

December 19, 2024

Wisconsin State Legislature  
Wisconsin State Capitol  
2 East Main St.  
Madison, Wisconsin

On behalf of the Racine County Economic Development Corporation (RCEDC) Board of Directors, I am writing to regarding the Right of First Refusal (ROFR) for incumbent transmission companies. Your support of legislation pertaining to this matter will retain Wisconsin's control over the safety and reliability of our state's power grid instead of ceding that control to federal regulators.

ROFR will have significant implications for continuing to build out our robust bulk electric system which is critical to serving our existing businesses in Racine County to advance the mission of economic development mission of RCEDC.

It was not long ago that Wisconsin businesses and residents faced an unreliable energy infrastructure that threatened the state's economic future. Wisconsin's fragmented transmission network resulted in Wisconsin being cut off from cheaper power, experiencing decreased reliability and stunting economic development. That changed when state leaders engaged in a bipartisan multi-session effort to make sure that Wisconsin had a safe, reliable, and economically efficient transmission network.

In addition to fragmenting the state's transmission network, the federal process would also add unnecessary costs and delays to transmission projects in Wisconsin, penalizing Wisconsin businesses and ratepayers. Transmission projects going through the federal process have experienced delays from 300 to 755 days. Those delays are borne by ratepayers who must wait longer to access less expensive regionally generated power. I am pleased to submit this letter on behalf of RCEDC leadership to support legislation to ensure Wisconsin ratepayers are protected from the federal process interfering in future transmission projects in the state.

Sincerely,



Jenny Trick  
Executive Director, RCEDC