

Tenhassen Township, Martin County, Minnesota

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

Tenhassen Township, Martin County, Minnesota, formally opposes the routing and construction of the proposed PowerOn Midwest 765 kV transmission line within 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 Tenhassen Township does not currently grade, gravel, or maintain at a level suitable for heavy industrial traffic. This project would create new, unfunded, and ongoing costs for road upgrades, snow removal, and maintenance.

Agriculture

Tenhassen Township's economy and identity rely on productive farmland operations. Tower Placement and construction activity would: fragment working farms, disrupt heavy equipment navigation, compact soils and damage drainage systems, interfere with manure dragline operations and aerial applications, and create hazards from falling ice and step and touch voltage during equipment failure.

Water Flow & Drainage

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

Radio & GPS Interference

The electromagnetic fields generated by a 765 kV line are documented to interfere with radio communication and GPS-dependent precision agriculture systems. This will impact planting, harvesting, and emergency communication.

Wildlife, Habitat & Scenic Viewsheds

150-175 foot towers would permanently alter Tenhassen Township's landscape, fragment wildlife habitat, and diminish recreational use. Species of concern include pheasants, raptors, pollinators, and aquatic wildlife.

Homes, Churches & Local Businesses

Construction and maintenance activities near homes and community institutions would reduce privacy, create safety risks, and limit future expansion of farms and small businesses.

Noise, Vibration & 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, farms, and businesses.

Township Position

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

Tenhassen Township supports full evaluation of alternatives, including lower voltage transmission options, system upgrades, and generation sited closer to demand.

Certification

This statement is issued by the Tenhassen 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: Jon Ewermon seconded by

Supervisor: John Guiding

Approved by the Tenhassen Township Board of Supervisors on this 14th day of Sept 2026.

Board Chairman: Jon Ewermon

Attest (Township Clerk): Brian Burr