



For immediate release
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Sherman Testifies Against Arrowhead-Weston, Again **Written testimony cites PSC staff report**

Madison – Rep. Gary E. Sherman (D – Port Wing) today submitted his written testimony to the Public Service Commission regarding the proposed Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line project. The Commission is holding public hearings this week in communities along the proposed route of the power line. The project was approved two years ago, but the PSC reopened the case in December 2002 after receiving a revised cost estimate which more than doubled the project cost.

“I planned on attending one of the hearings this week to personally testify,” Sherman explained, “But since we are now in the middle of our fall floor session at the Capitol, it was logistically impossible for me to testify, as I had during the initial round of hearings several years ago.” At that time, after analyzing the initial application and the Environmental Impact Analysis, Sherman concluded that the proposed power line was not the most efficient or beneficial manner of addressing Wisconsin’s projected need for additional electric supply.

“This summer Wisconsin was able to satisfy an all-time record demand without any glitches,” said Sherman. “We safely sailed through the stress to the grid which caused the major blackout in the East. Even Michigan, right next door, was affected.” Sherman continued, “It is clear to me that we are not in a state of emergency. We should not jump to a hasty, single source solution when developing a mixed approach would better meet our energy needs. This option is far less extreme than the massive taking of private property which this proposed project would require.” The high voltage transmission line would run through a portion of Rep. Sherman’s district in southern Sawyer County.

The full text of Rep. Sherman’s testimony to the Public Service Commission accompanies this release.

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