



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Phil Montgomery, Chairperson
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610 North Whitney Way
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
RECEIVED: 05/02/12, 10:02:38 AM

May 2, 2012

Re: Joint Application of Wisconsin Electric Power Company, as an Electric Public Utility, for Authority to Construct a New Distribution Substation and Related Electric Distribution Facilities in the City of Wauwatosa and American Transmission Company LLC, as an Electric Public Utility, for Authority to Construct Related 138 kV Electric Transmission Facilities in the Cities of Milwaukee and Wauwatosa, all in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin (Western Milwaukee County Electric Reliability Project)

5-CE-139

To the Person Addressed:

I am sending this notification to landowners whose property may be affected by the proposed Western Milwaukee County Electric Reliability Project. I am also sending this letter to public officials in the project area. If you are a county or municipal clerk, I request that you post this announcement publicly.

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC or Commission) is the state agency that regulates utilities. The Commission is investigating the proposed project in your area (see attached map). This letter briefly describes the project and informs you of ways to get more information or to comment on the project.

Proposed Project

The Commission received an application from Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO) requesting approval to build a new distribution substation to be called the Milwaukee County Substation. The proposed substation would be located adjacent to the WEPCO Milwaukee County Power Plant at 9250 Watertown Plank Road in the city of Wauwatosa and would replace the existing Milwaukee County Substation. The Commission also received an application from American Transmission Company LLC (ATC) requesting approval to build two new transmission lines along new rights-of-way (ROW) in the cities of Wauwatosa and Milwaukee. One 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line would link an existing north-south transmission line to the proposed substation. The second 138 kV line would link an existing east-west transmission line at the 96th Street Substation site with the proposed substation. These two projects were joined into one docket because their purposes are interdependent.

Project Need

The proposed project is intended to meet the growing electrical needs of the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center (MRMC), the Milwaukee County Grounds, and nearby areas. The MRMC includes a Level 1 Adult Trauma Center and a Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center. WEPCO has

requested that ATC provide a level of reliability to the new substation comparable to what currently exists.

In response, ATC developed reliability criteria for serving the Level 1 trauma centers. The criteria require two transmission lines to the proposed substation with sufficient physical separation to ensure that a single event is unlikely to cause an outage of both transmission lines. However, because of the relatively close proximity of the two lines as they enter the new substation, ATC has proposed to underground one of the two lines as it nears the substation in order to satisfy its reliability criteria.

Project Routes

ATC has proposed two alternative routes between the existing north-south transmission line and the new substation. One route follows Walnut Road for part of its length; the other partly parallels Underwood Creek. ATC has proposed another two alternative routes to link the east-west transmission line to the new substation. One route largely follows the U.S. Highway 45 freeway corridor; the other would be buried in 92nd Street for part of its length. The ATC application includes information about a variety of underground and overhead alternative segments that provide possible options for linking the lines to the substation. These are shown on the attached map.

Project Review

Before construction can begin, the applicants' proposal needs Commission approval in the form of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the transmission lines and a Certificate of Authority (CA) for the substation. Permits from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation are also potentially needed. This is a Type II action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(2). It requires the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary under Wis. Stat. § 1.11. Commission staff is reviewing the need for the project, electrical and routing alternatives, costs, and potential environmental and community impacts. The draft EA will be available to the public prior to the public hearing.

Public Hearing and Commission Decision

The Commission will hold a public hearing in the project area. At least 30 days before the hearing, the Commission will mail a Notice of Hearing to area landowners and interested persons that will include the time, date, and location of the hearing. If you have any concerns about the project, you should attend the hearing to make the Commission aware of your concerns. The Commission will approve, modify, or deny the applicants' proposal on the basis of the record established at the hearing.

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Public Comments

Commission staff is in the process of identifying environmental and community issues to be considered in the EA. Anyone may comment on the environmental aspects of this project to help us draft an EA that covers all important issues.

Send comments by mail to Paul Rahn, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854; by email to paul.rahm@wisconsin.gov; or via the PSC website: <http://psc.wi.gov/apps40/dockets/comment.aspx>. All comments will be posted to the PSC website on its Electronic Regulatory Filing (ERF) system. Mr. Rahn can be reached by telephone at (608) 267-8967.

Public Comments are Due by June 1, 2012

For More Information

The project application can be reviewed at the following local government offices and libraries in your area:

- Wauwatosa City Clerk's Office, 7725 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213
- Milwaukee City Clerk's Office, City Hall Rm. 2005, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53202
- Milwaukee County Clerk's Office, County Courthouse Rm. 105, 901 N. 9th St., Milwaukee, WI 53233
- Wauwatosa Public Library, 7635 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213
- Milwaukee Public Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233

You may also view the application and all other documents filed in this docket, through the ERF system on the PSC website, <http://psc.wi.gov>. The docket number 5-CE-139 is required to access all project documents.

Contacts for More Information

For more information about the applicants' proposal or the Commission's process for evaluating this construction application, you can also call the ATC, WEPCO, or Commission contacts listed below.

American Transmission Company LLC

Mary Carpenter, Local Relations Representative, (262) 506-6922, or mcarpenter@atcllc.com.

Wisconsin Electric Power Company

Larry Stephens, Local Affairs Account Manager, (414) 221-3014, or Larry.Stephens@we-energies.com.

Socorro Gonzales, Local Affairs Account Manager, (414) 221-3909, or Socorro.Gonzales@we-energies.com.

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Ali Wali, docket coordinator, (608) 267-3592, or ali.wali@wisconsin.gov.
Paul Rahn, environmental coordinator, (608) 267-8967, or paul.rahn@wisconsin.gov.

Public Service Commission Contact for Media

Members of the media are urged to contact Kristin Ruesch, PSC Communications Director, before contacting any Commission staff associated with this project. Ms. Ruesch can be reached at (608) 266-9600, or kristin.ruesch@wisconsin.gov.

Please refer to the Commission docket number 5-CE-139 in any correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Paul Rahn

Paul Rahn
Environmental Analyst
Gas and Energy Division

PRR:jlt:DL:00578265

Attachment

cc: Kathy Zuelsdorff, PSC

Western Milwaukee County Project Docket 5-CE-139

