

DATE MAILED
SEP 23 2003

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Joint Application of Minnesota Power Company and Wisconsin Public Service Corporation for Authority to Construct and Place in Service Electric Transmission Lines and Other Electric Facilities for the Arrowhead-Weston Project, Located in St. Louis County in Minnesota, and Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, and Washburn Counties in Wisconsin

05-CE-113

SCHEDULING ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING

This Scheduling Order and Notice of Hearing supercedes and replaces the Commission's August 29, 2003, Scheduling Order and Notice of Hearing. The technical hearing was held as scheduled. The technical hearing dates are included for informational purposes only.

The following is a list of all changes which are included in this notice and order:

1. The hearings in the project area scheduled for October 1, 2, and 3 will be held as originally scheduled.
2. An additional hearing in the project area is scheduled by this notice for November 13, 2003, at the places and times listed below.
3. The period during which written testimony from members of the public will be accepted has been extended to October 31, 2003.

Technical Hearing Dates:	September 16 through 19, and September 22 through 24, 2003 - 9:00 a.m. Public Service Commission, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, WI (Amnicon Falls Hearing Room, - 1st Floor)
Periods During Which Testimony By the General Public May Be Submitted In Writing:	September 16 through October 31, 2003, by mail, to: Mr. Jim Lepinski, Docket Coordinator, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854 October 1 through 3, and November 13, 2003, in person at hearings in the project area. See specific instructions below for submitting written testimony.

Hearings In The Project Area (Testimony by the general public may be submitted orally, or written testimony delivered in person.)	Wednesday, October 1, 2003 – 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Solon Springs Community Center, 11523 S. Business 53, Solon Springs, WI Thursday, October 2, 2003 – 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Veterans Memorial Association, 608 Summit Avenue, Ladysmith, WI Friday, October 3, 2003 – 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Rib Mountain Municipal Center, 3700 N. Mountain Rd. Wausau, WI Thursday, November 13, 2003 – 3:00 p.m. Veterans Memorial Association, 608 Summit Avenue, Ladysmith, WI
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On October 30, 2001, the Commission issued its order in this docket authorizing Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPSC), Minnesota Power (MP), and American Transmission Company (ATC) to construct the Arrowhead-Weston project. On November 26, 2002, ATC filed a petition requesting that the Commission's October 30, 2001, order be amended to include revised project costs, to clarify the effective date of the CPCN, and to allow ATC to construct a fiber-optic cable for the sole purpose of monitoring, operating and protecting the transmission grid.

The Commission reopened this proceeding on December 17, 2002, to consider multiple requests from ATC to modify the final decision. After soliciting the comments of the parties and other interested persons, the Commission, on April 24, 2003, ordered rehearing, and determined that it will hear testimony regarding the following issues:

1. What is the current estimated cost of the Arrowhead-Weston line, including the proposed fiber optics and substation improvements? As part of this issue, the record shall also address the environmental impacts of the substation improvements now being proposed.
2. The 1999 WRAO Report identified six EHV transmission line alternatives to an Arrowhead-Weston line. The Commission's prior record showed that two of the alternatives (Salem-Fitchburg and Lakefield Junction-Columbia) are not reasonable alternatives because of electrical performance limitations. What are the current estimated costs of the other four EHV transmission line alternatives identified in the 1999 WRAO Report?
3. How has Wisconsin's electric generation and transmission system changed since the Commission issued its Final Decision in this docket on October 30, 2001?
4. Because of the changes identified in Issue 3, could any alternative (other than building the Arrowhead-Weston line or building one of the four EHV lines identified in Issue 2)

resolve the current problems of the electric generation and transmission system in a manner that is both cost-effective and technically feasible? For purposes of this proceeding, a "technically feasible" alternative must remedy any security issues currently existing in Wisconsin's transmission system that would be remedied by the Arrowhead-Weston line.

5. In light of the currently projected costs and benefits of the Arrowhead-Weston line, of the four EHV lines identified in Issue 2, and of any alternatives identified in Issue 4, does the issuance of a CPCN for the Arrowhead-Weston line continue to be a reasonable choice?

