Postage Required

K Cahill 4176 Wilson Rd Dodgewille WI 53533

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

### TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

<sup>Name:</sup> Kathi	erine Cat	nill	
Organization (if any):	concerned	land owner in	Iowa County
Address:			
City/State			
Email add			
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Please note: Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

# **Public Scoping Period Comment Card**

Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

NOV. 2, 2016

You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

### **Comments:**

will

Whon Die Convitonment Wisanon In JW Au proposed in list Lina world 4 marie Shady slope, W/SOLING plai water springs (are on on proper philian Blanchacks Cric Species -IW ties PCONOM ocar かっつ have to le would Vacale and Webs! Thave Visited  $\overline{a}$ Long B each that horse that is boarde stat i < 60.17 a lq at inda giant electrical towers like the ones proposed here. She CA law prohibits people from havin tono t)~eI towers, but horses can live inder them. These houses days we rode horses ground this Stable and u electrical wires overhead. It was a very rzzlina collience that had ne wondering what adverse health jecting my body to by Spending time in an habitation GC himan  $\rho(\infty)$ Wants this goin across Their  $\Lambda o$ one SW Wisconsin sources I have read, this line is not needed from all That above all should stop this project. Shope these

give you pause for concern. Thanks for reading

### SAM CAHILL



5 ...

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

### 15017-145357

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# TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

Name: SAM CAHILL

Organization (if any):

Address:						1.0
	199					
City/State	2.0.4	510				
	V. Star					
Email ad		- 3			14.00 1 <sup>2</sup>	~7 <b>(</b> *
		-			in Format	ion in your
<i>Please note:</i> Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail ac comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identity)	ldress, or identifying ifying infor	other pe information f	rsonal tion) n rom pu	ay be ma blic revie	de publicly w, we cann	available at ot guarantee

that we will be able to do so.

# Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service



You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

#### **Comments:**

Ø

I left the Driftless Area for college, lived abroad for two
When the stars to will be and the
$ \sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$ $\sqrt{2}$
of road bike rides around the ridges and valleys north of Dodgeville. It's a landsoape that's unique in the Midwest. Towa, Migne sota and the met of Winning.
Iowa, Minnesota, and the rest of Wisconsin are glaciated flat, and if
you're a set bicyclict for a bile of a lating are glaciated flat, and if
you're a set bicyclist (or a biker or a lookie-lood or a leaf-peeper) boring. The valley's and the and the
boring. The valleys are pretty, and they have their trout streams
volte very with the part could be the state of the
imagine anyone else) is the views from the ridgetops. There's Highland,
and Pleasart Ridge, and Montfort, and the top of County M
with even mus when view to north to the Wisonsin Pine
De south over Collocatant cropland towards Platteville and Sinsinawa
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the willing of the about the discussion of the
state and no matter the route this proposed powerline takes
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The ingustrial intrastructure that another would the
will recognize they wonth come. Why would they?
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[] Individual [X] Family [X] Business [] Frequent Visitor Additional information Additional information	EIS Scoping Input dinal Hickory Creek PSCW Docket 05CE146
City	n supplied for USDA/RUS tal and Economic Impact atement Scoping Input.
Years of residence in area: <u>12</u> Positions held and/or responsibilities assumed in n <u>Art &amp; land Stewardship advo</u> 1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:	ny community: DCATES
Loss of Property ValueLoss/diminished Environmental AssetsLoss of Tourism ILoss of Business IncomeAffects on Rare & Endangered HabitatsImpacts on RisinAffects on Personal HealthAffects on Rare & Endangered AnimalsImpacts on EnergyAffects on Others HealthAffects on Rare & Endangered PlantsCompromises onAffects on my LivestockAffects on Raptors & WaterfowlLoss/diminishedAffects of Electro- magnetic Fields & NoiseAffects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground WaterImpacts on Relig Values or Culture	gy Self-Reliance X Local Economy X Cultural Assets X Ious, Personal Y
2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:	
offer creek watershed	Town located in Highland
* also see attached itemized concerns	
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth. Fall Art Tour artists & other businesses. It also see attached itemized concerns	Town located in Highland DodgerMe Spring Green Baraboo
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions) The his price Union Valley School @ (paper A) = Plank	Town located in (High)and
The historic Union Valley School @ ChyRd Q & Plank offer creek Lutheran Church & ChyRd Q \$ P.	trigh land
3. Energy Investment Priorities         I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements like         energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long term debt.         2 November 2016         iignature	Agree Disagree

EIS Scoping Input - Cardinal Hickory Creek - PSCW Docket 05CE146 Submitted by Callahan/Walté, Highland, WI on November 2, 2016

Dear Rural Utilities Service Committee Members,

Our property on County Road Q in Highland is like many other properties along the proposed routes for the C.H.C Transmission Project: a very special convergence of plant, animal, water and land communities, unique to the Driftless Region. To have our efforts in stream restoration and habitat improvement, not to mention our working forestry MFL land, thwarted by a power easement seems almost a punishment for doing the right thing at our end.

This sense of loss is punctuated by the fact that we believe a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis would show that the need for this project is non-existent. Alternatives are already approved and under construction.

The most obvious energy efficiency can already be seen in that energy sales for MGE and WPL have declined over the last ten years despite increases in population and economic growth. In 2007, ATC assumed a 20% growth in electrical need. That has not happened.

ATC is operating on a 20th century business model for energy resourcing and transmission. The state of New York and the United States Army are adapting "micro-grids" as the modern model for locally produced energy in the 21st century.

Long before we were aware of CHC, we had an energy mitigation plan. One of our three buildings is already heated and cooled by a geothermal system with on-demand propane water heating. We plan to convert the other buildings to geothermal when finances allow. We would like the opportunity to be a part of a local energy system.

When, if not now, will we embark on non-transmission alternatives here in our communities?

When will we put our resources into models of energy efficiency, load management and development of local, renewable energy?

Sincerely.

John F. Walté and Pamela Callahan Highland, WI

\*See pp. 2-3 for itemized concerns about the high voltage transmission proposal.

EIS Scoping Input - Cardinal Hickory Creek - PSCW Docket 05CE146 Submitted by Callahan/Walté, Highland, WI on November 2, 2016

### Environmental Impacts

- Due to the steep hillsides of the Driftless area, we fear erosion issues from transmission line easements that will also accelerate flooding. Since 2006, we have experienced three 100-year and two 500-year floods.
- Many properties in the Union Valley and along the Otter Creek watershed have beautifully restored streams and wetlands. Our land includes approximately one mile of Otter Creek and two spring-fed creeks that are tributaries to Otter Creek. In addition, within the surrounds of these streams, we have dry mesic, wet mesic and wet wetlands, forming a complex animal and plant habitat. With ongoing restoration projects in our forest land (MFL) and stream (EQIP), we have been encouraged by the support offered by both state and federal agencies, in the form of cost share grants, but also in the shared knowledge, enthusiasm and love for the land. The impact of a transmission line easement would be devastating. [See attached map and list of at-risk species below.]
- Raptors, including eagles overwinter in our stream area. Cranes, herons, wood ducks and more, nest in our wetlands every spring.
- List of endangered, threatened and special concern species from our DNR "Endangered Resource Review" compiled for our EQIP (USDA/NRCS) stream restoration project:

END - Endangered SC - Special Concern

- 1. Highland Dancer, Dragonfly, SC
- 2. Silver Chub (Spawning Restrictions), Fish, SC
- 3. Blanchard's Cricket Frog, Frog, END
- 4. Pickerel Frog, (Spawning Restrictions), Frog, SC
- 5. Blanding's Turtle, (Spawning Restrictions), Turtle, SC

These species are among many others listed in the DNR's Natural Heritage Inventory. [See attached two pages from our surrounding township area.] EIS Scoping Input - Cardinal Hickory Creek - PSCW Docket 05CE146 Submitted by Callahan/Walté, Highland, WI on November 2, 2016

### Business/Residential Impacts

- This area around and downstream of Blackhawk Lake is renowned for its mix of retirement homes as well as small family farms. The reasons for choosing this quiet, beautiful place to live of course are based on the absence of an industrial presence.
- We are one of three "open studios" in our valley that join the near 50 artists on the annual Fall Art Tour. Established in 1993 and a highly publicized event, many area businesses, beyond the individual artists, benefit from the Fall Art Tour each autumn. Driving the scenic back roads with fall colors blazing is as much a part of the Tour as the art. We fear, as do many others on the Tour, that rows of giant metal towers will have a significant impact on bringing our clients to our studios. [See attached brochure.]
- The lines would also impact other businesses that rely on tourism and the unique landscape here. Fishing, biking, hiking, camping, hunting, snowmobiling, canoeing, kayaking, the arts, music, theatre, dining and lodging. People visit this area to experience the rural and wild environs of the land where the glacier didn't go.
- We have nearly completed the restoration of an 1850s settler's cabin with the goal of establishing a rental retreat for artists or anyone who might wish to experience the Driftless Area--its hills and valleys, woods and wetlands, prairies, farms and bluffs. A high-wire highway would halt this endeavor and impact our future business plans.
- Property values to plummet.

