



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

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Michael Keating, Senior Project Manager –
Federal Funding
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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 Wisconsin Power and Light Company for the Rock County
Liquid Natural Gas Project in Rock County, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Keating:

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Energy Dominance Financing (EDF), is considering whether to provide Federal financial assistance (i.e., a loan or loan guarantee) to Wisconsin Power and Light Company (WPL) for the Rock County Liquid Natural Gas Project pursuant to its authority 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.

In its application for Federal financial assistance, WPL has identified the Rock County Liquid Natural Gas Project (the Project) located in Rock County, Wisconsin for inclusion in the loan facility. The Project is a natural gas liquefaction, storage, and regasification facility that will enhance the reliability, resiliency, and operational flexibility of the regional natural gas system. The Project will allow natural gas to be liquefied and stored during periods of lower demand and then vaporized and returned to the pipeline system during peak demand periods, extreme weather events, or supply disruptions.

The Project consists of three primary components:

1. LNG Storage System, which includes
 - Full-containment LNG storage tank (~25 million gallons of storage capacity)
 - Natural gas pretreatment systems
 - A nitrogen-cycle liquefaction system capable of producing approximately 20 million standard cubic feet per day (MMscfd) of LNG
 - Vaporizers and send-out pumps capable of returning up to 200 million MMscfd of natural gas to the distribution system

- Boil-off gas compression and management systems
 - Control and maintenance building
 - Fire protection infrastructure
 - Two stormwater detention ponds
 - Access roads to and around the LNG Storage System
 - Potable water well
 - Perimeter fence
 - City sewer connection from control and maintenance building to City of Beloit sewer line along West B.R. Townline Road
 - Two fiber connections to tie the LNG Storage System to the existing fiber network along West B.R. Townline Road
2. An electrical substation that connects the LNG Storage System to the existing electrical grid. The substation will include an approximate 1,500 feet underground tie-in line to the LNG Storage System (exact location to be determined). The substation will connect to the existing electrical grid via a 300-500 feet overhead line on the eastern side of the land parcel.
 3. An LNG pipeline (~0.5 mile) that connects the LNG Storage System to WPL's existing gas infrastructure

All of these components collectively comprise the Project and are anticipated to be included within the proposed EDF financing action.

The LNG Storage System, electrical substation, and a portion of the pipeline will be located on a 130-acre parcel of land on the north side of West B.R. Townline Road between South Duggan Road and the CMSTP&T Railroad in the Towns of Rock and Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin. The parcel of land is an active agricultural property used for row crop production and is adjacent to existing WPL electric generation facilities. Outside of this land parcel, the remaining section of the pipeline (~650 feet) would be sited in existing road right-of-way.

The land on which the Project would be sited is primarily zoned industrial, with the LNG Storage System, electrical substation, and a portion of the pipeline corridor located within a General Industrial zoning district and the remaining portion of the pipeline corridor located within Light Industrial zoning. The Project is considered compatible with these zoning designations

Permanent project footprints include approximately 19 acres for the LNG Storage System, approximately 5 acres for the substation and electrical infrastructure, and approximately 7 acres associated with the permanent natural gas corridor. Temporary construction impacts total approximately 33 acres and include construction workspaces, material laydown areas, equipment staging areas, and temporary access routes. The LNG Storage System will be secured by a perimeter security fence (encompassing 40 acres), with additional internal security fencing around critical process areas. Portions of the 40-acre fenced area will remain undisturbed and function as safety setbacks, security buffers, and potential future expansion areas.

Construction is anticipated to proceed in phases beginning with site preparation and civil work,

followed by major equipment installation, facility commissioning, and startup. Construction duration is anticipated to take approximately 3 years with anticipated construction start in November 2026.

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. The applicable and relevant environmental statutes and EOs included:

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
3. Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 USC 4201-4209)

Applicable and Relevant Environmental Review(s)

Section 7, Endangered Species Act

On September 9, 2026, EDF obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) an Official Species List (Project Code 2026-0126574), which resulted in the following species identified as occurring or potentially occurring in the Project area: whooping crane (experimental population, non-essential); endangered Hine's emerald dragonfly and rusty patched bumble bee; threatened eastern massasauga, eastern prairie fringed orchid, and prairie bush-clover; and proposed monarch butterfly and western regal fritillary. No critical habitat is designated in the Project area. On September 9, 2026, EDF utilized the USFWS' Minnesota-Wisconsin Endangered Species Determination Key (MWESDK) and the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Range Wide Determination Key in the USFWS' Information and Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website and obtained *no effect* determinations for all species, except for the western regal fritillary because this species is simply not covered by the MWESDK. However, EDF made a *no effect* determination for the western regal fritillary due to lack of habitat in or around the Project; as mentioned above, the Project is located on a parcel of land that is an active agricultural property used for row crop production and in existing and maintained road right-of-way.

Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), EDF consulted with the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). On September 29, 2026, the Wisconsin SHPO concurred with EDF's finding of No Historic Properties Affected. EDF identified and contacted seventeen (17) federally recognized Native American Indian Tribes (Tribes) that may have an interest in the Project area: Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma; Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin; Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation of Montana; Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin; Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Michigan; Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan; Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians of Michigan; Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin; Miami Tribe of Oklahoma; The Osage Nation; Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation; and Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. The Osage Nation responded and stated they do not anticipate the Project will adversely impact any cultural resources or human remains protected under NHPA, National Environmental Policy Act, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, or Osage law. No other comments were received from the remaining Tribes.

Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 USC 4201-4209)

The Project is within prime farmland and farmland of statewide importance, and would permanently convert 45 acres of this farmland. Per the requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), EDF consulted the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service Wisconsin State Office and completed the Farmland Conversion Rating Impact form (AD-1006 form) to assess potential impacts on farmland. Completion of the form produced a total point score of less than 160, and per FPPA regulations, no further consideration for protection is required and no alternative project sites need to be evaluated.

Conclusion

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

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

Respectfully,

DONALD BROWN

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Donald Brown
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Office of Energy Dominance Financing

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