Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 21, 2026

Burns Wetherington, P.E.
Environmental Affairs
Georgia Power
241 Ralph McGill Blvd., NE Bin 10221
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Subject: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Dominance Financing, Completion of Environmental Review for the Wansley Battery Energy Storage Project, Heard County, Georgia

Dear Burns Wetherington:

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Energy Dominance Financing (EDF) has issued a Federal loan guarantee to Georgia Power Company (GPC) pursuant to DOE's authority under Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended. The loan guarantee to GPC is intended to provide financing for many projects over the life of the Federal loan guarantee. Each project is reviewed and considered individually prior to being approved for financing under the Federal loan guarantee. GPC has identified the Wansley Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project (Project) in Heard County, Georgia, for potential inclusion in the loan guarantee.

GPC's proposed Project involves the construction and operation of a 500-megawatt (MW) electrochemical battery energy storage system (BESS) with a new Generation Step-Up (GSU) substation, a new 34.5 kV underground line, and a new 500 kV interconnecting tie-line. The 500 kV tie line will be approximately 300 feet long and will connect the BESS to the existing Wansley 500 kV Switchyard. The utility line structures for this new tie line will be 80-90 feet tall, the same approximate height as those of the existing lines entering the substation.

Construction of the new BESS will only require rough grading, and no grubbing is anticipated to occur due to Project implementation. The Project also includes the installation of shop-fabricated battery enclosures, inverter step-up transformers, auxiliary power system, BESS control system, private fire main, security system, and external fire alarm system. An Operations and Maintenance (O&M) building and permanent parking lot will also be installed within the Project site. Following construction, the Project Area will be restored and stabilized in accordance with the Project's Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Plan (ES&PCP) and the Georgia Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control (Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission [GSWCC], 2016).

GPC will commence full mobilization for the Project in November 2026, and equipment placement is scheduled to begin September 2027. The projected commercial operation date is November 2028.

EDF, in coordination with the GPC, has identified environmental statutes and EOs applicable to the proposed Federal financial support for the Project include, but are not limited to:

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

Section 7, Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1536)

An Official Species List was generated on August 28, 2026, using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) database (project code: 2026-0139149). Six listed or proposed species were identified with potential to occur in the project area: tricolored bat, Alligator snapping turtle, Georgia rockcress, gray bat, Monarch butterfly, and Whooping crane. The project area does not overlap with designated critical habitat.

Using a USFWS Determination Key (D-key), EDF reached a not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) determination for the proposed endangered tricolored bat. The NLAA determination triggered a 15-day review period for USFWS. The 15-day review period was completed and EDF was not notified by USFWS that the IPAC-assisted determination was incorrect. Therefore, consultation on the action is considered complete for the tricolored bat.

Surveys indicated marginal suitable habitat for the proposed threatened Alligator snapping turtle and potential suitable habitat for the proposed threatened monarch butterfly in the upland, maintained areas of GPC's BESS site. There was no suitable habitat for the Georgia rockcress, gray bat, and Whooping crane. No species were identified on the project site, and EDF has reached a no effect determination for these species.

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

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), on September 9, 2026, DOE EDF initiated consultation with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and 11 federally recognized Tribes to see if they have an interest in the Project: Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town; Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana; Kialegee Tribal Town; Miccosukee Tribe of Indians; Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Poarch Band of Creek Indians; Seminole Tribe of Florida; Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; Thlopthlocco Tribal Town; and United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in

Oklahoma.

DOE's consultation package indicated a Finding of No Adverse Effect, consistent with 36 CFR § 800.5(d)(1).

On October 8, 2026, the Georgia SHPO provided a letter of concurrence with DOE's Finding of No Adverse Effect. Additionally, the SHPO confirmed that any changes to this project as it is currently proposed will require additional consultation.

No tribes responded. Further, 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 GPC 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,

KARA HARRIS Digitally signed by KARA HARRIS Date: 2026.10.21 13:37:11 -04'00'

Kara J. Harris
Environmental Project Manager
Office of Energy Dominance Financing

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