Documents attached:

- 2016 Fall Art Tour brochure
- Map of 4568 County Road Q
- List of at-risk species in T7N R2E & T6N R2E (2 pages)

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING THESE CONCERNS FOR THE CHC - EIS.



### Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species Documented in the Iowa and Dane County Townships Crossed by the Proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line

The following is a list of species and natural features on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource's Natural Heritage Working List that have been documented for each Public Land Survey System (PLSS) township in Iowa and Dane Counties that is crossed by the proposed Cardinal-Hickory .Creek Transmission Line

Bald eagles and sensitive species (such as rattlesnakes and bats) are not included in this data, where applicable. Each species or community on the list has been documented in at least one location (but possibly many locations) within the township. These data were last updated on May 13, 2016, so there may be more recent county records not reflected here. Status definitions are located at the end of this .document

Please note that absence of data does NOT necessarily indicate absence of a species. Basically, we find species where we look for them, and many of these areas have not been thoroughly inventoried. This .data was copied from http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/NHI/data.asp?tool=township on September 29, 2016

### (T7N R2E (includes parts of Clyde, Highland, and Dodgeville Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Plant		END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens
Plant	SOC	THR	Hill's Thistle	Cirsium hillii
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
~Turtle		SC/P	Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii
~Fish		SC/N	Lake Chubsucker	Erimyzon sucetta
Community		NA	Pine Relict	Pine relict

### (T7N R3E (includes parts of Clyde, Wyoming, and Dodgeville Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Plant		END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens
Community		NA	Dry-mesic Prairie	Dry-mesic prairie

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Snake		SC/H	Plains Gartersnake	Thamnophis radix

## (T6N R1E (includes parts of Highland and Eden Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
Plant		SC	Nodding Pogonia	Triphora trianthophora

# K (T6N R2E (includes parts of Highland, Eden, Linden and Dodgeville Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
~Dragonfly		SC/N	Springwater Dancer	Argia plana
Plant		SC	Prairie Indian-plantain	Arnoglossum plantagineum
Bird		THR	Acadian Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens
~Turtle		SC/P	Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris
Community		NA	Moist Cliff	Moist cliff
Plant		SC	Prairie Fame-flower	Phemeranthus rugospermus
Community		NA	Southern Dry-mesic Forest	Southern dry-mesic forest
Community		NA	Southern Mesic Forest	Southern mesic forest
Turtle		END	Ornate Box Turtle	Terrapene ornata

## (T6N R3E (includes part of Dodgeville Township

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Plant		THR	Roundstem Foxglove	Agalinis gattingeri

# 2016 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual





Open Studios of Wisconsin Artists

Baraboo Spring Green • Dodgeville Mineral Point

PO Box 127 | Spring Green, WI | 53588-0127

# October 14, 15, 16 – 2016 10am – 6pm

Baraboo • Spring Green • Dodgeville • Mineral Point 608-356-7805 www.fallarttour.com

From:	Don Campbell
То:	comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
Subject:	Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project
Date:	Saturday, December 31, 2016 2:34:29 PM

I oppose the Cardinal-Hickory Creek power line on these grounds:

1. The need for it has not been established. Evidence indicates the absence of need.

2. Future generation and consumption of electrical energy by the customary means for the power line have been shown to be extremely damaging to our atmosphere.

3. Paying for this power line is an imposition on many consumers at a time when earnings are less than adequate.

Donald H. Campbell



From:	Don Campbell
То:	comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
Subject:	Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project
Date:	Saturday, December 31, 2016 3:57:38 PM

I oppose the Cardinal-Hickory Creek power line for these reasons:

1. The power line has the potential to do irreparable damage to the flora, fauna, and human residents along and adjacent to the corridors.

2. Property values are permanently reduced before and after construction.

3. Potential risks due to EMFs and Stray Voltage are unwanted.

Donald H. Campbell





David Reinhart <comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us>

# **Cardinal-Hickory Creek Power Line**

2 messages

Don Campbell	î (
Reply-To:	
To: comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us	

Greetings--

I oppose the American Transmission Company's Cardinal-Hickory project for these reasons.

- 1. Depression of property values even before approval of application and construction.
- 2. Perceived (or actual) dangers of EMFs and Stray Voltages.
- 3. Damage to sensitive areas.

Donald H. Campbell



Comments <comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us> To: Adrian Hogel <AHogel@swca.com>

[Quoted text hidden]

Mon, Jan 2, 2017 at 7:29 PM

Thu, Jan 19, 2017 at 2:44 PM

Last Name <u>Omphell</u> First Name <u>Jonald</u> [9] Individual [] Family [] Business [] Frequent Visitor	EIS Scoping Input Cardinal Hickory Creek PSCW Docket 05CE146
Stree	Additional information supplied for USDA/RUS Environmental and Economic Impact

1

City

Statement Scoping Input.

Years of residence in area: <u>2</u> Positions field and/or responsibilities assumed in my community:

1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:

	-				
Loss of Property Value	$\nu$	Loss/diminished Environmental Assets	V	Loss of Tourism Related Business	~
Loss of Business Income	$\checkmark$	Affects on Rare & Endangered Habitats	1	impacts on Rising Energy Costs	
Affects on Personal Health	$\mathbf{V}$	Affects on Rare & Endangered Animals	1/	Impacts on Energy Self-Reliance	17
Arrects on Others Health	V	Affects on Rare & Endangered Plants	V	Compromises on Local Economy	V
Affects on my Livestock		Affects on Raptors & Waterfowl		Loss/diminished Cultural Assets	
Affects of Electro- magnetic Fields & Noise		Affects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground Water		Impacts on Religious, Personal Values or Cultural Assets	

2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (water bodies, animals, plants, habitats)	Town located in
Damage (irreparable) to water bodies, animals	Eden
plants and habitat & not only during	
- construction but continuing after	
Installation & will be inercapable.	
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Town located in
- Loss of fearism, a growing industry in	Eden
Towa County is a very serious matter.	
Not only is there damage to the landscape.	
residential and pusiness activities are	
threatened and slower to develop if at	
all due to resulting stress and inability	
to thrive. Growth is inhibited.	
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions),	Town located in
Refivement in this area is not promoted	Eden
by these proposed power lines, we feel	
infimidated by their presence.	
B) more the triot king t	Agree Disagree
I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements like energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long term debt.	
$\bigcirc 1110$ $110$	

ignature Bonald H. Campbell

\_\_\_\_ Date 2NN. 2016



David Reinhart <comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us>

## **Cardinal-Hickory Creek Line**

2 messages

Don Campbell	
Reply-To:	
To: comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us	

Wed, Jan 4, 2017 at 5:15 PM

Greetings:

I unwaveringly object to the construction of American Transmission Company's proposed high-capacity power line through Iowa County for these reasons:

- 1. Probable use of Eminent Domain.
- 2. No demonstration of the "public good" requirement.
- 3. No independent quantitative determination of the effects of Energy Efficiencies and Renewable Energies in a cost-benefit comparison.

Donald H. Campbell



Comments <comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us> To: Adrian Hogel <AHogel@swca.com> Thu, Jan 19, 2017 at 2:44 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

From:	
	comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us
Subject:	Keep the Cardinal Hickory Creek line out of the driftless area
Date:	Saturday, November 05, 2016 5:18:22 PM

I urge you to protect the beauty and cohesiveness of the Wisconsin's Driftless Area by not installing a new transmission line between Highway 18/151 and Highway 14. If a new line is absolutely necessary it should follow the existing Highway 18-151 corridor.

Thank you,

James Campbell



# Jamie Campbell





David Reinhart <comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us>

## power lines

2 messages

Kevin Campbell To: comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us Tue, Nov 22, 2016 at 1:26 PM

Thu, Jan 19, 2017 at 2:39 PM

I am opposed to the power lines going through the driftless area of south west Wisconsin. making a power line along the highway 18/151 corridor is much more acceptable.

