

RESOLUTION NUMBER_____

WHEREAS, the Iowa Utilities Board has received a joint utility petition for a franchise containing an option for a 345-kV high-capacity transmission line from Middleton, Wisconsin to Montfort, Wisconsin to Dubuque County, Iowa including siting within Dubuque County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, the high voltage transmission option includes additions to an existing 345 kV substation facility near New Wine Township increasing the possibility of additional, potentially impactful, transmission facilities connecting to the facility in the future; and,

WHEREAS, our responsibilities include protecting and enhancing natural and local economic assets, including scenic beauty and development potential that could be impacted by 110 to 195-foot steel or concrete poles and wires for high voltage transmission; and

WHEREAS, high-profile transmission lines have the potential to reduce property values and slow economic development due to their prominent visibility and perceived negative health effects; and,

WHEREAS, growth of demand for electricity in Iowa and adjacent states has been flat in recent years and utilities that might utilize the facility are not projecting significant increases in energy use or peak demand; and,

WHEREAS, the cumulative, long-term costs considering construction, financing, operation, maintenance and securitization could place significant financial burden on electric customers within and beyond our jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, it is unknown whether any increase in energy demand estimated by the applicants might be more cost effectively met with comparable or lesser investment in accelerated energy efficiency, conservation, load management, and development of local renewable power options; and,

WHEREAS, it is unknown if the high voltage transmission option or investments to improve the efficiency and self-sufficiency of homes, farms and businesses could develop and stabilize local economies with minimal negative impacts; and,

WHEREAS, our County lacks important information required to make informed recommendations during at this stage of this docket; and,

WHEREAS, informed recommendations by our County should receive further review and consideration by IUB staff and additional experts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that

- 1) Dubuque County requests that the following information be a part of the petition for a franchise to appropriately evaluate impact of the proposed scope and goals of said petition and subsequent considerations:
 - (a) Dubuque County requests 20-year, estimated total cost for the high voltage transmission option that electric customers would pay. These 20-year costs should itemize capital and other construction period costs; return on the investment; financing costs; operation and maintenance costs; costs for securing the facility against cyber or physical attacks; and any other costs that are ultimately paid by electric customers in sum.
 - (b) Dubuque County requests clear, easy to read comparisons of average residential, commercial and industrial utility bills for 5, 10 and 20 years with and without the proposed high voltage transmission facility in service.
 - (c) To assist in determination of need for a high voltage transmission facility, Dubuque County requests that the applicants provide a Non-Transmission Alternative in their petition based on accelerated spending in energy efficiency, load management and deployment of distributed solar generation utilizing the same, total amount ratepayers would assume over 40 years for the high voltage transmission option including cost-benefit analysis comparing monetary benefits and impacts on CO2 reduction over time.
 - (d) Dubuque County, in consideration of long-term, potential impacts of altering the 345 kV substation near the New Wine Township, requests the applicants to provide knowledge (even speculation) of future interests in constructing new 138 kV or larger transmission lines connecting with the 345-kV facility.
- 2) Following IUB receipt of the application for Cardinal Hickory Creek, our County requests the IUB Service Commission ask applicants for clarifications and information as required to ensure that information in the petition is clear, understood by the public, and contains adequate information to arrive at a fair, just judgement of the proposal.
- 3) If the applicants do not provide the information requested by our County in 1(a)-1(d) above, we request that the Iowa Utilities Board consider the petition as incomplete and terminate the petition process.
- 4) Dubuque County requests that the Iowa Utilities Board record this resolution in the public record of Docket E-22386 and to include it, in entirety, in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements for same docket.

Resolution adopted this 13th day of August, 2018

Jay Wickham, Chairperson

Dubuque County Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Mary J. Habel

Dubuque County Deputy Auditor