



July 27, 2017

Governor Scott Walker
Office of the Governor
Capitol
Room 115 E
Madison, WI 53702

Re: Superior Exposition District

Dear Governor Walker:

The City of Superior and Douglas County Wisconsin have been chosen as the ideal site for our partnership to build a state of the art 525-550 megawatt natural gas generation facility. This center will use flexible and efficient natural gas to enable the addition of more renewable energy resources such as wind and solar, and to deliver affordable and reliable power to consumers in our region. This project represents a \$700MM investment in Wisconsin, many hundreds of construction jobs and many good full time jobs. While our joint endeavor provides a huge lift we believe there is one additional tool that can further revitalize the Superior and Douglas County region and set in concert with a natural gas plant investment of this type is a need for a vibrant and growing community with a quality of life attractive to a long term quality workforce. The Superior Exposition District concept is an ideal mechanism to create an effective public/private partnership and a resulting new and attractive future for our citizens and businesses to thrive and grow for generations. Through growth we will broaden the tax base, reduce the disturbing high and rising per capita fixed taxation, create modern, desirable and affordable housing and close the cost of living disadvantage and quality of life gap relative to our border neighbor, Duluth, Minnesota.

The BetterCity Superior organization downtown plan and Exposition District public finance component has garnered broad support. It is supported by the private business community, government, local associations and foundations. Most importantly, residents in Superior supported it with a resounding 75.5% bi-partisan referendum question vote including, an 80% voter turnout last November.

We appreciate your willingness to work beyond your legislative district borders to provide the City of Superior with an economic development tool our voters, both Democrats and Republicans, overwhelmingly support. A sizable investment in a new state of the art natural gas facility plus securing Exposition District status would be a powerful one-two punch to lift Superior and Northwestern Wisconsin. We strongly support authorization of a Superior Exposition District in the current biannual state budget. Thank you for your strong leadership in making Wisconsin an attractive place to do business and on this strategic and community development matter.

Sincerely,
Dairyland Power Cooperative

Barbara A. Nick
President & CEO

Superior Water, Light & Power

Deborah A. Amberg
President

ALLETE, Inc.

Alan R. Hodnik
Chairman, President & CEO