K. Campbell. Madison Wi

Comments <comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us> To: Adrian Hogel <AHogel@swca.com>

[Quoted text hidden]

To whom it may concern,

We purchased land on Sweeney Rd, with the intention to build our dream home. To date we have the garage/workshop built and are using it, next step is building our home which is in process this year. We selected this lot/area because of it's beauty and the very limited power lines, etc. The area is clean and natural, we believe it's a benefit to the community to keep it that way. Our home design is one that will fit in to the surroundings with minimal impact to the environment.

It just doesn't make sense to tear up such beautiful terrain to put power lines when then can be put up in existing locations. The ecological impact is significantly less using existing routes.

Syd Campbell

12 December 2016

Dennis Rankin (dennis.rankin@wdc.usda.gov)

**Environmental Protection Specialist** 

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service

1400 Independence Avenue SW.

Room 2244, Stop 1571

Washington, DC 20250-1571

Dear Mr. Rankin:

This letter is a comment on the Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line project, URL

https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/18/2016-25132/dairyland-powercooperative-notice-of-intent-to-prepare-an-environmental-impact-statement-and-hold? &tc=eml

Two corridors are proposed:

The North corridor goes NE from Cassville to Montfort and continues NE to a spot west of Highland. From there it goes more or less E to Middleton.

The South corridor goes E from Cassville to a point between Platteville and Belmont, then N to Monfort, then W near or along the Hwy 18 corridor to a point E of Mount Horeb, where it goes NNE to Middleton.

I strongly favor the South corridor. The South option will cause less harm to unique

geological, hydrological, and ecological features of the region.

Sincerely yours,



Stephen R. Carpenter



12 December 2016

Dennis Rankin (dennis.rankin@wdc.usda.gov) Environmental Protection Specialist U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service 1400 Independence Avenue SW. Room 2244, Stop 1571 Washington, DC 20250-1571

Dear Mr. Rankin:

This letter is a comment on the Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line project, URL <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/18/2016-25132/dairyland-power-cooperative-notice-of-intent-to-prepare-an-environmental-impact-statement-and-hold?&tc=eml">https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/18/2016-25132/dairyland-power-cooperative-notice-of-intent-to-prepare-an-environmental-impact-statement-and-hold?&tc=eml</a>

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The South corridor goes E from Cassville to a point between Platteville and Belmont, then N to Monfort, then W near or along the Hwy 18 corridor to a point E of Mount Horeb, where it goes NNE to Middleton.

**I strongly favor the South corridor.** The South option will cause less harm to unique geological, hydrological, and ecological features of the region.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen R Carpenter

Stephen R. Carpenter

Last Name <u>Cates</u> First Name <u>Kitey+Enc</u>	EIS Scoping Input Cardinal Hickory Creek PSCW Docket 05CE146
[] Individual [] Family [] Business [] Frequent Visitor	PSCW DOCKOLOSCE 140
Stre	al information supplied for USDA/RUS Environmental and Economic Impact Statement Scoping Input.
City	

Years of residence in area: 30 Positions held and/or responsibilities assumed in my community: Overseer over of Land This Conservation Easement

1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:

Loss of Property Value	$\nabla$	Loss/diminished Environmental Assets	$\mathbb{N}$	Loss of Tourism Related Business	$\square$
Loss of Business Income	Ń	Affects on Rare & Endangered Habitats		<b>3</b>	X
Affects on Personal Health		Affects on Rare & Endangered Animals		Impacts on Energy Self-Reliance	
Affects on Others Health		Affects on Rare & Endangered Plants		Compromises on Local Economy	М
Affects on my Livestock	K	Aflects on Raptors & Waterfowl			M
Affects of Electro- magnetic Fields & Noise	Ø	Affects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground Water	K	Impacts on Religious, Personal Values or Cultural Assets	P

2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (water bodies, animals, plants, habitats)	Town located in	
We we on property that contains a	Myoning.	
Tond conservation Jeasement, which	0 0	
includes lowey creek. It's one of the for		
creeps that meets the standard for wild	- and sta	ding
brook thank spawning-w special genetic morker	5 distan	
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Town located in	
Spring Green is a GIN beking hat spot Trek	wyowing	
princh groups through the area bic of the	Spring Errel	h
beautiful undisturked lendscape. Reople	Dodgeville	
from all over the country come to the	Avena	
angless for hiping and billing and this		
would affect that tourisin and our econi	my.	
	Dodden	N6
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town located in	
This area has a STRONG envyopmental (conservation	on wyon	18
cethors and it goes against my values and	Sphinge	Van
	recitus lan	ks.
3. Energy Investment Priorities 7	Agree Disagree	{
I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements like energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long term debt.	$ \chi\rangle$	
energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on durities and create tong term debt		1
ignature Date 1	2/14	

Last Name Cate	S	First Name			EIS Scoping Inpu inal Hickory Cree	
Nindividual M Family	r	Business [] Frequent Visitor			PSCW Docket 05CE1	
Str Cit		Transie I Triedram Local	ŕ		supplied for USDA/R al and Economic Impa tement Scoping Inpu	ct
US Senator Herb Kohl- hisband, Dirk Cates, is on	100	O Positions held and/or responsibil a vicultural tenvironental state sta a school board, farmer, teacher. Cates Farmon oncern regarding the high voltage trans	ily	F special ist 20 Fairm received La	pold conservation	a chi
Loss of Property Value	1	Loss/diminished Environmental Assets	1	Loss of Tourism R	elated Business	vas.
oss of Business Income		Affects on Rare & Endangered Habitats		Impacts on Rising		V
Affects on Personal Health		Affects on Rare & Endangered Animals		Impacts on Energ		F
ffects on Others Health		Affects on Rare & Endangered Plants		Compromises on	Local Economy	V
Affects on my Livestock	V	Affects on Raptors & Waterfowl		Loss/diminished		
Affects of Electro- nagnetic Fields & Noise		Affects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground Water	V	Impacts on Religi Values or Cultura		~
2. Itemized concerns I hav	e a	bout the high voltage transmission prop	00	sal:		
Environmental Impacts I am	con	cerned about (water bodies, animals, plan	nts	s, habitats)	Town located in	1
		through our property - its one	0		Wyoming	
reeks that meets the	6	niteria of the WI Dept of Natural	K	isources for		
reir wild brook trow	t .	spawning program (special ge	n	etics for		
		+). Land is also in conser			. +	
These particular to	011	1. 1. Cuma is also in conser	V	with easen	in in	

of has had a lot of & spent (FWS) than strambank restorest	in for inprovement
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Town located in
rural areas depend on tourists and recreational users for	Wyoming
economic support. Any decrease in these activities will	Cincludes Famil
have and laonomic impact for our area, The driftless	Dudgeville at we
area is arcunique landscape in our country and should	Spring Green
not be materied by ugly towers that will compromise its	ana
pataval beauty and impact visitors to our ana-	

Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town lo	cated in
strong conservation and environmental statues -		
and connection to local community - which		
includes local energy production		
3. Energy Investment Priorities	Agree	Disagree
I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements like	-	

Have added solar panels to our home triath help from incentives.

a

Would profer to spend money on more solar panels versus increased payments for gigantic transmission lines. Please make suce a comprehensive, rost-bencht analysis of non-transmission alternatives is completed which includes local renewable energy.





Cates Family Farm

To: SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

My family has owned and operated a livestock grazing/farming business since 1967 in the Town of Wyoming, Iowa County, WI. Our son, Eric, and his wife, Kiley, are continuing the business. One of the proposed corridors for the Cardinal- Hickory Creek (CHC) high voltage transmission line crosses the east/west extent of our farmland.

I have served my community for the past 23 years in various capacities: Town of Wyoming Plan Commission, River Valley Community Foundation (past Vice President), WI Dept. of Agric. Trade and Consumer Protection Board (past Vice Chair), SW WI Community Action Board, River Valley School District Board of Education (recent past President), and Spring Green Lions (President elect).

I strongly oppose the CHC line for a number of reasons:

- The Town of Wyoming is a region of critical oak woodlands/savanna opportunity and concern; a construction project of this scale would be significantly larger and more invasive on the landscape than any other in place or ever considered.

- Energy usage in our state is not increasing, nor projected to increase. But this construction will increase our costs as ratepayers, and at the same time:

- Property values across all impacted Townships will undoubtedly decline significantly.

