



# Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

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## **Transmission Line in Waunakee Area will Provide Needed Reliability for Surrounding Communities**

MADISON – Today, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) approved American Transmission Company's (ATC) request to construct a new 138 kilovolt transmission line in the Waunakee area to meet energy demands in the surrounding communities. Following an extensive, independent review of this project, the Commission determined that the Waunakee area is facing a real reliability crisis, possibly as soon as this summer. The overwhelming evidence supports the immediate construction of this reliability upgrade.

“This case outlines the most pressing energy reliability challenges I have seen since I have been Chairperson,” said Chairperson Dan Ebert. “The Commission has conducted an independent review of this project and found immediate reliability challenges in the Waunakee area. Without the new investment, residential and business customers would face real economic harm resulting from possible transmission failure in the short and medium term.”

In a verbal decision today, the Commission approved an estimated \$15 million for ATC to build approximately 8.5 miles of new 138 kilovolt transmission line. The new transmission line will connect the North Madison Substation in the town of Vienna to the Huiskamp Substation in the town of Westport. The route chosen by the Commission will generally follow County Highway I and State Highway 113.

“I appreciate the work, dedication and expertise that the PSC staff put into this case,” said Commissioner Mark Meyer. “Their innovative thinking and forward-looking approach has put Wisconsin on the map in managing energy demand response. I would also like to thank the intervenors and public for their testimony in this case. They provided invaluable information that helped us make a sound decision. I look forward to and encourage their participation in future cases and in energy policy planning efforts for the state.”

Please note that Commissioner Lauren Azar recused herself from this case.

The Commission will issue a written order to finalize today's decision at a later date.

Documents associated with ATC's applications can be viewed on our Electronic Regulatory Filing System at <http://psc.wi.gov/>. Enter case number 137-CE-139 in the boxes provided on the PSC homepage, or click on the Electronic Regulatory Filing System button.

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