



MAYOR CAVALIER JOHNSON
CITY OF MILWAUKEE

April 18, 2024

To the Honorable Members of Milwaukee's Common Council,

I am returning, unsigned, file #231926, Resolution authorizing the City Attorney to file a request to intervene in the Application of Wisconsin Electric Power Company for Approval of Deferral Accounting Treatment of Increased Forestry Activity in Response to Continued Severe Storms (PSC Docket 6630-AF-101).

It is extremely rare for a file on an important policy issue to reach my desk without any legislative discussion or committee review. In this case parties with an active interest in this resolution did not have an opportunity to be heard on this matter. I believe it is likely We Energies and the union representing workers directly affected by the PSC filing, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 2150, would have accepted an opportunity to address Council members.

I also have questions about the urgency under which this file was advanced. Based on contact by my office with the Public Service Commission, I am concerned that the deadline to intervene had already passed prior to Council action.

Of course, I want the lowest appropriate cost for energy consumers in Milwaukee. However, we have an obligation to fully consider the life-and-death importance of electric service reliability, the public safety factors, along with the costs and benefits of the We Energies filing.

Immediate adoption is a valuable tool in the legislative process. In this case, however, fuller deliberation would have been an apt approach.

Going forward, I welcome the participation of Council members in discussions of important policy issues and the formal positions the city takes on these matters.

Sincerely,

Cavalier Johnson
Mayor