- From a family perspective, operating our livestock grazing business with a high voltage transmission line across our valley (there is no road running east/west where the proposed corridor is drawn) is not fathomable.

I support the resolutions passed by the Towns of Wyoming and Arena (immediately to the east of our residence/farmland) Board of Supervisors that request an Environmental Impact Statement be conducted to answer significant questions like these:

- What is the cost-benefit of this proposal as compared to other approaches to secure our energy future, such as a local distributed renewable energy approach?

- What might be the impact on our livestock grazing under/next to the line?

- What are the carbon emission impacts of this project?

-What are the potential cumulative negative environmental and economic impacts of this project?

My family sincerely hopes that our request for an environmental impact statement of the proposed CHC High Voltage Transmission line will be respected.

### To whom it may concern:

I am opposed to the Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. I am opposed to the project in general and the northern, cross-country route through the Town of Arena specifically.

The following concerns have led me to these conclusions:

- · Upgrades to transmission lines are not necessary.
  - Loads are stabilizing. Energy conservation has slowed the rate of increase in demand. As
    this massive, consumer-funded energy conservation trend continues, electrical demands will
    crest. Ultimately, over-built transmission projects will not be fully utilized.
  - Wisconsin utility rates are already higher than other parts of the region. Investment in transmission line expenses billed to customers, be they residential, commercial, or industrial will have negative consequences on the residents of Wisconsin.
- The proposed routes violate WI PSC guidelines.
  - Existing transmission line corridors already exist between Middleton and Montfort, via Spring Green.
  - Why was a route utilizing an existing transmission line corridor not explored and excluded from the study area?
- ATC, ITC, and Dairyland Power were deceptive in the way they communicated to me prior to the May 2016 open houses. Their deceptive communications deprived me of the opportunity to understand their intent and voice my concerns.
  - My property was outside of the "Preliminary Corridors". The meeting notice stated "area will be further defined". My expectation was that corridors would be narrowed, not relocated to involve additional properties.
  - The notice claims that the corridors follow "existing utility corridors, highways, and other infrastructure". The "September 2016 Revised Preliminary Corridors" fail to follow any of these features through much of the proposed route through the Town of Arena.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Keith Caulfield Iowa County, Wisconsin resident.

Property Owner within Sept 2016 Preliminary Corridor, Town of Arena, Iowa County, Wisconsin.

## Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

**Comments** IA M 1



SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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# TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

Pill games

I prefer to be updated by email.

Name:

Ceniti,

Organization (if any):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email address:





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You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

Comments:

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### TO: USDA/RUS

RE: EIS Scoping Input, proposed Cardinal Hickory Creek Transmission Line

I am very concerned about the proposed Cardinal Hickory Creek (CHC) high voltage power line. I am a homeowner on the second second from the proposed routes for CHC runs right past because of the beauty of the Driftless Region. One of the proposed routes for CHC runs right past my house, 80 feet from my front door. I ask that the EIS consider the following.

Most importantly, this line is not needed. The demand for electricity in Wisconsin and adjacent states has been flat or declining over the past decade due to the increased energy efficiency of appliances, HVAC systems, and lighting, as well as more home solar power. This decrease in electricity demand is in spite of thousands of new customers coming online. ATC, a privately owned corporation, profits solely on the construction and maintenance of transmission lines whether they are needed or not. They have every incentive to simply build new infrastructure regardless of need. Much has changed with both energy use and the energy industry since this line was first proposed in 2007. New technology is coming on line and there are more climate friendly options. I believe strongly in the science of climate change. Our home has PV Solar panels, providing half of our electricity. We need clean local energy generation combined with sensible energy conservation – not transmission lines that carry 70% fossil fuels.

I, the rate payer, will be forced to pay for this half a billion dollar project while ATC will receive an annual return of 10.2% on their investment. Alliant already announced a rate hike that will increase my electric bill almost 20% over the never 2 years. We all need electricity. I would like the EIS to include a cost-benefit analysis of non-transmission alternatives. Can a combination of local wind and solar, storage, energy efficiency, and demand response meet our needs? It is my money being spent to build this line; I believe there are cheaper, less environmentally destructible ways to generate electricity.

Finally, this line will harm the land I love. Our home overlooks and abuts the northern border of Governor Dodge State Park. The glaciers did not strip the Driftless Region, why should ATC do so? Not only will we have 170-foot industrial towers running through pristine land, the entire 125-mile route will be clear cut and continually sprayed with herbicides. Four state Departments of Natural Resources have identified the Driftless Area in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin as the most important ecological region in the Midwest. The proposed corridors plow through environmentally sensitive areas, specifically designated to be avoided under Wisconsin law: vital conservation areas, eagle nesting areas, and Upper Mississippi National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, among others.

Sincerely Michelle Citron

Last	Name	С	Т	R	DN

Stre

City

First Name Michelle

EIS Scoping Input Cardinal Hickory Creek PSCW Docket 05CE146

Additional information supplied for USDA/RUS Environmental and Economic Impact Statement Scoping Input.

Date 11, 1.16

Years of residence in area: <u>10</u> Positions held and/or responsibilities assumed in my community:

1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:

Loss of Property Value	X	Loss/diminished Environmental Assets	X	Loss of Tourism Related Business	X
Loss of Business Income	X	Affects on Rare & Endangered Habitats	x	Impacts on Rising Energy Costs	X
Affects on Personal Health	Х	Affects on Rare & Endangered Animals	x	Impacts on Energy Self-Reliance	X
Affects on Others Health		Affects on Rare & Endangered Plants	x	Compromises on Local Economy	X
Affects on my Livestock		Affects on Raptors & Waterfowl	x	Loss/diminished Cultural Assets	X
Affects of Electro- magnetic Fields & Noise	x	Affects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground Water	x	Impacts on Religious, Personal Values or Cultural Assets	x

2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

[] Individual [] Family [] Business [] Frequent Visitor

Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (water bodies, animals, plants, habitats)	Town lo	cated in
rare Rusty-Patched Bumble Bee has been identified in 8 of the 11 township/ranges (all in Iowa .County) traversed by the CHC line		
Henslow Sparrow (found in 12 of the 16 township/ranges under CHC corridors in Iowa and Dane Counties		
Threatened birds found here are: Acadian Flycatcher, Bell's Vireo, Cerulean Warbler, Hooded Warbler and upland Sandpiper.		
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Town lo	cated in
7 Seeds Farm - Organic, will loose certification with herbicides sprayed on CHC route	Dodg	eville
Uplands Cheese Company, home of award winning Pleasant Ridge Cheese, on CHC route	Dodg	eville
Pleasant Ridge Store, corner of Z & ZZ, CHC route. 100 year old bar, central to tourism in area	Dodg	eville
Governor Dodge State Park, 1000s of people visit annually. Critical to area tourism. CHC route along northern edge	Dodg	eville
Dairyland Dare bike race through lowa county. 1500 bicyclists race along path of proposed CHC. Critical for tourism.	Dodg	eville
Military Ridge State Trail. Along proposed CHC route. Critical for tourism.	Dodgeville,	Barneveld
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town lo	cated in
Old homesteads in Governor Dodge State Park, CHC route along northern edge.	Dodg	eville
Concerned about electric magnetic fields and noise	Dodg	eville
3. Energy Investment Priorities	Agree	Disagree
I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements like energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long term debt.	X	

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### Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species Documented in the Iowa and Dane County Townships Crossed by the Proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line

The following is a list of species and natural features on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource's Natural Heritage Working List that have been documented for each Public Land Survey System (PLSS) township in Iowa and Dane Counties that is crossed by the proposed Cardinal-Hickory .Creek Transmission Line

Bald eagles and sensitive species (such as rattlesnakes and bats) are not included in this data, where applicable. Each species or community on the list has been documented in at least one location (but possibly many locations) within the township. These data were last updated on May 13, 2016, so there may be more recent county records not reflected here. Status definitions are located at the end of this .document

Please note that absence of data does NOT necessarily indicate absence of a species. Basically, we find species where we look for them, and many of these areas have not been thoroughly inventoried. This .data was copied from http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/NHI/data.asp?tool=township on September 29, 2016

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Plant		END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens
Plant	SOC	THR	Hill's Thistle	Cirsium hillii
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
~Turtle		SC/P	Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii
~Fish		SC/N	Lake Chubsucker	Erimyzon sucetta
Community		NA	Pine Relict	Pine relict

