



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

April 3, 2026

Danielle Billings, Executive Director, Government Funding
NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC
700 Universe Boulevard
Juno Beach, FL 33408

Subject: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Dominance Financing
Completion of Environmental Review for a Proposed Federal Loan
Guarantee to NextEra for Duane Arnold Energy Center in Linn County,
Iowa

Dear Ms. Billings:

As provided in a letter to you dated February 26, 2026, 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 NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC (NextEra, Applicant) pursuant to its authority for the restart of the Duane Arnold Energy Center (Project) near Palo, Iowa in Linn County, Iowa.

The Project includes the restoration, maintenance and resumption of power activities at the Duane Arnold Energy Center, a 615-MW boiling water nuclear reactor. This facility is located on an 80-acre operating footprint along the west bank of the Cedar River, approximately 10 miles northwest of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. DOE’s action is the issuance of a proposed Federal loan guarantee to the Applicant for the undertaking (the Project), which would involve external site preparation; internal and external facility modernization; equipment maintenance and upgrades; and refueling activities leading to resumption of power generation.

EDF conducted the environmental reviews and consultations 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. EO 13175, Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

Applicable and Relevant Environmental Review(s)

Section 7, Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1536)

In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, DOE EDF generated an official US Fish and Wildlife Service species list in the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website (USFWS Project Code: 2026-0037366). Three (3) threatened, endangered, or proposed for listing species were identified as having potential to occur in the project area. Because Project activities are not expected to directly impact terrestrial or aquatic regions of the Project area, EDF made the following effect determinations for the identified species.

| ESA-listed Species | Federal Status | DOE EDF Effects Determination |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>) | Endangered | May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect |
| Monarch butterfly (<i>Danaus Plexippus</i>) | Proposed Threatened | May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect |
| Western regal fritillary (<i>Argynnis Idalia occidentalis</i>) | Proposed Threatened | No Effect |

For the Federally endangered Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and the proposed threatened Monarch butterfly (*Danaus Plexippus*), EDF has reached a not likely to adversely affect determination as the Project activities will take place inside the disturbed areas within the existing site boundary and is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species. Additionally, for the proposed threatened Western regal fritillary (*Argynnis Idalia occidentalis*), EDF has reached a no effect determination due to the lack of habitat and absence of known occurrences of the species in the vicinity of the Project.

On January 22, 2026, the USFWS Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office indicated there was no objection with EDF's finding of not likely to adversely affect and no effect on Federally endangered and proposed threatened species within the vicinity of this Project.

Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 306108) and EO 13175

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), on February 26, 2026, EDF initiated consultation with the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and thirty (30) federally recognized Native American Indian Tribes (Tribes) that may have an interest in the Project area, including:

1. Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
2. Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana
3. Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation, South Dakota
4. Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota
5. Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin
6. Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
7. Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
8. Kickapoo Tribe of Indians of the Kickapoo Reservation in Kansas

9. Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
10. Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
11. Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
12. Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
13. Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, Montana
14. Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
15. Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, Oklahoma
16. Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
17. Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
18. Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota
19. Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska
20. Sac & Fox Nation, Oklahoma
21. Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa
22. Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska
23. Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community of Minnesota
24. Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation, South Dakota
25. Spirit Lake Tribe, North Dakota
26. Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South Dakota
27. Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota
28. Upper Sioux Community, Minnesota
29. Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
30. Yankton Sioux Tribe of South Dakota

DOE's consultation package indicated a Finding of No Historic Properties Affected, consistent with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1), and met the documentation standards for a Finding of No Historic Properties Affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.11(d).

Comments were received from the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska via email on February 27, 2026, expressing interest in being a consulting party and requesting more information on the Project. EDF responded to the THPO's request via email on March 4th and March 17th and via telephone on March 20th and March 26th, 2026. No additional communication was received from the Tribe. On March 31, 2026, EDF followed up via email to communicate that the 30-day consultation period had concluded, but that the Tribe could plan to participate in the forthcoming environmental review for the Project by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. No further correspondence was conducted with this party during the 30-day consultation period.

Comments were received from the THPO of the Lower Sioux Indian Community via email on March 3, 2026, expressing concerns regarding environmental impacts and resource usage. EDF responded to the THPO via email on March 4, 2026, and March 17, 2026, as well as by phone on March 20, 2026, and March 26, 2026; no further communications from the THPO or other representatives of this Tribe were received. On March 31, 2026, EDF followed up via email to inform the Tribe that the 30-day consultation period had concluded, but the Tribe could plan to participate in the forthcoming environmental review for the Project by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The THPO responded on April 1, 2026, that the Tribe had no additional comments.

On March 25, 2026, the Iowa SHPO concurred with EDF's Finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the Project. No objections were received from these parties within 30 days of receipt of DOE's Finding; therefore, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1)(i), DOE EDF's responsibilities under section 106 are fulfilled.

Conclusion

EDF notes that NextEra 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.

Sincerely,

**ALICIA
WILLIAMSON**

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Alicia Williamson
Senior Environmental Manager
Office of Energy Dominance Financing

cc: Julie Kozeracki, Acting Chief Investment Officer and Nuclear Vertical Lead
Todd Stribley, Director, EDF Environmental Programs
Carly Segal, EDF Deal Team Lead
Mark Santangelo, EDF Deal Team Lead

Attachments: Letter Dated February 25, 2026, from EDF to NextEra



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

February 25, 2026

Danielle Billings, Executive Director, Government Funding
NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC
700 Universe Boulevard
Juno Beach, FL 33408

Subject: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Dominance Financing
Initiation of Environmental Review for a Proposed Federal Loan
Guarantee to NextEra for Duane Arnold Energy Center in Linn County,
Iowa

Dear Ms. Billings:

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 NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC (NextEra) pursuant to its authority. In its application for Federal financial assistance, NextEra has identified the restart of the Duane Arnold Energy Center (Project) near Palo, Iowa in Linn County, Iowa.

The Project includes the restoration, maintenance and resumption of power activities at the Duane Arnold Energy Center, a 615-MW boiling water nuclear reactor. This facility is located on an 80-acre operating footprint along the west bank of the Cedar River, approximately 10 miles northwest of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. DOE's action is the issuance of a proposed Federal loan guarantee to the Applicant for the undertaking (the Project), which would involve external site preparation; internal and external facility modernization; equipment maintenance and upgrades; and refueling activities leading to resumption of power generation.

EDF is initiating its environmental review to assist and inform its decision on whether to provide Federal financial assistance to NextEra for the Project. The environmental review will include reviews of: (1) permitting, authorization, and/or approval status of NextEra's project(s), (2) status and scope of any NEPA reviews being completed by other Federal agencies (as applicable); (3) applicable land use and/or zoning approvals; and (4) nature and extent of any contamination at, in, under or from the Project site and potential liability. In addition, EDF will complete the environmental consultations required by the applicable and

relevant environmental statutes and Executive Orders (EOs) associated with its proposed Federal financial support.

EDF, in consultation with the NextEra, has identified the following environmental statutes and EOs are associated with the proposed Federal financial support for the Project:

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

During the due diligence process and in consultation with NextEra, EDF may revise the list of applicable and relevant environmental statutes and EOs associated with its proposed Federal financial support.

Respectfully,

**ALICIA
WILLIAMSON**
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Senior Environmental Manager
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cc: Julie Kozeracki, Acting Chief Investment Officer and Nuclear Vertical Lead
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