

Clean Wisconsin

(Founded as Wisconsin's Environmental Decade)

Your environmental voice since 1970.

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STATEMENT ON TODAY'S PSC DECISION RE ARROWHEAD-WESTON

Claire Schmidt, Local Issues Coordinator for Clean Wisconsin (formerly Wisconsin's Environmental Decade), today issued the following statement after the state's Public Service Commission held an open discussion about the proposed Arrowhead-Weston transmission line:

"We were disappointed in the Commission's decision the first time around but today we're doubly disappointed. Costs have ballooned far out of proportion while clear alternatives, that are cheaper and less destructive, are ignored. When does the PSC say enough is enough?

"If today's discussion is any indication of what a final order might look like, it will be a bad day for property owners, a bad day for the environment and a bad day for the public at large. The Arrowhead-Weston line is the most expensive, most environmentally damaging, and most harmful choice for property owners and the state of Wisconsin. It would appear that Wisconsin is headed towards a decision that will not benefit our state or its people – just American Transmission Company's bottom line.

"The Wisconsin legislature calls for alternatives that use the most existing right of way so homes, farms and forest are not as severely impacted. Unfortunately, it looks like the Public Service Commission has decided in favor of big business giveaways without looking at the carefully researched and supported alternatives.

"While we are disappointed in today's meeting, the fight is nowhere near over. The National Park Service as well as local governments still have a very important say in the process. If the Arrowhead-Weston line is built, there'll be only one winner and millions of losers."

Clean Wisconsin, an environmental advocacy organization, protects Wisconsin's clean water and air and advocates for clean energy by being an effective voice in the state legislature and by holding elected officials and corporations accountable. Founded in 1970 as Wisconsin's Environmental Decade, Clean Wisconsin exposes corporate polluters, makes sure existing environmental laws are enforced, and educates citizens and businesses. On behalf of its 10,000 members and its coalition partners, Clean Wisconsin protects the special places that make Wisconsin such a wonderful place to live, work and play. Phone: 608.251.7020, Fax: 608.251.1655, Email: info@cleanwisconsin.org, Website: www.cleanwisconsin.org.

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