### (T7N R2E (includes parts of Clyde, Highland, and Dodgeville Townships

### (T7N R3E (includes parts of Clyde, Wyoming, and Dodgeville Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Plant		END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens
Community	· ·	NA	Dry-mesic Prairie	Dry-mesic prairie

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird		THR	Acadian Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens
Snail		SC/N	Brilliant Granule	Guppya sterkii
Snail		THR	Cherrystone Drop	Hendersonia occulta
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris
Community		NA	Pinc Relict	Pine relict
Snake		SC/P	Gophersnake	Pituophis catenifer
Bird		THR	Cerulean Warbler	Setophaga cerulea
Butterfly	- -	END	Regal Fritillary	Speyeria idalia
Turtle		END	Ornate Box Turtle	Terrapene ornata
Bird		THR	Bell's Vireo	Virco bellii

# (T7N R4E (includes parts of Wyoming, Arena, Dodgeville, and Ridgeway Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Plant		END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens
Plant		END	Wild Hyacinth	Camassia scilloides
Plant		THR	Pale Purple Coneflower	Echinacea pallida
~Community		NA	Emergent Marsh	Emergent marsh
~Turtle		SC/P	Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris
Plant		SC	Prairie Turnip	Pediomelum esculentum
Bird		THR	Cerulean Warbler	Setophaga cerulea
~Community	:	NA	Shrub-carr	Shrub-carr
~Community		NA	Southern Sedge Meadow	Southern sedge meadow
Plant	· · · · · · ·	SC	October Lady's-tresses	Spiranthes ovalis var. erostellata
~Snake		SC/H	Plains Gartersnake	Thamnophis radix

# (T7N R5E (includes parts of Arena and Brigham Townships

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Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Snail		SC/N	Broad-banded Forestsnail	Allogona profunda
Plant		END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpuraseens
Plant		THR	Pinnatifid Spleenwort	Asplenium pinnatifidum
Community		NA	Dry Cliff	Dry cliff
Community		NA	Dry Prairic	Dry prairie
Bird		THR	Acadian Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris
Community		NA	Oak Barrens	Oak barrens
Community		NA	Pine Relict	Pine relict
Bird		THR	Hooded Warbler	Sctophaga citrina
Community		NA	Southern Dry-mesic Forest	Southern dry-mesic forest
Community		NA	Southern Mesic Forest	Southern mesic forest
~Community		NA	Southern Sedge Meadow	Southern sedge meadow
~Community		NA	StreamFast, Hard, Cold	Streamfast, hard, cold
Turtle		END	Ornate Box Turtle	Terrapene ornata

# (T7N R6E (Vermont Township

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Plant		END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens
Bcc		SC/N	Rusty-patched Bumble Bcc	Bombus affinis
~Plant		END	Smooth-sheathed Sedge	Carex laevivaginata
~Plant		SC	Drooping Sedge	Carex prasina
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
~Community		NA	Forested Scep	Forested seep
Mammal		SC/N	Prairic Vole	Microtus ochrogaster

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Mammal		SC/N	Woodland Vole	Microtus pinctorum
Plant		SC	Prairie False-dandelion	Nothocalais cuspidata
Community	:	NA	Oak Opening	Oak opening
Plant		SC	Broad Beech Fern	Phegopteris hexagonoptera
Plant		SC	Prairie Fame-flower	Phemeranthus rugospermus
Snake	-	SC/P	Gophersnake	Pituophis catenifer
~Plant		END	Nodding Rattlesnake-root	Prenanthes crepidinea
Plant		SC	Heart-leaved Skullcap	Scutellaria ovata ssp. ovata
Plant	:	SC	October Lady's-tresses	Spiranthes ovalis var. erostellata

## (T7N R7E (Cross Plains Township

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Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
~Dragonfly		SC/N	Springwater Dancer	Argia plana
Plant		THR	Woolly Milkweed	Asclepias lanuginosa
Bee		SC/N	Rusty-patched Bumble Bee	Bombus affinis
Moth		SC/N	Abbreviated Underwing Moth	Catocala abbreviatella
Snake		SC/P	North American Racer	Coluber constrictor
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
Butterfly		SC/N	Columbine Dusky Wing	Erynnis lucilius
Butterfly		END	Ottoe Skipper	Hesperia ottoe
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris
Mammal		SC/N	Prairie Vole	Microtus ochrogaster
Mammal		SC/N	Woodland Vole	Microtus pinetorum
Plant		SC	Prairic False-dandelion	Nothocalais cuspidata
Plant		THR	Prairie Parsley	Polytaenia nuttallii
Moth		SC/N	Leadplant Flower Moth	Schinia lucens
Plant	:	SC	Heart-leaved Skullcap	Scutellaria ovata ssp. ovata
Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
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Bird		THR	Ccrulean Warbler	Setophaga cerulea
Bird		THR	Hooded Warbler	Setophaga citrina
Community		NA	Southern Dry Forest	Southern dry forest
Community		NA	Southern Dry-mesic Forest	Southern dry-inesic forest
~Snake		SC/H	Plains Gartersnake	Thamnophis radix

### (T7N R8E (Middleton Township

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Fish	-	SC/H	Lake Sturgcon	Acipenser fulvescens
Plant	2)	THR	Roundstem Foxglove	Agalinis gattingeri
Plant	- 	END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens
Bee		SC/N	Rusty-patched Bumble Bee	Bombus affinis
~Plant		SC	Rope Dodder	Cuscuta glomerata
~Plant	n den som det forske forse	SC	Knotweed Dodder	Cuscuta polygonorum
~Community		NA	Emergent Marsh	Emergent marsh
~Turtle		SC/P	Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii
~Dragonfly	- The second	SC/N	Swamp Darner	Epiaeschna heros
Plant	nove a state of the state of th	SC	Azure Bluets	Houstonia caerulea
Mammal	a management of the second	SC/N	Prairie Vole	Microtus ochrogaster
~Fish		THR	Pugnose Shiner	Notropis anogenus
~Moth	a a a an	END	Silphium Borer Moth	Papaipema silphii
Plant		END	Hairy Wild Petunia	Ruellia humilis
~Community		NA	Shrub-carr	Shrub-carr
Community	-	NA	Southern Dry-mesic Forest	Southern dry-mesic forest
~Community		NA	Southern Sedge Meadow	Southern sedge meadow
~Community		NA	Springs and Spring Runs, Hard	Springs and spring runs, hard
~Community		NA	StreamFast, Hard, Warm	Streamfast, hard, warm
Turtle		END	Ornate Box Turtlc	Terrapene ornata

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name	
~Snake		SC/H	Plains Gartersnake	Thamnophis radix	

### (T6N R1E (includes parts of Highland and Eden Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
Plant		SC	Nodding Pogonia	Triphora trianthophora

### (T6N R2E (includes parts of Highland, Eden, Linden and Dodgeville Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
~Dragonfly		SC/N	Springwater Dancer	Argia plana
Plant		SC	Prairie Indian-plantain	Arnoglossum plantagineum
Bird		THR	Acadian Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens
~Turtle		SC/P	Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris
Community		NA	Moist Cliff	Moist cliff
Plant	:	SC	Prairic Famc-flower	Phemeranthus rugospermus
Community		NA	Southern Dry-mesic Forest	Southern dry-mesic forest
Community		NA	Southern Mesic Forest	Southern mesic forest
Turtle		END	Ornate Box Turtle	Terrapene ornata

### (T6N R3E (includes part of Dodgeville Township

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Plant		THR	Roundstem Foxglove	Agalinis gattingeri

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
~Dragonfly		SC/N	Springwater Dancer	Argia plana
Plant		SC	Prairie Indian-plantain	Arnoglossum plantagineum
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
Bird		THR	Acadian Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens
Plant		SC	Violet Bush-clover	Lespedeza violacca
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris
Community		NA	Moist Cliff	Moist cliff
~Fish		END	Slender Madtom	Noturus exilis
Plant		SC	Prairie Turnip	Pediomelum esculentum
Community		NA	Pine Relict	Pinc relict
Bird		THR	Cerulcan Warbler	Setophaga ccrulca
Community		NA	Southern Mcsic Forest	Southern mesic forest
Butterfly		END	Regal Fritillary	Speyeria idalia
Turtle		END	Ornate Box Turtle	Terrapene ornata
Bird	· ·	THR	Bell's Vireo	Vireo bellii

