Nashville Township, Martin County, Minnesota

Statement of Opposition to the Proposed PowerOn Midwest 765 kV Transmission Line

Nashville Township, Martin County, Minnesota, formally opposes the routing and construction of the Proposed PowerOn Midwest 765 kV transmission line within in our township boundaries. The project, as currently presented, would impose severe and irreversible impacts on our agricultural land, local infrastructure, property owners, and the long-term wellbeing of our community.

Key Impacts and Concerns:

Township Roads and Maintenance Burden:

The proposed transmission line would require construction and long-term access along roads that Nashville Township does not currently grade, gravel, or maintain at a level suitable for heavy industrial equipment. This project would create new, unfunded, and ongoing costs for road upgrades, snow removal, and maintenance.

Agricultural and Livestock:

Nashville Townships economy and identity rely on productive farmland and livestock operations. Tower placement and construction activity would: 1) Fragment working farms; 2) disrupt heavy farm equipment navigation; 3) compact soils and damage drainage systems; 4) Interfere with manure drag line operations and areal application; 5) Introduce EMF-related risks to livestock health and behavior; and 6) Create hazards from falling ice and step-and-touch voltage during equipment failure.

Water Flow and Drainage:

Large tower foundations and access roads threaten natural water flow, increase erosions, and disrupts established drainage and tiling systems essential to local agriculture.

Radio and GPS Interference:

The electromagnetic fields generated by a 765 kV line are documented to interfere with radio communication and GPS-dependent precision agricultural systems, impacting harvesting, planting and emergency communications.

Wildlife, Habitat and Scenic Viewsheds:

A 250-foot right-of-way and 150-175 foot towers would permanently alter Nashville Townships landscape, fragment wildlife habitat, reduce viewshed quality, and dimmish recreational use. Species of concern include eagles, pheasants, raptors and pollinators. Noise

Homes:

Construction and maintenance activities near homes would reduce privacy, create safety risks, and limit future expansion of farms and homesteads.

Noise, Vibration and Property Values:

Ultra-high-voltage lines generate persistent noise and corona discharge, degrading rural quiet and contributing to long-term declines in property values for homes and farms.

Township Position:

Given these substantial and permanent impacts, Nashville Township urges PowerOn Midwest and the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to remove Nashville Township from all proposed routing maps and halt planning activities within our township.

Nashville Township supports full evaluation of alternatives, such as system upgrades and generation of a site closer to demand.

Certification:

This statement is issued by Nashville Township Board of Supervisors, Martin County, Minnesota, for inclusion in the public record of MPUC Docket No, 25-117.

Motion and Signature Section:

Motion by Supervisor: Clinton Butler, Seconded by Supervisor: Michael Salic

Approved by the Nashville Township Board of Supervisors on the 9 day of November, 2026.

Board Chairman: Duane A. Meyer

(Attest) Township Clerk: Patti Salic