



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

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**SENATE AMENDMENT 1,
TO SENATE BILL 654**

February 9, 2016 - Offered by Senator ROTH.

1 At the locations indicated, amend the bill as follows:

2 **1.** Page 2, line 6: before “granting” insert “exempting the construction of
3 certain electric transmission lines from Public Service Commission certification;”.

4 **2.** Page 20, line 22: after that line insert:

5 “**SECTION 37c.** 196.49 (5g) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is renumbered 196.49 (5g)
6 (ar) (intro.) and amended to read:

7 196.49 (**5g**) (ar) (intro.) A public utility is exempt from the requirement to
8 obtain a certification or approval of the commission under sub. (2) or (3) before
9 beginning a proposed project if the any of the following applies:

10 1m. The estimated gross cost of the proposed project is not more than one of the
11 following cost thresholds:

12 **SECTION 37g.** 196.49 (5g) (a) 1. to 5. of the statutes are renumbered 196.49 (5g)
13 (ar) 1m. a. to e.

1 **SECTION 37n.** 196.49 (5g) (ag) of the statutes is created to read:

2 196.49 **(5g)** (ag) In this subsection, “rebuild” means the replacement of all or
3 part of an existing electric transmission line and associated facilities to increase the
4 line’s capacity to carry current at the same voltage, including conductors, insulators,
5 transformers, or structures.

6 **SECTION 37r.** 196.49 (5g) (ar) 2m. of the statutes is created to read:

7 196.49 **(5g)** (ar) 2m. The project is a rebuild and all of the following apply:

8 a. The existing electric transmission line and associated facilities are designed
9 for operation at a nominal voltage of less than 345 kilovolts.

10 b. The centerline of the rebuilt electric transmission line is located within 60
11 feet on either side of the centerline of an existing electric transmission line operating
12 at a nominal voltage of 69 kilovolts or more. In this subd. 2m. b., “centerline” has the
13 meaning given in s. 196.491 (4) (c) 1e.

14 c. The project requires the acquisition in total of one-half mile or less of
15 rights-of-way from landowners from which rights-of-way were not required to be
16 acquired for the existing electric transmission line specified in subd. 2m. b.

17 d. The project will not have undue adverse environmental impacts on any new
18 rights-of-way required for the rebuild.

19 **SECTION 37w.** 196.49 (5g) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 196.49 **(5g)** (b) Beginning on May 1, 2014, and on May 1 of each successive
21 even-numbered year thereafter, the commission shall adjust the cost thresholds
22 specified in par. ~~(a)~~ (ar) 1m. to reflect changes to the cost of utility construction based
23 on the applicable industry cost index numbers published in the Handy-Whitman

1 Index of Public Utility Construction Costs, or an equivalent successor index, and
2 publicize the adjusted cost thresholds on the commission's Web site.”.

3 (END)