# (T6N R4E (includes parts of Dodgeville and Ridgeway Townships

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Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
~Plant		END	Schweinitz's Sedge	Carex schweinitzii
Plant	SOC	THR	Hill's Thistle	Cirsium hillii
Community		NA	Dry Cliff	Dry cliff
Bird		THR	Acadian Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris
Community		NA	Pine Relict	Pine relict
Bird		THR	Cerulean Warbler	Setophaga cerulea

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird		THR	Hooded Warbler	Setophaga citrina
Community	•	NA	Southern Dry-mesic Forest	Southern dry-mesic forest
Mammal	· ·	SC/N	Franklin's Ground Squirrel	Spermophilus franklinii
Turtle		END	Ornate Box Turtle	Terrapene ornata

### (T6N R5E (includes part of Brigham Township

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Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Leafhopper		END	Red-tailed Prairie Leafhopper	Aflexia rubranura
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Plant	A 4444 VA - 1 - 1 - VA VE	SC	Prairie Indian-plantain	Arnoglossum plantagincur
Plant		THR	Woolly Milkweed	Asclepias lanuginosa
Plant		END	Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens
Bird		THR	Upland Sandpiper	Bartramia longicauda
Bee		SC/N	Rusty-patched Bumble Bee	Bombus affinis
Plant		END	Prairie Dunewort	Botrychium campestre
~Plant		END	Smooth-sheathed Sedge	Carex laevivaginata
Plant	SOC	THR	Hill's Thistle	Cirsium hillii
~Plant		THR	White Lady's-slipper	Cypripedium candidum
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
Community	n - Charles	NA	Dry-mesic Prairie	Dry-mesic prairie
Plant		THR	Pale Purple Coneflower	Echinacca pallida
Bird		THR	Acadian Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens
Snail		THR	Wing Snagglctooth	Gastrocopta procera
Snail	gering a to ger ger	THR	Cherrystone Drop	Hendersonia occulta
Leafhopper		SC/N	A Leafhopper	Kansendria kansiensis
Bird	SOC	END	Loggerhead Shrike	Lanius ludovicianus
Plant	LT	END	Prairie Bush Clover	Lespedeza leptostachya
~Frog		SC/H	Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Community	- Provide Automation	NA	Mesic Prairie	Mesic prairie
Plant	1994 A Manual A 1 - 1 - 1	SC	Prairie Turnip	Pediomelum esculentum
Plant		SC	Prairie Fame-flower	Phemeranthus rugospermus
Plant	- 469 Alfa	END	Rough Rattlesnake-root	Prenanthes aspera
~Plant		END	Nodding Rattlesnake-root	Prenanthes crepidinea
Moth		SC/N	Leadplant Flower Moth	Schinia lucens
Bird		THR	Cerulean Warbler	Setophaga cerulea
Bird		THR	Hooded Warbler	Setophaga citrina
Community		NA	Southern Dry-mesic Forest	Southern dry-mesic forest
Butterfly	а и така стана с	END	Regal Fritillary	Speyeria idalia
Bird		SC/M	Western Meadowlark	Sturnella neglecta
Bird		THR	Bell's Vireo	Vireo bellii

## (T6N R6E (Blue Mounds Township

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Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Leafhopper		END	Red-tailed Prairie Leafhopper	Aflexia rubranura
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Plant		SC	Prairie Indian-plantain	Arnoglossum plantagineum
Plant		THR	Woolly Milkweed	Aselepias lanuginosa
Plant	- A Frank	END	Purple Milkweed	Aselepias purpuraseens
Bird		SC/M	Long-cared Owl	Asio otus
Bird		THR	Upland Sandpiper	Bartramia longicauda
Plant		END	Prairie Dunewort	Botrychium campestre
~Plant		SC	Drooping Sedge	Carex prasina
Plant	SOC	THR	Hill's Thistle	Cirsium hillii
Community		NA	Dry Prairie	Dry prairie
Bird		THR	Acadian Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens
~Turtle		SC/P	Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Plant		SC	Twinleaf	Jeffersonia diphylla
Leafhopper		SC/N	A Leafhopper	Kansendria kansiensis
Leafhopper		SC/N	A Leafhopper	Lacvicephalus vannus
Bird	SOC	END	Loggerhead Shrike	Lanius ludovicianus
Plant	LT	END	Prairie Bush Clover	Lespedeza leptostachya
True Bug		SC/N	A Planthopper	Myndus ovatus
Plant		SC	Prairie Turnip	Pediomelum esculentum
Plant		SC	Broad Beech Fern	Phegopteris hexagonoptera
Snake		SC/P	Gophersnake	Pituophis catenifer
Leafhopper		SC/N	A Leafhopper	Prairiana cinerea
Plant		SC	Heart-leaved Skullcap	Scutcllaria ovata ssp. ovata
Bird		THR	Cerulean Warbler	Setophaga ccrulca
Community		NA	Southern Dry-mesic Forest	Southern dry-mesic forest
Community	Val	NA	Southern Mesic Forest	Southern mesic forest
Butterfly		END	Regal Fritillary	Speyeria idalia
~Snake		SC/H	Plains Gartersnake	Thanmophis radix
Bird		THR	Bell's Virco	Vireo bellii

# (T6N R7E (Springdale Township

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Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Plant		SC	Wilcox's Panic Grass	Dichanthelium wilcoxianum
~Turtle		SC/P	Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii
Plant		SC	Prairie Turnip	Pediomelum esculentum

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
~Frog		END	Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris blanchardi
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
~Fish		THR	Ozark Minnow	Notropis nubilus
~Fish		END	Slender Madtom	Noturus exilis

#### (T5N R2E (includes parts of Linden and Mineral Point Townships

#### (T5N R3E (includes parts of Dodgeville and Mineral Point Townships

Group	Federal Status	WI Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird	SOC	THR	Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii
Bird		THR	Upland Sandpiper	Bartramia longicauda
Plant		THR	Pale Purple Coneflower	Echinacea pallida
~Fish		END	Slender Madtom	Noturus exilis
Plant		SC	Pale Beardtongue	Penstemon pallidus

.WI Status: Protection category designated by the DNR

;END = endangered

;THR = threatened

.SC = special concern\*

;SC/P = fully protected

;SC/N = no laws regulating use, possession, or harvesting

;SC/H = take regulated by cstablishment of open closed seasons

.SC/M = fully protected by federal and state laws under the Migratory Bird Act

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and federal regulations regarding special concern species\* range from full protection to no protection. Special concern species are those species about which some problem of abundance or distribution is suspected but not yet proved. The main purpose of this category .is to focus attention on certain species before they become threatened or endangered

**Federal Status**: Federal protection status designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Endangered .Species Program indicating the biological status of a species in Wisconsin ;LT = listed threatened SOC = species of concern\*

Federal species of concern are those species that may be in need of concentrated conservation actions,\* which vary depending on the health of the populations and degree and types of threats. They receive no legal protection and are not necessarily species that will eventually be proposed for listing as threatened .or endangered

From:	
To:	comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
Subject:	Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS
Date:	Tuesday, January 03, 2017 10:50:20 AM

#### Hello

#### Please include this letter in the Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS

My friends-Gary and Nancy Cox- bought their family's property in rural Vermont Township WI 21 years ago. Their 40 acres - which includes the only upland nesting cover for the wetland below them- lie within the Driftless Area. They have been stewarding it very carefully; establishing native prairie, using organic methods as they garden, doing all they can - as they respect and honor this unique area. Nancy is a visual artist and she has done countless paintings celebrating the beauty there.

Three ice ages have not threatened the Driftless Area. It is ironic that property owners there have this gorgeous and environmentally sensitive land threatened by ATC's proposal of huge ugly electric transmission powerlines.

But many besides property owners are concerned. Bikers use their roads as their routes. Tourism is growing, it's becoming an increasingly important driver of economic growth. Transmission towers and lines that disrupt the scenic landscapes and parks will negatively impact the desirability of this area as a tourist destination.

I am concerned about the impact the construction and maintenance of the power line will have on the cold water fisheries and surrounding wetlands of the proposed route. East Branch of Blue Mounds, Elvers Creek and Vermont Creek and other small tributaries would be affected. Wisconsin DNR has put in a considerable amount of time and taxpayer money improving these streams in recent years which shows the state's valuation of this resource. Native brook trout and planted rainbows and browns depend on these sensitive cold water streams for survival. The surrounding wetlands are extensive and home to a variety of birds like wood ducks, mallards, sandhill cranes, shorebirds, kingfisher, yellow warbler. Mammals like mink, beaver, muskrats, fox and weasels are frequently seen here. Clearing a path for the powerline through the nearby upland woods could easily cause excessive runoff to these streams and be detrimental to the fish that live there and the fish in Black Earth Creek that are fed by these smaller tributaries. Black Earth Creek is a major tourist draw for the area bringing in anglers from the Midwest, Montanta, California, Pennsylvannia and New York.

