AN ACT to create 196.485 (1) (cr) and 196.485 (3g) of the statutes; relating to: an incumbent transmission facility owner’s right to construct, own, and maintain certain transmission facilities.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill grants to an incumbent transmission facility owner the right to construct, own, and maintain a transmission facility that has been approved for construction in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator’s (MISO) transmission plan and that connects to transmission facilities owned by that incumbent transmission facility owner. Under the bill, an “incumbent transmission facility owner” is a transmission company or a cooperative or public utility that owns a transmission facility and provides transmission service in this state. Under current law, MISO is an organization that is subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and that coordinates and controls electric transmission in a region of the country that includes this state. The bill provides that the right to construct, own, and maintain a transmission facility that connects to transmission facilities owned by two or more incumbent transmission facility owners belongs individually and proportionally to each incumbent transmission facility owner, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:
SECTION 1. 196.485 (1) (cr) of the statutes is created to read:

196.485 (1) (cr) “Incumbent transmission facility owner” means a transmission company or transmission utility.

SECTION 2. 196.485 (3g) of the statutes is created to read:

196.485 (3g) INCUMBENT TRANSMISSION FACILITY OWNER RIGHTS. Subject to the approval of the commission under s. 196.491 (3), an incumbent transmission facility owner has the right to construct, own, and maintain a transmission facility that has been approved for construction in the Midcontinent independent system operator’s transmission plan and that connects to transmission facilities owned by that incumbent transmission facility owner. The right to construct, own, and maintain a transmission facility that connects to transmission facilities owned by two or more incumbent transmission facility owners belongs individually and proportionally to each incumbent transmission facility owner, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing.

(END)