

Good morning, chairman Christman, madame commissioners. My name is Tim Leppert, my family and I lease a considerable amount of pasture land here in Dickey county, and are concerned about what is happening in this beautiful part of our state.

On June 12 2001 the Clean Grid Alliance launched a 2 year project funded by the McNight Foundation and the Energy Foundation to develop renewable energy resources in the upper Midwest, a partnership of the business community, local leaders, clean energy advocates and wind energy experts. The original steering committee board members were:

Chairman-Bill Grant - Izaak Walton League.

Bob Marke - Energy Unlimited Incorporated.

Scott Kelsh - N.D. Sustainable Energy for economic development.

Michael Noble - Minnesota for an energy efficient economy.

Paul White - Project Resources Corp.

EneXco now PRC wind and solar.

Ben Larsen - N.D. Seed.

Howard Learner - Environmental Law and Policy Center.

Ron Lehr - Nat. Assn. of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

Brian Parsons - National Renewable Energy Lab.

Ben Paulos - Energy Foundation.

David Benson - Nobles county commissioner- Minnesota.

Terry Black - Sustainable FERC project.

R.T. Hap Boyd - Enron Wind Corporation.

Beth Soholt - Izaak Walton League.

Matt Schuerger - Tech consultant.

The original goals and objectives for the Clean Grid Alliance were:

1. Remove bottlenecks in the transmission system for wind.
 - A. Identify high priority upgrades.
 - B. Work with utilities, state and federal regulators and local communities to complete the upgrades.
2. Provide wind energy with equal access to transmission lines and fair rates for transmission service.
3. Identify decision makers at the local, state and federal levels and enlist their support for the transmission improvements. Educate key decision makers on the benefits of wind power for the region.

This meeting links him to the Clean Grid Alliance. Michael Brandenburg and his immediate family members have signed easements for wind towers, solar panels and options to sell land for battery storage. The current 2025 Clean Grid Alliance board of directors consists of:

- Adam Sokolski chairman - EDF Renewables.
- Sarah Johnson Phillips secretary treasurer - Stoel Rivers LLP.
- Julie Volk - Chair Emeritus - Nextera energy.
- Moshe Bonder - National Grid Ventures.
- Lauren Burm - Vestas.
- Rachel Estes - Pattern Energy.
- Erika Kowall - American Clean Power Assn.
- Chris Kunkle - Apex Clean Energy.
- Kevin Lambert - RWE.
- Nicole Luckey - Invenergy.
- David Mindham - EDP Renewables.
- John Moore - Sustainable FERC Project.
- Jordan Oster - Iowa Environmental Council.
- Beth Soholt - Izaak Walton League.

This board of directors represents some of the largest wind developers in the world, financed by the largest corporations and countries in the world. Such as:

- EDP Renewables – China Three Gorges- headquarters Portugal - owned by Chinese government.
- Nextera Energy - Vanguard - Blackrock.
- National Grid Ventures - Vanguard - Blackrock – Norway, Abu Dhabi pension funds.
- Vestas - Blackrock - Vanguard, Schroeder Investments - British, Nordea Investments - Finland.
- Pattern Energy - Dutch, Australian and Canadian Pension funds.
- Apex Clean Energy - Vanguard- Blackrock, Sumitomo Mitsui Finanacial Group, Wellington and Capital World Investors.
- RWE, A German Energy company, owned by Qatar Holdings LLC, Blackrock.
- Invenergy - Canadian Pension Fund, CDPQ and Blackstone.
- EDF Renewables - French government and Israeli government owned, this corporation demands the landowners who sign easements with them, warrant their mineral rights!

most of the land is owned by absentee landowners. They target areas where new transmission lines are being built or force government agencies to do so. Then they send in their land men to prey upon the landowners and try to coerce them into signing land easements. The MISO 6 Tranche plan is part of the Clean Grid Alliance agenda and scheme to get government agencies to force utilities to build out transmission lines and other infrastructure such as substations and get the consumers to pay for them so the big renewable energy corporations can move their green energy to the high population green energy mandate states, where they can sell it for a premium price.

The proof of this is, 9 renewable energy corporations are represented on the Clean Grid Alliance board of directors.