While fishing these creeks Gary often sees insects like Karner Blue and Regal Fritillary that are an endangered species.

Reptiles like endangered frogs and turtles are likely present here also. The surrounding open meadows host Least Flycatcher, Red-tailed Hawk, turkey, pheasant, and Sharp-shinned Hawks.

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Migrating birds that use this area on their way through: scarlet tanager, cerelean warbler, orioles, grossbeak, Prothonotary Warbler, indigo bunting.

Another area of concern to these fragile ecosystems is the possibility of introduction of invasive species during the construction phase and subsequent maintenance work.

I ask that an analysis be completed to determine whether a combination of non-transmission alternatives- new local wind and solar generation, energy efficiency, storage, demand response- would meet actual electrical demand at a lower cost both economically and environmentally. Please consider less damaging alternatives such as upgrading existing lowvoltage transmission lines or routing lines outside the Driftless Area to satisfy any genuine energy demand.

Decreased property value, higher monthly bills for rate payers for years to come, lack of need-supply exceeds demand in the WI electrical power market, proposed routes conflict with WI Siting Standards. I see these lines as nothing but negative and am firmly opposed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Clay

Postage Required

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

### TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

Name: peer ( lowhert (ath Organization (if any): Address: City/State Email address:

*Please note:* Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

#### **Comments:**

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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1 prefer to be updated by email.

trevin Clougherty Name:

Organization (if any):

Address:				
City/State/.				
Email addr				

Please nore: Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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#### **Comments:**

1 oan Using 2

From:	<u>Conway, Keri L</u>
То:	<u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>
Subject:	Driftless region power lines
Date:	Tuesday, December 13, 2016 4:40:53 PN

I am writing to you oppose the idea of running the high voltage power lines through our beautiful countryside of the Driftless region near Wyoming Valley. I have lived in my home for 30 years and would be very disturbed to look out my window and see these enormous metal structures. We have a beautiful rural community, having these massive structures lining our roadsides, would completely ruin our homesteads that we have worked very hard to make into what we call home. Please consider less damaging alternatives such as upgrading existing low-voltage transmission lines or routing lines outside the Driftless Area. I appreciate you doing whatever you can to keep the power lines from going through our countryside. Thank you for your time.

From:	Cook, David
To:	comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
Subject:	Cardinal-Hickory Creek line EIS
Date:	Thursday, December 01, 2016 12:00:17 PM

I am writing to comment on the scoping of the Environmental Impact Statement that the Rural Utilities Service will be preparing with respect to the transmission line referred by its developers as the I encourage you to address the following questions as part of the EIS.

Please consider the environmental impact in the broadest context, including geology, soils, farm land & land use, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, surface / groundwater, wetlands & floodplains, cultural, historic & paleontology resources, air quality & noise, socioeconomic & environmental justice issues, transportation, visual resources, and health & safety.

Please consider the full economic impact of the line on ratepayers, tourism and recreation, farm and other business operations and property values.

The EIS should analyze whether a combination of non-transmission alternatives – new local wind and solar generation, energy efficiency, storage, demand response – would meet actual electrical demand at a lower cost both economically and environmentally.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

David Cook **Principal Architect** Structural & Architectural Evaluation





Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY: This e-mail and any attachments is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2521 and may contain privileged, confidential, copyrighted, or other legally protected information. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not use, copy, or retransmit this e-mail. If you have received this by mistake please notify us by return e-mail, then delete

My wife and I bought our property in rural Vermont Township WI 21 years ago. Our 40 acres — which includes the only upland nesting cover for the wetland below us — lie within the Driftless Area. We have been stewarding it very carefully; establishing native prairie, using organic methods as we garden, doing all we can — as we respect and honor this unique area. She is a visual artist and has done countless paintings celebrating the beauty here.

Three ice ages have not threatened the Driftless Area. It is ironic that we property owners have this gorgeous and environmentally sensitive land threatened by ATC's proposal of huge ugly electric transmission powerlines.

But many besides property owners are concerned. Bikers use our roads as their routes. Tourism is growing, it's becoming an increasingly important driver of economic growth. Transmission towers and lines that disrupt the scenic landscapes and parks will negatively impact the desirability of this area as a tourist destination.

I am concerned about the impact the construction and maintenance of the power line will have on the cold water fisheries and surrounding wetlands of the proposed route. East Branch of Blue Mounds, Elvers Creek and Vermont Creek and other small tributaries would be affected. Wisconsin DNR has put in a considerable amount of time and taxpayer money improving these streams in recent years which shows the state's valuation of this resource. Native brook trout and planted rainbows and browns depend on these sensitive cold water streams for survival. The surrounding wetlands are extensive and home to a variety of birds like wood ducks, mallards, sandhill cranes, shorebirds, kingfisher, yellow warbler. Mammals like mink, beaver, muskrats, fox and weasels are frequent-ly seen here. Clearing a path for the powerline through the nearby upland woods could easily cause excessive runoff to these streams and be detrimental to the fish that live there and the fish in Black Earth Creek that are fed by these smaller tributaries. Black Earth Creek is a major tourist draw for the area bringing in anglers from the Midwest, Montanta, California, Pennsylvania and New York.

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Reptiles like endangered frogs and turtles are likely present here also. The surrounding open meadows host Least Flycatcher, Redtailed Hawk, turkey, pheasant, and Sharp-shinned Hawks.

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Migrating birds that use this area on their way through: scarlet tanager, cerulean warbler, orioles, grossbeak, Prothonotary Warbler, indigo bunting.

Another area of concern to these fragile ecosystems is the possibility of introduction of invasive species during the construction phase and subsequent maintenance work.

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#### Gary and Nancy Cox

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Nany Cox

Nancy Cox



Last Name	Cox	First Name	GAN	Input to EIS for Cardinal Hickory Creek
[] Individual	Family K B	usiness[]Fr	equent	Mail to: SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS
Visitor				200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207, Bridgeville, PA 15017 Or scan and email to: CardinalHickoryCreekElS.us
St				.atomamickorycreekeis.us
Years of residen	ce in area: _2_0	_ Positions he	d and/or r	esponsibilities assumed in my community:
rears of residen	te in alea		iu anu/or r	esponsionales assumed in my community.

1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:

XLoss of Property Value	K	Loss/diminished Environmental		Loss of Tourism Related
Loss of Business Income	K	Effects on Rare & Endangered		Impacts on Rising Energy
Effects on Personal	ľ	Effects on Rare & Endangered	<u> </u>	Impacts on Energy Self-
Effects on Others Health		Effects on Rare & Endangered		Compromises on Local
Effects on Livestock	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$	Effects on Raptors & Waterfowl	X	Loss/diminished Cultural
Effects of Electro- magnetic Fields &	X	Effects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground Water		Impacts on Religious, Personal Values or Cultural

2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (e.g. water bodies, animals, plants,	Town/M	lunicipalit
I'm concensed About the impact on the cold written fishenies in Vermont, Bohn & Elvers creek	Venn	nont
fishenies in Vermont, BOUN + ELVERS CREEK		
Businesses impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Town/M	lunicipalit
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health	Town/M	lunicipalit
3. Energy Investment Priorities	Agree	Disagree
<ul> <li>a. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements in energy efficiency and local renewable energy over investments that create long term debt.</li> </ul>	×	
b. Investments in targeted energy efficiency, load management and distributed generation such as solar-support at substations may be superior to investments in high voltage transmission. The Rural Utility Service (RUS) EIS conducted for the Cardinal Hickory Creek proposal should include comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of these non-transmission line	×	

ignature:

GARY COX

5716

Date: 12

am aware that my comments and contact information may be included in the EIS report and confirm that only RUS may end me email updates on Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. From: Matthew Cox

Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 5:15 AM
To: David Reinhart <<u>comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us</u>>
Subject: Input regarding the ATC powerline

