APPLICATION FILING REQUIREMENTS
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECTS

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Table of Contents

Application Filing Requirements
Natural Gas Pipeline Construction Projects

Introduction

The filing requirements in this document apply to all natural gas pipeline projects that require a Certificate of Authority (CA) from the Public Service Commission (PSC) pursuant to Wis. Stat. §196.49 and wetland or waterway crossing permits from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 30.025, and to natural gas pipeline construction that is reviewed by the Commission as part of a project requiring a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN). For some gas pipeline projects that would involve smaller pipe sizes and construction within existing road rights-of-way, a simplification of these filing requirements may be appropriate. Any simplification of these filing requirements would be determined through the required pre-application consultations between the applicant and the agencies.

Gas-fired power plants usually require a new connection to existing natural gas transmission facilities. The natural gas connection may be built and owned by the power plant developer, a local natural gas utility, or an interstate pipeline company. If the natural gas connection is constructed and owned by a local natural gas utility, a Commission construction certificate may be necessary. If the natural gas connection is constructed by an interstate pipeline company, a federal construction certificate may be necessary. A CPCN application for a generation plant must contain the applicable information in these filing requirements any associated natural gas connection. In addition, if the natural gas connection would be built and owned by a state-regulated natural gas utility, any required construction certificate application must be submitted to the PSC at the same time as the power plant CPCN application. It is essential that prospective power plant applicants discuss the associated natural gas line connections and application requirements with PSC and DNR staff prior to filing a CPCN application. CPCN applications without complete natural gas pipeline information will not be deemed complete.

Joint PSC/DNR Pre-Application Consultation Process

An applicant must consult with both the PSC and DNR prior to submitting its application (Wis. Stat. § 30.025(1m) and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 133.05. This pre-application consultation process is a series of discussions with the staff of these two agencies. Each agency has its own requirements, but the agency reviews are interrelated.

A proposed project will likely require wetland, waterway, construction storm water, and any other applicable permits from DNR. DNR Office of Energy staff can help determine permitting requirements during pre-application discussion. During the pre-application process, the PSC and

DNR staff will identify the number of paper copies of the application that both state agencies may require.

Topics discussed during the pre-application process include:

- PSC and DNR staff contacts,
- Applicable portions of the filing requirements for each agency,
- Appropriate application formats such as for maps and diagrams,
- Specific permits and approvals required for the project,
- PSC's and DNR's projected review timelines and important milestones for the project scope,
- Alternative routes or locations, and;
- Appropriate type, range, and timing of required field work (habitat assessments, archaeological surveys, wetland delineations, biological surveys, etc.).

During the pre-application period, applicants should also solicit additional information from other interested persons through public outreach.

DNR Joint Application Needs

Like the PSC, the DNR requires a complete joint application for the project review to proceed in a timely manner. The applicant must also consult DNR staff to ensure that particular requirements for the joint application are met.

Permits and Application Requirements

DNR permits required for the project will be identified during the pre-application process.

Under Wis. Stat. § 30.025, the two agencies must follow a common review timetable if impacts to wetlands and/or navigable waters are involved. For this reason, a complete application containing both DNR and PSC required information is submitted to both agencies at the same time. Specific DNR permit application requirements can be confirmed by the staff of the DNR Office of Energy's Energy Project Liaison staff (http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Sectors/Energy.html). The requirements include information and materials needed for analysis of potential impacts to rare species and natural communities, and wetland or waterway construction permits.

Endangered Resources

Applications must include an Endangered Resources (ER) Review from the DNR or a Certified ER Reviewer, an ER Verification Form if the project is covered by the Broad Incidental Take Authorization (BITA) for No/Low Impact Activities, or a 'No actions required/recommended' finding from the DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) Public Portal, accessed at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/erreview/publicportal.html. The ER Review includes an analysis of the information contained in the NHI database to determine if there could be impacts to rare species and how to avoid/minimize those impacts. Specific ER screening requirements can be confirmed by the DNR Office of Energy's ER Review staff (https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Sectors/Energy.html). The applicant should complete an ER screening early in the pre-application process to determine what, if any, field work should be

completed. DNR may require fieldwork to be conducted (1) prior to submitting an application, (2) while the application is under review, (3) prior to the start of construction, and (4) post construction.

Wetlands and Waterways

The project area must be evaluated for the presence of wetlands and waterways and documentation of the evaluation must be submitted at the time of filing.

