

**TOWN OF MIDDLETON**  
7555 W. OLD SAUK ROAD  
VERONA, WI 53593

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July 18, 2012

Charlie Gonzales  
American Transmission Company LLC  
2 Fen Oak Court  
Madison, WI 53718-8810

Re: Badger Coulee Project  
PSC Docket No. 137-CE-160

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

The Town of Middleton held a public informational meeting for our Town residents regarding the Badger Coulee Transmission Project on June 11, 2012. At this time, the Town requests that American Transmission Company answer the following questions or provide explanations to comments that arose from that meeting.

1. Is Route A143 preferred over N1280 despite the fact that Route A143 runs through a populated area of the Town of Middleton? Please explain in detail why.
2. Is it possible to bury Route A143 underground as a means of mitigating the adverse impact on the surrounding residential neighborhoods? If not, please explain why.
3. Could the existing transmission line that runs along Route A143 be buried and the new 345 kV line then be placed on shorter poles?
4. There are two schools located adjacent to Route A143. There is a substantial body of literature dealing with power line EMF. The US EPA, on its RadTown USA web page says that people concerned about health risks from power lines can reduce their exposure by increasing the distance from the power lines. The EPA also recommends limiting the time spent near power lines. What assurances can ATC provide the parents of students that the proposed project will not constitute a health risk?
5. The Town is concerned about adverse property value impact occurring as a result of the 345 kV lines. What assurances can be provided that there will be no adverse economic impact to property owners?

6. Please provide information (if exists) regarding the potential noise level studies on Cardinal Substation that includes current and future transmission lines once they become energized. (Please convert measurements into understandable layperson analogies.)
7. Route A143 is located adjacent to a Superfund Landfill site. This landfill has no liner and has produced a toxic plume. Has this site been examined or studied for impacts to ground water if transmission poles will be constructed through this property? Have the EPA and DNR commented on the proximity of the proposed transmission lines to the site, whether formally or informally?
8. Identify the criteria that ATC is using to select the transmission line route through the Town of Middleton.
9. In the Rockdale-West Middleton project ATC, agreed to locate transmission lines in existing public rights-of-way where feasible. Is this same criterion being used to establish the route for the Badger Coulee transmission line in the Town of Middleton? Please explain why or why not.
10. Provide an explanation as to why a proposed route along Highway 12 is not being proposed. Has the FAA commented on the possibility near the Middleton Morey Airport, whether formally or informally? Is it possible to bury the line for distance near the Airport?
11. Could both the established lines (currently being built) and the proposed lines go on the same poles along Highway 14? If not, could there be a 345 kV line on each side along Highway 14?
12. Provide cost estimates for the different routes currently proposed, including a possible route along Highway 12.
13. Could the 345 kV lines (currently being built) be used as higher powered lines 500 or 765 kV? With or without adaptations? What is the maximum potential and what process would be required to use the higher voltage lines?

The Town looks forward to reviewing ATC's responses to the above comments and questions no later than August 20, 2012.

Sincerely,



Sara Ludtke  
Public Works Coordinator

cc: Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
Town of Middleton Board