They have figured out the perfect scam to collect on both ends of the (Green New Deal), front end, tax credits, back end, consumers pay for transmission infrastructure. And they have co-opted the environmentalist groups into helping them, ie, Izaak Walton League of America, Environmental Law and Policy Center and the Sustainable FERC project. These are the groups that brought you the MISO 6 Tranche Plan. They have bought off government agencies, government employees, legislators, county and township officials, ie, note a Minnesota county commissioner was on the original Clean Grid Alliance steering committee. This agenda has been carefully planned and crafted for at least 25 years and the general public has been kept in the dark about it. Multi national renewable energy corporations and hostile foreign government parasites are sucking the American people dry of their wealth and now they are going after the last things of value the American citizen property owners have, their land, their minerals and their water. When the corporations own or control these assets through the easements they force the people to sign, by creating economic hardships and artificially manipulating markets, the people will become mere serfs and tenants on the land they no longer control, all they will have left is the liability for what happens on that property and the tax bill they are forced to pay. Thank you and I would stand for questions.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Otter Tail Power Company/Montana-Dakota
Utilities Co. 345kV Transmission Line Siting
Application

Case No. PU-25-236

VALLEY TOWNSHIP QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD

Valley Township submits these questions for the record in PSC Docket PU-25-236. The Township requests that Applicants and Commission Staff address these questions in this proceeding to the extent applicable, and that the Commission address the relevant issues in its final findings and conclusions.

- 1. Need in this record.** Where in the PU-25-236 application do Applicants present the Chapter 49-22 statement of need, and what evidence in this docket supports that need showing?
- 2. Findings with reasons.** Will the Commission's final order in PU-25-236 include written findings with reasons addressing need and the statutory criteria, based on the evidence presented in this docket?
- 3. Relationship to PU-24-91.** If Applicants contend the PU-24-91

CPCN resolves “need,” how do Applicants reconcile that position with Chapter 49-22’s record-based decision requirements in this siting proceeding?

4. Present versus projected conditions. What transmission constraints or reliability issues exist today that this project addresses, and what claimed benefits depend on projected future generation development?

5. Ellendale-area load and updated studies. What current studies or analyses account for material load changes near Ellendale (if any) and other major system changes since the earlier CPCN proceeding, and how do those updates affect the claimed need for this project?

6. Benefit allocation. What is the expected benefit to North Dakota consumers and ratepayers versus benefits to private generation developers or export transactions, and what evidence in this docket supports that allocation?

7. Cost responsibility. Who is expected to pay for this project (and through what mechanism), and what protections exist so North Dakota consumers are not bearing costs that primarily support private generation expansion decisions?

8. Alternatives. What alternatives were evaluated that could meet

any verified North Dakota need with less local impact, including upgrades to existing facilities, reconfiguration, or non-transmission alternatives?

9. Local impacts and mitigation. What route-level mitigation measures and permit conditions are proposed to address township concerns, including impacts to residences, farming operations, drainage, access, and restoration?

10. Road use and local infrastructure. What road use agreements are proposed or anticipated, and what specific conditions will ensure protection of local roads, approaches, culverts, drainage, and post-construction restoration and repair?

11. Treatment of township filings. Will the Commission acknowledge in its final order that it received and considered township filings in this docket and explain how local land use impacts were weighed in route selection and permit conditions?

12. Scope and preservation. Will the Commission confirm that townships and landowners may raise need-related issues in this siting docket and that the Commission will address the relevant issues in its final order, rather than treating need as conclusively resolved outside this record?¹

¹ Prepared with assistance of counsel (Steven J. Leibel, ND counsel; Douglas J. Nill, MN counsel—pro hac vice application pending), for the limited purpose of assisting the

Dated: January 12th, 2026

VALLEY TOWNSHIP

By: Jason Hildenbrand
Jason Hildenbrand, Chair, Township Board

Township with written submissions to preserve the record. No appearance is entered in this docket.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Otter Tail Power Company/Montana-Dakota
Utilities Co. 345kV Transmission Line Siting
Application

Case No. PU-25-236

**VALLEY TOWNSHIP LIMITED OBJECTION TO RELIANCE ON
PU-24-91 CPCN AS PROOF OF NEED AND RESERVATION
OF RIGHTS**

Valley Township submits this limited objection for the record in PSC
Docket PU-25-236.