In addition to taking oral testimony during the public hearings in the project area, the Commission will also allow members of the public to submit testimony in writing, as an alternative to appearing in person at a hearing and testifying orally. Granting members of the public an opportunity to submit testimony in writing has the benefit of increasing public access to Commission proceedings, and can ease the burden of public participation.

Therefore, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. In lieu of appearing and testifying orally at the hearing sessions that the Commission has scheduled in the project area for this docket on October 1 to 3, 2003, members of the public may submit testimony in writing. Written testimony must be limited to the writer's personal knowledge or personal opinions.

2. The Commission will accept written testimony from members of the public delivered in two ways: written testimony delivered by mail from September 16, 2003 to October 31, 2003, and; written testimony delivered in person to the hearings in the project area from October 1 to 3, 2003, and November 13, 2003.

3. Mailed written testimony by members of the public may be postmarked prior to September 16, 2003, but must be received by the Commission no sooner than September 16 and no later than October 31, 2003. All written testimony shall include the phrase "Docket 05-CE-113" in a heading, and shall be addressed to:

Mr. Jim Lepinski, Docket Coordinator
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

4. Written testimony by members of the public will also be accepted at the Commission's hearings in the project area, scheduled for October 1 to 3, and November 13, 2003. Members of the public may prepare their written testimony in advance and submit it at one of these hearing sessions, or may write out their testimony while attending a hearing session in the project area. The Commission will have writing material available for use at its hearing sessions in the project area.

5. The Commission will distribute to the parties present at the next hearing session held after the receipt of the testimony by the Commission, a copy of all written testimony filed with the Commission since the preceding hearing session. The Commission will copy all written testimony offered at hearing sessions in the project area and distribute a copy to the parties present at that session.

6. Testimony offered by a member of the public in lieu of testifying orally is subject to objection as if it were offered orally. Objections will be heard prior to the admission of the written testimony. Members of the public offering written testimony should understand that their testimony may not be admitted, if objected to. Members of the public who have doubts about the admissibility of their written testimony should plan to attend a hearing session in the project area and submit their written testimony in person, so as to have the opportunity to offer non-objectionable oral testimony.

7. No party or Commission staff may sponsor written testimony in lieu of oral testimony other than pre-filed testimony already approved.

8. This order will be posted on the Commission's website, and published in newspapers in the project area.

9. ATC is responsible for mailing this order to landowners affected by the authorized project route, and providing the Commission with an affidavit of mailing, within 2 working days of the date of this order. The affidavit shall include the total number of landowners to which this order was mailed. For any and all mailings returned to ATC marked as undeliverable, ATC shall make a reasonable attempt to correct the address and shall resend this order to the corrected address. Within calendar 14 days of the date of this order, ATC shall provide the Commission with a list of landowners remaining for which delivery of this order could not be made.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that hearings in the project area will be held as follows: Wednesday, October 1, at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at Solon Springs Community Center, 11523 Business 53, Solon Springs, Wisconsin; Thursday, October 2, at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Association, 608 Summit Avenue, Ladysmith, Wisconsin; Friday, October 3, 2003, at 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at Rib Mountain Municipal Center, Wausau, Wisconsin; Thursday, November 13, at 3:00 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Association, 608 Summit Avenue, Ladysmith, Wisconsin. These rooms are accessible to people in wheelchairs. Parking for people with disabilities is available. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations should contact the docket coordinator listed below.

This is a Class 1 proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a).

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to

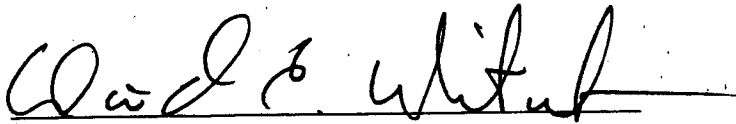
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participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the docket coordinator listed below.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to docket coordinator Jim Lepinski at (608) 266-0478.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, 27th day of September 2003

By the Commission:



David C. Whitcomb
Administrative Law Judge

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