



In Support of Improving Wisconsin's Transmission Infrastructure

We, the undersigned, support the benefits that an improved transmission infrastructure will bring to Wisconsin. The organizations listed below represent a diverse group of businesses, labor unions, economic development organizations and trade associations, and each has a direct stake in Wisconsin energy issues.

We recognize the need for a transmission system that can ensure the delivery of reliable electricity to businesses and customers, facilitate commerce, promote competition in the regional energy marketplace and help deliver renewable energy to Wisconsin customers.

The American Transmission Company (ATC) and Xcel Energy have engaged with stakeholders like us throughout its transmission-planning process and we support their efforts to address Wisconsin's need for an improved electrical grid.

The proposed Badger Coulee transmission project, a 345 kV line from the La Crosse area to Dane County, will help lay the foundation for low-cost, dependable electricity and subsequent economic development in Wisconsin.

Due to the project's widespread benefits, the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO), which coordinates and controls our region's transmission system, has deemed Badger Coulee a Multi-Value Project (MVP). In order for MISO to classify a project as an MVP, the project must:

- **Improve electric system reliability both locally and regionally**
- **Deliver economic savings for Wisconsin utilities and electric customers**
- **Expand infrastructure to support public policy for greater use of clean energy**

As an MVP, the costs of the Badger Coulee transmission line will be paid by ratepayers throughout the MISO region, not just by Wisconsin customers.

As required by law, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) will carefully review the need, cost, and routing of the Badger Coulee project. In 2013, ATC and Xcel Energy intend to propose two final routes and it is the PSC's statutory responsibility to consider both options, along with the environmental impact of the project through an open and inclusive process. We choose not to take a position on the appropriate route for the project, but remain supportive of the need for this project and any other necessary transmission improvements.

We believe that the Badger Coulee project will be beneficial not only to western Wisconsin, but to our state and region as a whole. Badger Coulee, when combined with other regional transmission initiatives, will reduce the wholesale cost of delivered energy to the consumer by enabling the transfer of low cost generation to load, reducing congestion costs, and increasing system reliability, regardless of the future generation mix.

We support responsible choices for Wisconsin's future growth and encourage all interested parties to join us in supporting the Badger Coulee transmission line.

Signed by:

- **Adams—Columbia Electric Cooperative**
- **Alliant Energy Corp.**
- **Associated General Contractors of Wisconsin**
- **IBEW Local 953**
- **IBEW Local 965**
- **IBEW Local 2150**
- **Madison Gas & Electric Company**
- **Midwest Food Processors Association**
- **Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin**
- **National Federation of Independent Business**
- **Operating Engineers Local #139**
- **State Conference of IBEW Inside Construction Locals**
- **Utility Workers Coalition**
- **Wisconsin Economic Development Association**
- **Wisconsin Grocers Association**
- **Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce**
- **Wisconsin Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association**
- **Wisconsin Restaurant Association**
- **Wisconsin Technology Council**
- **Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association**
- **WPPI Energy**