

DERRICK VAN ORDEN

THIRD DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY:
CHAIRMAN



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September 7, 2026

Virgina Limmiatis
MGS Outreach Specialist
3902 Milwaukee St, PO Box 7426
Madison, WI 53714

Dear Ms. Limmiatis,

I am writing in strong opposition to the current proposed routes for the BECI 765-kV Transmission Line and urge Midcontinent Grid Solutions to listen to my constituents who are the landowners, farmers, and communities that will be impacted by this project.

I have heard directly from my constituents about the significant impacts of the proposed line. They feel like they are being pushed around by your company. This is something I will not stand for.

The transmission corridor would impose substantial burdens on them with easements, restrictions on future development, impacts on agricultural operation, property value changes, and environmental changes.

The proposed BECI 765-kV Transmission Line would be going through the geographically unique landscape of the Driftless Area, the only Paleozoic Plateau region in the continental United States, where we are dependent on agriculture and tourism for our economic vitality.

I am additionally concerned that there have not been sufficient studies conducted focusing on the potential negative impact on our ground water due to the construction techniques being proposed. This is completely unacceptable.

I am asking that Midcontinent Grid Solutions review alternative routes, cost options, and construction methods that can utilize existing utility, highway, railroad corridors before impacting any virgin lands in the Driftless.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and your full and fair consideration of this request, within applicable laws and regulations. If I can provide you with any additional information, please contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Van Orden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "D." and last name "Van Orden" clearly legible.

Derrick Van Orden
Member of Congress