Wetlands:

Project areas limited to temporary impacts may be evaluated for the presence of wetlands through conservative desktop methods or through a field evaluation. The conservative desktop method assumes that all areas mapped under "Mapped Wetlands" and "Wetland Soils & Indicators" layers on the DNR's Surface Water Data Viewer (SWDV) are wetland. Field evaluations are required for all projects that involve permanent wetland fill, regardless of desktop wetland mapping.

Waterways:

All waterways mapped under the "Surface Waters" layer on the DNR's SWDV, and any additional field-identified waterways, shall be assumed navigable unless a navigability determination has been conducted by the DNR. If a navigability determination is requested, a navigability determination package shall be included in the application filing (see Section 6.1.3).

The applicant must submit a Waterway/Wetland Impact Location Table (DNR Table 1) and a Waterway/Wetland Environmental Inventory Table (DNR Table 2) for the entire project (including any alternative routes/areas). To complete the waterway sections of the DNR Tables, all DNR-mapped waterways plus any field identified waterways must be included in these tables, regardless of a navigability determination being requested.

The tables must be updated throughout the review process as more accurate information becomes available. The wetland and waterway unique features that are used in the DNR tables must also be included in the attributes tables of the submitted Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data, as well as the wetland and waterway maps, that are part of the project application. **Submitted GIS data should be shapefiles only. Do not provide geodatabases or aerial imagery raster data.**

Other State Agencies

WisDOT Permits and Reviews

Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) oversize and overweight permits may be required for transporting project components to construction sites. Applicants should contact WisDOT at an early stage in project development and before submitting an application to the PSC to discuss the likely permitting needs for the project.

DATCP Application Needs

Utility-proposed projects may require an Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). If the project is subject to AIS requirements, DATCP requires the submittal of a complete Agricultural Impact Notice for projects and associated tables and GIS data. Applicants should contact the DATCP AIS program

prior to submitting an application to the PSC to determine DATCP filing requirements. DATCP may require a paper copy of the PSC application and associated GIS data.

Application Formats

Application Tables and Attachments or Appendices associated with PDF Filings

The tables specified in these requirements must be properly filled out. These tables include the three PSC tables, two DNR tables, and mailing lists. All tables must be submitted in Adobe Acrobat (*.pdf) as well as Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. All documents that are part of the application must be submitted to Electronic Records Filing (ERF) system directly, not as documents that are attachments to (embedded within) a single PDF. Mailing lists as part of the application should be submitted to the ERF.

Some tables include an example worksheet which shows how the table should be completed. Many of the tables have embedded in the worksheet cells, the appropriate format for the data. Shaded cells contain protected embedded formulas that will generate the correct data.

The DNR Tables are provided as a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet to be completed, and copies of these tables can be found on the PSC website or by contacting DNR Office of Energy's Energy Project Liaison staff. Copies of these tables must be submitted in Excel format.

Any submitted mailing lists must be uploaded to ERF as Microsoft Excel spreadsheets, be identical to the example shown below, and must meet the following format criteria as demonstrated below:

- Submit tables in Microsoft Excel.
- For property owners in the project area, replace full name or business name with "LANDOWNER(S) OR CURRENT RESIDENT(S)" in the "name" column.
- Do not use punctuation marks.
- Capitalize all data entries.
- Comply with current U.S. Postal Service mailing standards.
- Only use the Email column, if addresses are known and not more than one year out-of-date.
- Mailing list(s) should be possible to cross-reference with the submitted GIS parcel data through the name or address column, but do not add additional columns or formatting. Mailing lists should include property owners located up to 300 feet from the facilities that are part of the application.

Sample Mailing List Table

attention	name	address	city	state	zip	email
CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD	COREY SINGLETARY	625 NORTH SEGOE ROAD STE 101	MADISON	WI	53703	SINGLETARY@CUBWI.ORG
CLEAN WISCONSIN	KATHRYN NEKOLA	634 WEST MAIN STREET STE 300	MADISON	WI	53703	KNEKOLA@CLEANWISCONSIN.ORG
	LANDOWNER/CURRENT RESIDENT	123 EAST STREET	MADISON	WI	53703	
	LANDOWNER/CURRENT RESIDENT	456 WEST STREET	MADISON	WI	53703	

Contact PSC staff regarding questions for proper completion or modifications to the Route Segment Impact tables and the mailing lists.

