BURKE TOWNSHIP

Pipestone County, Minnesota

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-____

A RESOLUTION FORMALLY OPPOSING THE POWERON MIDWEST 765-KV AND 345-KV HIGH-VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Docket No. CN-25-117

WHEREAS, the Burke Township Board of Supervisors is elected to represent and protect the interests, property rights, safety, and general welfare of the residents and landowners of Burke Township, Pipestone County, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Great River Energy, ITC Midwest LLC, and Xcel Energy have proposed the PowerOn Midwest 765-kV and 345-kV High-Voltage Transmission Line Project, which includes portions of southwestern Minnesota within its project study area; and

WHEREAS, Burke Township is a rural, agricultural community whose residents and landowners depend upon productive farmland, responsible land stewardship, and the preservation of private property rights for their livelihoods and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board has significant concerns regarding the potential impacts of the proposed transmission line, including but not limited to:

- The permanent loss or restriction of productive agricultural land;
- Interference with farming operations, including large equipment, GPS-guided machinery, aerial applications, drainage systems, and livestock operations;
- Potential negative impacts on residential and agricultural property values;
- The use of eminent domain and the potential infringement upon private property rights;
- The long-term visual, environmental, and economic impacts upon the rural landscape;
- Potential damage to township roads, drainage infrastructure, and other public property during construction; and
- The placement of long-term infrastructure burdens upon local landowners and communities.

WHEREAS, the Township Board recognizes the importance of reliable electrical infrastructure and responsible energy development but believes that such development should not disproportionately burden rural townships, agricultural producers, and private landowners; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board believes that affected residents, landowners, and local units of government should have a meaningful voice in decisions that may permanently impact their property, livelihoods, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board further believes that alternative routes, existing utility corridors, and other reasonable solutions should be thoroughly evaluated before any transmission line is permitted to cross Burke Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burke Township Board of Supervisors hereby formally declares its **opposition to the proposed PowerOn Midwest 765-kV and 345-kV High-Voltage Transmission Line Project being routed through Burke Township, Pipestone County, Minnesota.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Burke Township Board respectfully requests that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission give substantial consideration to the concerns of Burke Township and its residents when evaluating the project's Certificate of Need and any subsequent route permit applications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Board urges the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and project developers to fully investigate alternative routes and infrastructure solutions that avoid Burke Township and minimize impacts on agricultural land, private property, and rural communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Burke Township strongly supports the protection of private property rights and opposes the unnecessary use of eminent domain for the acquisition of agricultural and residential property associated with this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should any portion of the project continue to be considered within Burke Township, the Township Board requests direct consultation with township officials and affected landowners, a thorough assessment of local impacts, and enforceable protections for township roads, drainage infrastructure, and agricultural operations.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Burke Township Board of Supervisors directs the Township Clerk to submit a certified copy of this resolution to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for inclusion in Docket No. CN-25-117 and to forward copies to the Pipestone County Board of Commissioners, project representatives, and appropriate state officials.

ADOPTION

ADOPTED by the Burke Township Board of Supervisors at a duly held meeting on the 8th day of October, 2026.

Vote: X In Favor _____ Opposed _____ Abstained

BURKE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Steve Pierson

Steve Pierson

Township Board Chairperson

Date: 10/8/2026

ATTEST:

Tatum Pottratz

Tatum Pottratz

Township Clerk

Date: 10/8/2026

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned Clerk of Burke Township, Pipestone County, Minnesota, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Burke Township Board of Supervisors on the date stated above.

Tatum Pottratz

Tatum Pottratz

Township Clerk, Burke Township

Date: 10/8/2026

TATUM POTTRATZ
Clerk, Burke Twp., Pipestone County, MN
Notarial Officer (ex-officio notary public)
My term is indeterminate