



# SONDY POPE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
80<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



March 29, 2022

Chairperson Rebecca Cameron Valcq  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854

Dear Chairperson Valcq,

I am writing regarding the Cardinal-Hickory Creek (CHC) high-capacity transmission line project. I would like to express the high level of concern that I share with many constituents in the 80<sup>th</sup> Assembly District and across the state regarding the continued construction of this project.

Despite the federal court ruling by Judge William Conley that the CHC project may not go through the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge—leaving no approved way to join the Iowa and Wisconsin segments of the project—the American Transmission Company (ATC), ITC Midwest, and Dairyland Power have pressed on with the construction of the CHC line. Their choice to disregard the decision of the court is actively causing irreversible environmental damage, wasting natural resources, and inflicting mounting costs on taxpayers and ratepayers alike. This is unacceptable.

As a resident of Mount Horeb, every day I see first-hand the negative side effects of this irresponsible continuation of the CHC project. Trees and surrounding vegetation are continuing to be felled as piles of logs are accumulating and timbers laid down, along the line's intended path, despite the fact this path is intended to run through the Refuge. I am appalled by the resources still being used for this transmission line.

The CHC project can no longer be completed as intended and as approved by the Public Service Commission (PSC). Because of this, and the harm that is being caused to residents and our environment while this project continues, I am asking the PSC to call for an immediate end to all construction activities on the Wisconsin portion of the line until the pending legal appeals have been resolved by the courts. Failing to do so indicates total disregard of the courts and the will of the people of southwest Wisconsin.

Thank you for your time and attention to this most serious matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Representative Sonny Pope  
State Representative  
80<sup>th</sup> Assembly District