Geographic Information System Submissions

GIS data files are now compatible with ERF and must be submitted to the docket via the ERF "Upload GIS Files (Public)" page[1]. GIS data files must be submitted in a format that is compatible with the current version of ArcGIS to both PSC and DNR staff. Data file names should be descriptive of the contents.

Provide the following GIS-related items as part of the application:

- GIS data used to produce all maps submitted as part of the application as detailed in Section 1.8. **Only provide shapefiles. Do not provide geodatabases or aerial imagery raster data.**
- A spreadsheet listing all GIS data files, a file description, the source of the data, and the date when the data was collected or published.

All GIS data from local to statewide resolution must be projected in "NAD 1983 HARN Wisconsin TM (Meters)" projection system.

Photographic and Line Drawing Submissions

- Line drawings must be in AutoCad and may be in either *.dwg or *.dxf format. The preference is *.dwg.
- Any photographic renderings (photo simulations) of proposed facilities on the existing landscape must be submitted in a high-resolution raster format.
- Scanned maps and diagrams that cannot be submitted in any other format must be submitted in *.gif format at a depth of 256 colors or less.

Application Size

Applicants are required to minimize the physical size of their applications by eliminating superfluous information not material to the case.

- Only submit those pages relevant to the information requirement. Do not submit multi-page ordinances, land use plans, etc. unless the entire document would be helpful for context.
- Minimize duplicative information. An appendix is the appropriate location for information that is referred to in several different sections of the application.
- Submit only official correspondence between the applicant and state, local and federal government agencies. PSC staff need to review this correspondence to verify that the applicant has applied for the necessary permits and to ascertain the status of the permit review. Do not include unofficial minutes of meetings, records of telephone conversations, or billings from the PSC or DNR.
- Applications should be printed double-sided. Exceptions to this requirement are maps sized larger than 11 x 17 inches.

[1] Total file size limit per submission is 20 MB. Split files into multiple submissions as appropriate.

Confidential and CEII Materials

Organize the application so that all confidential materials are only in appendices and separated from non-confidential materials. Confidential project documents, such as ER and cultural resource documents, must be submitted confidentially to both agencies. Submit confidential materials in compliance with the confidential materials handling procedures of each agency.

Prior to submitting any critical energy infrastructure information (CEII) related to the project, contact the Commission staff case coordinator for instructions regarding how to do so.

PSC Electronic Regulatory Filing System

The ERF system is the official file for all dockets considered by the Commission. Use the ERF system to post all confidential and non-confidential application materials, including all materials provided to DNR. No joint application materials should be provided separately to DNR through the DNR's E-Permitting site, unless specifically requested to do so, but should be posted to ERF. Instructions for submitting documents to the ERF system can be found on the PSC website. Search for "ERF Policy/Procedure" on the PSC Homepage search bar for the current instructions.

Coordinate with PSC[2] and DNR[3] to electronically submit the following:

- The entire non-confidential portion of the application in Adobe Acrobat (*.pdf) format.
- Microsoft Excel versions of tables.
- GIS data that support all maps submitted in the application and/or requested in these filing requirements.[4] **Only provide shapefiles. Do not provide geodatabases or aerial imagery raster data.**

File with PSC Records Management, using confidential material handling procedures, electronic versions of confidential portions of the application including spreadsheets, NHI unredacted materials, etc., as described in the PSC ERF Filing Policy/Procedures guide.[5]

Paper copies of the application may be needed by both the PSC and DNR for review. Questions about the number of paper copies and the format of maps, photos, and diagrams can be answered during consultation meetings or by contacting the PSC case coordinator.

Contact for Questions

If you have questions about the Application Filing Requirements, visit the PSC website at: https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/ForUtilities/Energy/FilingRequirements.aspx for information. Initial questions can be directed to the Environmental Review Coordinator listed on that website.

---

[2] Contact the PSC Case Coordinator of the docket for instructions.
[3] Consult the Water Reg/Zoning Specialist at DNR Office of Energy assigned to your application for instructions.
[4] Consult Section 1.10 of this document for a detailed description on how this data should be organized.
[5] Contact PSC Records Management Unit at pscrecordsmail@wisconsin.gov with any questions on filing confidential materials.