Hello

#### Please include this letter in the Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS

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Sincerely, Matthew Cox

Matthew

#### Last Name Cox First Name Nancy Input to EIS for Cardinal Hickory Creek [] Individual [] Family [] Business [] Frequent Mail to: SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207, Bridgeville, PA 15017 Visitor Or scan and email to: nments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us Years of residence in area: $\frac{2}{2}$ Positions held and/or responsibilities assumed in my community: 1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option: Loss/diminished Environmental Loss of Tourism Related 1.055 of Property Value Loss of Business Income Viffects on Rare & Endangered Impacts on **Rising Energy** Affects on Personal Effects on Rare & Endangered Impacts on Energy Self-Compromises on Local Effects on Others Health Effects on Rare & Endangered Loss/diminished Cultural Effects on Raptors & Waterfowl Viffects on Livestock Impacts on Religious, Effects of Electro-Effects on Activities associated magnetic Fields & with Surface and Ground Water Personal Values or Cultural 2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal: Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (e.g. water bodies, animals, plants, Town/Municipalit There are many (and sensitive) cold Water Fisheries in Vermont Township > Vermontitsohn + Elvers creek with surrounding HRYMONT

wetlands-DNR ownedland.		
Businesses impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Town/M	lunicipalit
Many people visit the Driftless Avec for its	Vern	ont
Singular beauty. Many are involved is fin silent		
Singular beauty Many are involved 155 in silent		
Vansmission lines would ruin the avea.		
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health	Town/M	lunicipalit
Ave you aware of how many fine artists	Vern	nont
paint og location in the avec you propose to		
van the line? It's famous for it's gorseons		
views. We don't want this area spoiled!		
3. Energy Investment Priorities	Agree	Disagree
<ul> <li>a. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements in energy efficiency and local renewable energy over investments that create long term debt.</li> </ul>	$\times$	
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NANCY Cox Date: 12.7.16 ignature: Manue Cox

am aware that my comments and contact information may be included in the EIS report and confirm that only RUS may end me email updates on Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project.

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	DEC 2 7 2016 SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek ElS Comment 200 Bursca Drive Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017		
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 From:
 comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us

 To:
 comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us

 Subject:
 comment letter from property owner in Vermont Township, WI

 Date:
 Tuesday, January 03, 2017 11:53:45 AM

## Hello Please include this letter in the Cardinal -Hickory Creek EIS

My husband and I bought our property in rural Vermont Township WI 21 years ago. Our 40 acres - which includes the only upland nesting cover for the wetland below us- lie within the Driftless Area. We have been stewarding it very carefully; establishing native prairie, using organic methods as we garden, doing all we can - as we respect and honor this unique area. I am a visual artist and have done countless paintings celebrating the beauty here.

Three ice ages have not threatened the Driftless Area. It is ironic that we property owners have this gorgeous and environmentally sensitive land threatened by ATC's proposal of huge ugly electric transmission powerlines.

But many besides property owners are concerned. Bikers use our roads as their routes. Tourism is growing, it's becoming an increasingly important driver of economic growth. Transmission towers and lines that disrupt the scenic landscapes and parks will negatively impact the desirability of this area as a tourist destination.

I am concerned about the impact the construction and maintenance of the power line will have on the cold water fisheries and surrounding wetlands of the proposed route. East Branch of Blue Mounds, Elvers Creek and Vermont Creek and other small tributaries would be affected. Wisconsin DNR has put in a considerable amount of time and taxpayer money improving these streams in recent years which shows the state's valuation of this resource. Native brook trout and planted rainbows and browns depend on these sensitive cold water streams for survival. The surrounding wetlands are extensive and home to a variety of birds like wood ducks, mallards, sandhill cranes, shorebirds, kingfisher, yellow warbler. Mammals like mink, beaver, muskrats, fox and weasels are frequently seen here. Clearing a path for the powerline through the nearby upland woods could easily cause excessive runoff to these streams and be detrimental to the fish that live there and the fish in Black Earth Creek that are fed by these smaller tributaries. Black Earth Creek is a major tourist draw for the area bringing in anglers from the Midwest, Montanta, California, Pennsylvannia and New York.

While fishing these creeks my husband often sees insects like Karner Blue and Regal Fritillary that are an endagered species.

Reptiles like endagered frogs and turtles are likely present here also. The surrounding open meadows host Least Flycatcher, Red-tailed Hawk, turkey, pheasant, and Sharp-shinned Hawks.

Surrounding woods are home to Great Horned Owl, grey owls, pileated woodpecker, grouse Red-headed Woodpecker, Loggerhead Shrike and American Woodcock.

Migrating birds that use this area on their way through: scarlet tanager, cerelean warbler, orioles, grossbeak, Prothonotary Warbler, indigo bunting.

Another area of concern to these fragile ecosystems is the possibility of introduction of invasive species during the construction phase and subsequent maintenance work.

I ask that an analysis be completed to determine whether a combination of non-transmission alternatives- new local wind and solar generation, energy efficiency, storage, demand response- would meet actual electrical demand at a lower cost both economically and environmentally. Please consider less damaging alternatives such as upgrading existing low-voltage transmission lines or routing lines outside the Driftless Area to satisfy any genuine energy demand.

Decreased property value, higher monthly bills for rate payers for years to come, lack of need-supply exceeds demand in the WI electrical power market, proposed routes conflict with WI Siting Standards.. I see these lines as nothing but negative and am FIRMLY OPPOSED.

Nancy Cox



Nancy Cox Artwork Nancycoxartwork.com Jeffrey Crossfield 917 Havey Rd Madison WI 53704 利托勒纳莱东王 491 532

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

Name:

Jeffrey Crossfield

Organization (if any):

Address:	
City/State/Z	1. 1 . 1. j.
Email address:	

Please note: Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

#### **Comments:**

This is to notify the Cardinal-Hickory Creek Power Line sighting personnel both federal US Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities and engineering SWCA Environmental Consultants of the occurrence of a rure and enclangered fern, Asplenium pinnatifidum, on rock out-croppings either in or near the northern hill route proposed for the Cordinal Hickory power line.

This fern was discovered by botanist Dr. Hugh ILtis (recently deceased - a synops's of his University of Wisconsin career was printed on the front page of the Wisconsin State Journal Newspaper December 24, 2016). Discovery of the fern occurred in 1958 and was published in Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences Arts & Letters, volume 67, 1979. The discovery was re-examined by a knowledgeable person in November 2016 and was identified as still present.

A concern for this power/me is that the same problems of access still present in this wild, private terrain also existed in 1958, I therefore believe no complete survey has ever been done in northeastern Iowa County for this Fern then or since, I propose that a high tension power line through areas with a rare endangered species is incompatible with rare ecosystems, either through direct distruction of habitat or modification of fragile environment with wide clear cuts near vulnerable habitats.

Letter 1

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr Suite 207 Suite 207 Bridgeville PA 15017

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Comments: Letter 2 admendment - An obligue consideration on retter 2

past it seemed that our government to supporting basic research that supported more oden a solid basis and were working to support the ideas with Now it seems that mammath funding and +ure: thrown at the crisis of the day; for example Ebola and now Zika Zilia is a viral disease transmitted by specific mosquitos (Retter 2 referred to a mosquite transmitting disease) It is questionable whether our government to SEPPORT Crisis response of expense Doesn't the existance of 04 basic understanding. acknowledge the system has failed? response 175014 Crisis What could happen if the uncal disease 2 would mutate to a more virulent le tter disease ? What if different insects adapt 10 this disease? We could face massive devistori farm animals or human population. Crisis response indeed Does the powerling want to cut short a basic Investigation that could effect us all? Please stay away from our critical forest tracts

Jeffrey Crossfield

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn Cardinal-Hickory Creek Els 200 Bursca Pr Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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# Comments: LeHer 2.

This is to notify the Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmisson Line Project sighting agencies of US Department of Agriculture. Rural Utilities Service and SWEA Enviormental Consultants accurrence of forest tract used for scientifi research or near your northern route powerline proposal do not have the time to check into and attribute While I the published studies that have resulted from these investigations engineering does. As I recall this study involved hope monitoring the population of specific species of mosquito and it's involvement in vectoring a viral brain tection of both animals and humans, This interdepartmental study by at least two University of Wisconsin departments that included Entomology and Veterinary Science with in the last two years the land owner has been contacted by emeritus professor Dr. Barney Easterday University of Wisconsin about the ot the availability this land to revisit this study. Since the habitat of this mosquito is very specific, an absolute requirement for renewing this investigation is that the forest be lett undisturbed.

I propose that a clear cut for a high tension power line is incompatible with basic research in studing transmitted diseases of animals and hymans. If the line goes directly over the sight it will be destroyed, If it goes any where near it will affect the results in unforseen ways.

Keep your power line away from basic reseach.

Postage Required

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### TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

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#### **Comments:**

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