



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

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Ashley McVicar, P.E.
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Subject: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Dominance Financing
Completion of Environmental Review for a Proposed Federal Loan
Guarantee to Alabama Power Company for Pinckard-Fort Rucker to
Enterprise 115kV Transmission Line in Coffee and Dale counties,
Alabama

Dear Ashley McVicar:

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Energy Dominance Financing (EDF), may provide Federal financial assistance (i.e., a loan or loan guarantee) under Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (“Title XVII”) Public Law 109–58, Title XVII (2005), as amended; 42 U.S.C. 16511 et seq. DOE is considering whether to issue Federal financial assistance to Alabama Power Company (APC), pursuant to its authority, for the Pinckard-Fort Rucker to Enterprise 115kV Transmission Line (Project) in Coffee and Dale counties, Alabama.

The Project includes reconductoring approximately 7.5 miles of the existing Pinckard-Fort Rucker-Enterprise 115kV Transmission Line within a 100-foot-wide right-of way (ROW), encompassing approximately 110 acres of land (Project Area).

EDF, in coordination with APC, identified that the following environmental reviews and consultations are required by the applicable and relevant environmental statutes and Executive Orders (EOs) associated with its proposed Federal financial support:

1. Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1536)
2. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 306108)
 - a. Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

EDF has completed the environmental reviews and consultations associated with the Project, as summarized below.

Section 7, Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1536)

DOE generated an Official Species List on February 19, 2026 (USFWS project code: 2026-0052262; updated March 24, 2026, with a new project code: 2026-0066930). Ten threatened, endangered, or proposed for listing species were identified as having potential to occur in the project area. The project will occur within an existing, maintained transmission line right-of-way. The project will not consist of any in-water work or stream crossings (other than aerial crossing). No mass grading or tree clearing are required. APC intends to buffer gopher tortoise burrows (suitable habitat for the Federally listed eastern indigo snake) by 25 feet and APC will cease project activities if individual tortoises or eastern indigo snakes are present during the construction phases.

Given no in-water work is planned as part of the project, APC's use of existing roads and maintained right-of-way, no mass grading or tree clearing, and avoidance buffers, DOE has reached a "no effect" determination for all species and designated critical habitat.

Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 306108)

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), on February 24, 2026, DOE EDF initiated consultation with the Alabama State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and seven (7) federally recognized Tribes to see if they have an interest in the Project: Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas; Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town; Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana; Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians; Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and Seminole Tribe of Florida.

DOE's consultation package indicated a Finding of No Historic Properties Affected, consistent with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1).

On March 25, 2026, the Alabama SHPO provided a letter of concurrence with DOE's Finding of No Historic Properties Affected. The Choctaw Nation was the only tribe to respond. The Choctaw confirmed that they do not have historic interest in this project area.

Conclusion

EDF notes that APC is responsible for obtaining permits, approvals, and/or authorizations required for the construction and/or operation of the Project.

With this letter, EDF confirms that it has completed the environmental reviews and consultations required by the applicable and relevant environmental statutes and EOs associated with its proposed Federal financial support.

Respectfully,

Molly R. Cobbs
Environmental Project Manager
Office of Energy Dominance Financing

cc: Denis O'Meara, EDF Utilities Vertical Lead
Todd Stribley, Director, EDF Environmental Programs
Giulio Areinamo-Duque, EDF Portfolio Management Division