NEW LONG-DISTANCE POWER LINE PROJECTS COMING TO WISCONSIN AND THE MIDWEST

When it comes to electricity for our homes and businesses, everyone needs two things: **we need the power to work and we need it to be as affordable as possible.**

To ensure both these necessities in the face of rising demand for electricity and more extreme weather, Midwest grid operator MISO has designed and approved a set of 24 new power line projects for the upper Midwest; this portfolio is referred to as **"Tranche 2.1."**

The Wisconsin portion of Tranche 2.1 includes all or parts of four projects. They are mostly in southeastern Wisconsin, with one project extending up to southeastern Minnesota.

Together with the other Midwest lines, the Wisconsin projects will help relieve electricity "traffic jams" on our power lines today. These bottlenecks prevent grid operators from serving customers with the lowest-cost electricity available, which leads to higher power bills.

So the Tranche 2.1 lines are especially key for solving grid bottlenecks and keeping future energy bills down.

SAVING RESIDENTS MONEY ON BILLS

Over 20 years, the Tranche 2.1 projects in Wisconsin will yield as much as **$20.8 billion in savings for residents** — more than five times more in savings than the investment to build the lines.

These future bill savings come from a number of factors, including:

- ✓ Alleviating grid bottlenecks to enable access to the lowest-cost energy sources
- ✓ Preventing power outages caused by overloaded lines and extreme weather
- ✓ Avoiding expensive piecemeal replacements of existing aging lines
- ✓ Avoiding the need to build expensive new power plants

A recent study of several power lines built in Minnesota from 2012-2017 found that they have saved billpayers $6.4 billion, mostly from relieving bottlenecks. The lines have saved customers nearly twice as much as what the investment was to build them.

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON AMID RISING RISKS

When blackouts happen, they are always inconvenient and sometimes costly and dangerous. MISO's Tranche 2.1 lines will help **prevent future outages** as power demand rises and we see more frequent extreme weather. Here's how:

✓ Preventing existing transmission lines from carrying too much electricity, becoming overloaded and failing.

✓ Using new longer and higher-capacity transmission lines to better overcome extreme weather in a hard-hit area by drawing on power from places unaffected by the weather event.

CREATING JOBS AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

In addition to savings on future electric bills, construction of the Tranche 2.1 lines will generate **jobs and economic activity** in Wisconsin:

✓ Up to 24,500 direct & indirect jobs building the Wisconsin lines, according to MISO.

✓ Up to $4.5 billion in total economic output for Wisconsin — our economic growth from this infrastructure investment.

✓ Approximately 46,000 jobs in Wisconsin via the construction and operation of new battery storage, solar and wind energy resources that will be enabled by the Tranche 2.1 lines, according to an analysis by CGA.

ENSURING COMMUNITY VOICE & RESPECT FOR LAND & LANDOWNERS

As with the new power lines that have been part of MISO's first ("Tranche 1") set of new lines in Wisconsin and across the Midwest, the development of the Tranche 2.1 lines will start with **community outreach, input and review.**

✓ Over the course of 2025 and into 2026, the transmission developers will map out potential routes for the projects in Wisconsin, and then hold meetings and open houses for landowners and communities.

✓ In these meetings, community members assess proposed plans, ask questions and provide siting and routing suggestions. Care is always taken to avoid and minimize any impact on natural habitats, waterways and wildlife.

✓ Once community input has informed line routing, the routes then go to the Wisconsin Public Utilities Commission for their official review, input and approval process.

For more information, please contact *[name, organization, email address]*