1. The Commission previously issued a Certificate of Public
Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”) in Docket PU-24-91 under N.D.C.C. ch.
49-03 for this same 345 kV project. That CPCN was issued in a proceeding
noticed by publication and without direct notice to the affected townships.
The Commission’s June 18, 2025 order leaving that CPCN in place is now
under review in Burleigh County District Court, Case No. 08-2025-CV-02068.

2. The Township understands that the Siting Act, N.D.C.C. ch. 49-
22, requires an application that includes a statement explaining the need for
the facility and requires the Commission’s decision in this docket to be
supported by findings with reasons under the statutory criteria and

considerations. *See N.D.C.C. §§ 49-22-05.1, 49-22-08(1)(c), 49-22-08(6), 49-22-08.1(5), 49-22-09; accord Matter of Nebraska Pub. Power Dist., 330 N.W.2d 143 (N.D. 1983).*

3. The Township objects to any reliance on the PU-24-91 CPCN as conclusive proof of “need” in this docket, including any attempt to treat a publication-notice CPCN under Chapter 49-03 as a substitute for the Siting Act’s record and decision requirements. The Township respectfully requests that the Commission require the Applicants to address any need-related showing within the PU-25-236 record and that any final order include the Commission’s own findings with reasons based on the evidence presented in this proceeding.

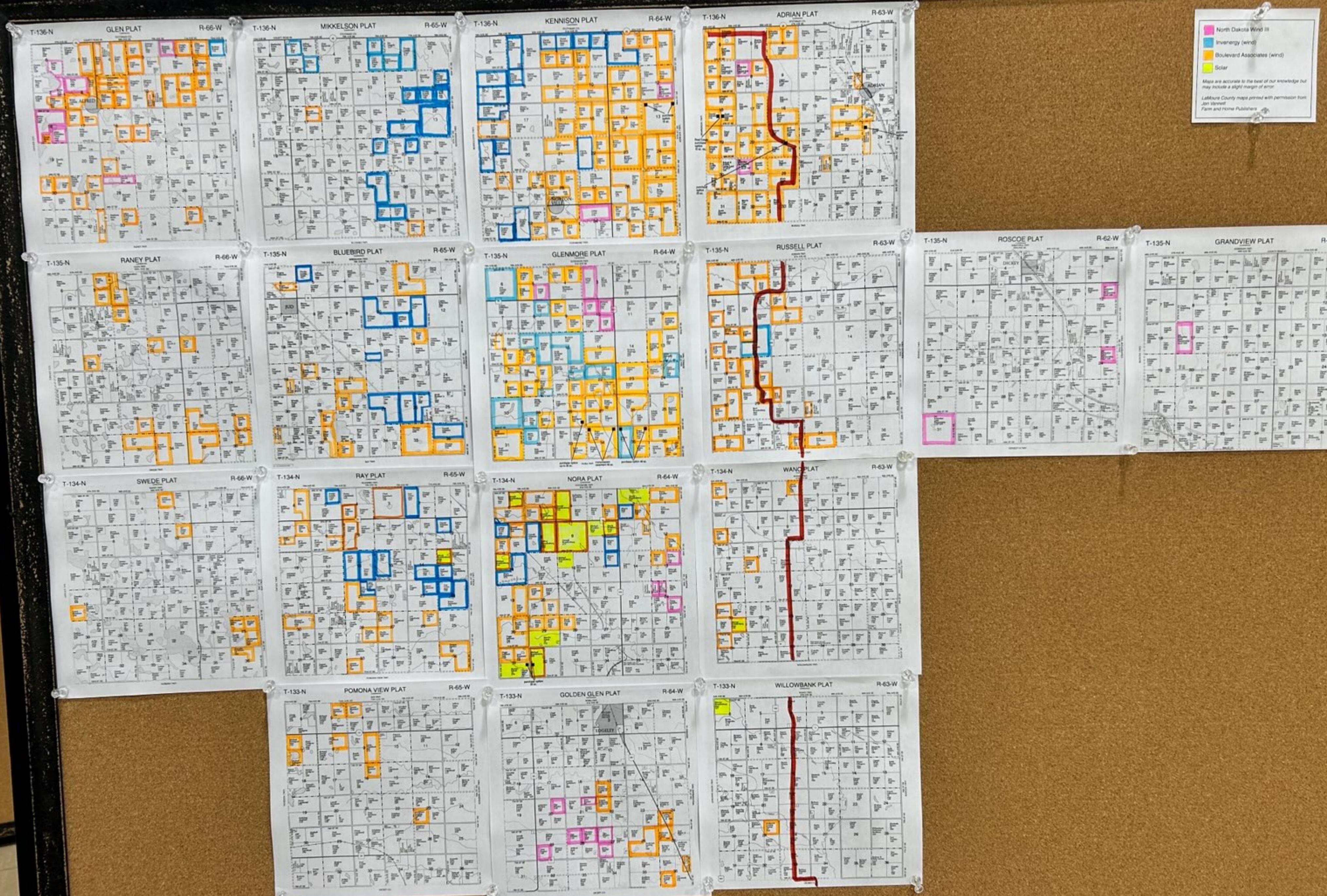
4. This is a limited objection. The Township does not waive, and expressly reserves, all rights and arguments regarding the lawfulness of the prior CPCN, the proper interpretation of Chapters 49-03 and 49-22, and the Township’s position in the pending district court appeal or any further judicial review.¹

