

Algoma  
Arcadia  
Argyle  
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Black Earth  
Black River Falls  
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Brodhead  
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Centuria  
Clintonville  
Columbus  
Cornell  
Cuba City  
Cumberland  
Eagle River  
Elkhorn  
Elroy  
Evansville  
Fennimore  
Florence  
Gresham  
Hartford  
Hazel Green  
Hustisford  
Jefferson  
Juneau  
Kaukauna  
Kiel  
La Farge  
Lake Mills  
Lodi  
Manitowoc  
Marshfield  
Mazomanie  
Medford  
Menasha  
Merrillan  
Mount Horeb  
Muscoda  
New Glarus  
New Holstein  
New Lisbon  
New London  
New Richmond  
Oconomowoc  
Oconto Falls  
Pardeeville  
Plymouth  
Prairie du Sac  
Princeton  
Reedsburg  
Rice Lake  
Richland Center  
River Falls  
Sauk City  
Shawano  
Sheboygan Falls  
Shullsburg  
Slinger  
Spooner  
Stoughton  
Stratford  
Sturgeon Bay  
Sun Prairie  
Trempealeau  
Two Rivers  
Viola  
Waterloo  
Waunakee  
Waupun  
Westby  
Whitehall  
Wisconsin Dells  
Wisconsin Rapids  
Wonewoc

**TO:** Members of the Assembly Energy & Utilities Committee

**FROM:** Scott J. Meske, Interim Executive Director

**DATE:** April 2, 2013

**RE:** **MEUW Support Statement on Assembly Bill 106**

Thank you Chairman Honadel for the opportunity to offer MEUW's support for Assembly Bill 106, relating to the protection of municipal utility customer information. My name is Scott Meske, and I'm the Interim Executive Director for the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin, the trade association that serves all 82 Wisconsin communities that own and operate an electric utility. Combined our utilities distribute about 11 percent of Wisconsin's electric load to nearly 280,000 residential, commercial, industrial and farm customers.

Assembly Bill 106 addresses several key issues for MEUW Member utilities. First, it **clarifies the discrepancy** between PSC Administrative Code Chapter 113 and Wisconsin Open Records laws. Current PSC code requires utilities to not release identifiable customer information. Under Wisconsin Open Records Statutes, local government entities must comply with the procedures for supplying publicly releasable information.

Secondly, this legislation protects the privacy of municipal utility customers; **placing us on par** with the other regulated utilities in Wisconsin because investor owned utility customer information is already protected under PSC Chapter 113.

Utility customers, whether they are served by investor owned utility or a municipal utility ought to have assurance that their information they provide to their electric provider remains confidential. Assembly Bill 106 is a simple clarification that provides such protection.

We appreciate the Chairman's efforts, along with Representative Kahl to demonstrate that good legislation doesn't have to be partisan. Again, I appreciate the opportunity to present to you today, I ask the Committee pass AB106, and look forward to working with you and the Committee this legislation.