

La Crosse Co. weighs options with CapX 2020 project

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LA CROSSE, Wis.-- A La Crosse county committee is asking for more information about a proposed power line project.

The Planning Resources and Development or PRD Committee heard from both sides of the CapX 2020 issue. It's a project that would put up hundreds of miles of power lines some of which would run through La Crosse County.

Those opposed to the project say it's unnecessary for many reasons. "There were many citizens here today, about a dozen who spoke in addition to the Citizens Energy Task force. They were very strong in their concerns about the property values, and the health risks, and how this is going to degrade the communities and the property along the route," says Joe Morse.

CapX 2020 officials say the project will improve reliability in La Crosse and surrounding areas. "Wisconsin does need it. This line, the utilities that own this line serve residents in Western Wisconsin. Basically all customers in Western Wisconsin are served by these five utilities," says Tim Carlsgaard of Xcel Energy.

A resolution opposing the power line was approved by a county group back in July and was sent on to the PRD committee. Members decided Monday to ask for more information about costs of building the power lines underground.

If the PRD committee approves the resolution opposing the project, it will be recommended to the full County Board of Supervisors for their consideration.

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