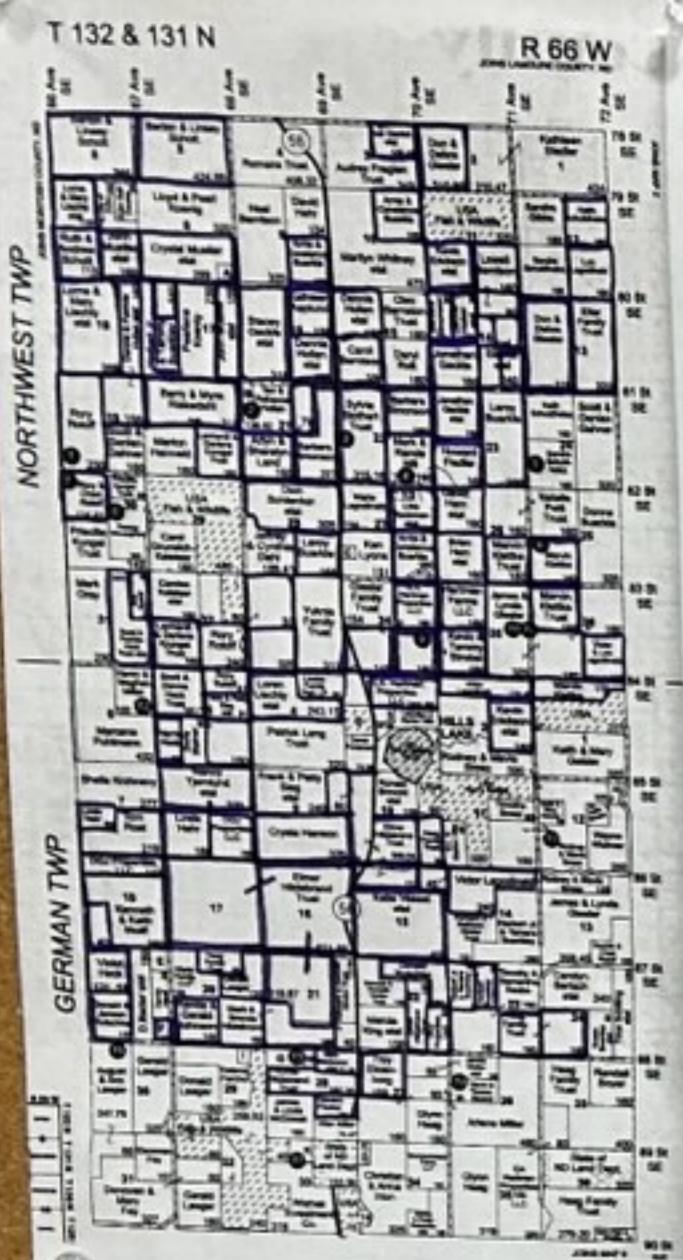
¹ Prepared with assistance of counsel (Steven J. Leibel, ND counsel; Douglas J. Nill, MN counsel—pro hac vice application pending) for the limited purpose of assisting the Township with written submissions to preserve the record. No appearance is entered in this docket.

Dated: January 12, 2026

VALLEY TOWNSHIP

By: Jason Hildenbrand
Jason Hildenbrand, Chair, Township Board





- EDF Renewables
- Invenenergy (wind)
- Orsted (wind)
- Solar
- Battery Storage

Maps are accurate to the best of our knowledge but may include a slight margin of error.
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