert, although I have been successfully farming
21 or a lifetime. The Direct Testimony of DALC/WWF's Waller gives expert testimony on
22 some of the environmental and ecological issues that I am concerned about. He has
23 extensive experience in ecology and natural resources, and in scenic, visual, and aesthetic

1 values and preservation. I urge the Commission to give this testimony thorough review.

2 **Q: Are all of your properties listed in the AIS or mailing list for the AIS?**

3 A: No. I'm disturbed by the many omissions of our property and exclusion of our family's
4 participation in the AIS. On page 84, the Charles Mueller Trust is not listed on the
5 Eastern South alternative Route. Bloomfield Farms, the property with the grain bins,
6 shop, and office on the Eastern South Route is not listed. On page 138, the names of
7 Alan and Marcia Jewell, Bloomfield Farms, and Oakdale Farms LP are glaringly not
8 listed. Also, on page 14, it appears that the Town of Linden was omitted from the Eastern
9 South alternate route, that the box should have been checked. The AIS' validity and
10 credibility is damaged by exclusion of landowners with significant land ownership and
11 multiple parcels that could be affected by this transmission line.

12 **REBUTTAL TO TESTIMONY OF ADAM INGWELL**

13 **Q: Have you reviewed the testimony of the PSC's Adam Ingwell?**

14 A: Yes, I have, and I have also reviewed the EIS sections for which he was responsible. He
15 states on page 3 of his testimony that "this project has the potential to negatively impact
16 agricultural operations in many ways." However, he provides only "mitigation"
17 strategies, and does not suggest avoidance to eliminate these impacts. He testifies that
18 there is general discussion of impacts to agriculture, but the FEIS Section 4.2 is
19 "Mitigation of Potential Impacts," regarding mitigation, not impacts on agricultural land.

20 I am very concerned about the impact of this transmission project on property
21 values, and the EIS, Chapter 4.5.7, is not reassuring. Property values include the
22 appraised value, and also includes "marketability," which is affected from the day a
23 potential project is announced, and the importance of perception about a particular

1 property, which could or would be easily influenced by a looming transmission line over
2 the property or nearby. The EIS, on page 164, contains an admission that, "... the
3 statistical research does not show a significant negative impact on property values, with a
4 trend in the literature indicating a 10 percent or less reduction in property value. This
5 decrease in property value diminishes as the further away the line is." A 10% decrease in
6 property values is significant, and the studies show it could be more.

7 The EIS states that many of the studies are not available publicly. For example,
8 "The Pricing of Power Lines: A Geospatial Approach to Measuring Residential Property
9 Values" was a study discussed in an article I saw in the Wall Street Journal, and it
10 reported "substantive pricing discounts of 44.9% for properties adjacent to power lines,
11 and a pricing discount of 17.9% for non-adjacent vacant properties up to 1,000 feet away
12 from the powerlines." A decrease of 17.9 to 44.9% is not just significant, it's catastrophic
13 to someone like myself who owns and has an interest in many acres of land.

14 The PSC staff has an obligation to take whatever steps are necessary to obtain and
15 review these recent studies, particularly ones that show such impacts – if this farmer can
16 find a study, PSC staff can too. The PSC should also provide reference to the studies that
17 were reviewed so we know what they know. Without that information, we have nothing
18 to base an opinion on regarding the staff consideration of impact on property values.

19 The FEIS section 6.3.1 regarding "Community resources and potential impacts"
20 and "agriculture" is very limited, and refers to the AIS. This section of the FEIS is a very
21 poor joke, because it is lacking in content of a very important area with significant
22 impacts, acknowledged in the very first sentence, repeated in 7.3.1 : "The presence of a
23 high-voltage transmission line can adversely affect farm operations and field

1 productivity.” EIS Section 8.3.1; 9.3.1 and 10.3.1 starts with a similar acknowledgement:
2 “The presence of a high-voltage transmission line can adversely affect farm operations
3 and field productivity,” and refers to the AIS. The AIS does not contain much in the way
4 of agricultural impacts. Where is the information?

5 **REBUTTAL TO TESTIMONY OF PSC’S PAUL RAHN**

6 **Q: Have you reviewed the testimony of Paul Rahn and do you have concerns?**

7 A: Yes, I have and I do have concerns. Rahn testifies that he was responsible for chapters
8 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, and route selection. The FEIS did not include the PSC’s Highway 151
9 route alternative, and it should, it must. The Highway 151 route alternative was
10 proposed by the Commission’s Vedvik, and is a reasonable and credible route, one that
11 would address protection of rural views and character that Rahn gives as a consideration
12 in his testimony. It is an alternative that would cost Wisconsin rate payers little and
13 which would provide significant benefits to Wisconsin landowners and residents by
14 using a pre-existing corridor for the route.

15 **Q: Does this conclude your testimony?**

16 A: Yes, it does.