Application Filing Requirements Natural Gas Pipeline Construction Projects

A complete application must contain the following information or a showing must be made as to why the information is not applicable. The application's organization should follow the major format and numbering system of these filing requirements.

If generation construction is part of the application, the generation application materials may be presented with the related sections of the larger application or as separate sections, provided the organization of the application remains clear and easy-to-understand. There are separate AFRs for power plant construction.

Questions about the applicability of specific information requirements should be discussed with PSC and DNR staff during pre-application consultation.

1. Project Overview

1.1. **Provide a list of all cities, villages, and townships and their respective counties, that the proposed project, any associated facilities, and any potential construction activities would cross or potentially impact.**

1.2. **Describe the proposed project including the length of the proposed pipeline route(s) and associated new equipment or apparatus, including size.**

1.2.1. Identify proposed and alternative routes by letter (e.g. Route A, Route B, etc.) and segments by name (e.g. 1, 2A, 2B, 3, 4A, 4B, etc.) as instructed in 1.10.[6]

1.2.2. State preference of route if applicable.

1.3. **Identify the connection point to the interstate pipeline system.**

1.4. **Identify if proposed project is new construction, replacing an existing facility, modifying an existing facility, or abandoning an existing facility.**

1.5. **Construction Schedule and Sequence**

1.5.1 Provide the anticipated general construction schedule, identifying any potential seasonal or regulatory construction constraints. Include a timeline showing construction activities from beginning of construction to in-service.

1.5.2 Indicate how many construction spreads/phases will likely be used during construction, and the approximate length of each construction spread in miles.

[6] Do not identify routes or segments by preference (e.g. preferred or primary) in the application other than in 1.2.2.

1.5.3 Describe the construction sequence for any given construction spread/phase from commencement of construction through completion of construction, and how those construction spreads relate to each other (i.e. built at same time, certain activities such as clearing conducted on different spreads at the same time).

1.5.4 Describe to what extent final grade will affect predevelopment drainage patterns.

1.6. **Provide the names and contact information for utility representatives available to answer technical questions concerning the proposed project, cost, rates, etc.**

1.7. **Identify individuals and mailing addresses for any person with transmission facilities as defined by Wis. Stat. § 182.0175(1)(c) affected by the project and the status of their notification.**

1.8. **Other Agency Correspondence/Permits/Approvals**

1.8.1 Provide copies of all official correspondence between the applicant and all state, federal, or local government entities as described in the *Introduction page, ii-iii.*

1.8.2 Identify any issues or concerns raised by any state, federal, or local government and how those issues/concerns have been addressed in the application.

1.8.3 Provide a list of all federal, state, and local permits/approvals that would be required for this project and their status (Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 133.04 (10)).

1.9. **Mailing Lists**

1.9.1 Provide Microsoft Excel mailing lists in an acceptable format that is able to be cross-referenced to GIS parcel data as described in the *Introduction, page iv-v*.

1.9.2 Provide the following mailing lists:

1.9.2.1 Properties from which any easements would be required for construction or operation of the proposed project. Include the owners name, the address of the property, and the property owner's address if different from the property's address.

1.9.2.2 Public properties, such as schools or other government-owned land upon which structures or pipelines would be construction through.

1.9.2.3 Chief executive officers of the cities, villages, townships, and counties potentially affected by the project.

1.9.2.4 Regional Planning Commission with jurisdiction over the project area.

1.9.2.5 Applicable state and federal agencies.

1.9.2.6 Tribal government representatives for Native American Tribes that hold off reservation treaty rights in Ceded Territory. This only applies to projects within the following counties: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Polk, Portage, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Shawano, St. Croix, Taylor, Vilas, Washburn, and Wood County.

The following Tribes hold off-reservation treaty rights in Ceded Territory:

- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

- St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
- Sokaogon Chippewa Community (Mole Lake Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians).

1.10. Project Maps

Below is a list of the most common items that should be included in application project maps. Route maps should use the best and most recent data available. Maps must clearly portray the project in a format and scale that is unambiguous and easy to understand. Labels and symbology used on the maps must be clearly visible. The range of required maps/illustrations and whether they should be submitted electronically or in paper form will be discussed during the pre-application consultations.

- **Aerial Imagery**

Must be the most recent aerial available, not more than three years old.[7]

- **Project Data**
  - Proposed and Alternative route(s)[8]
  - Segment nodes
  - Connection point(s) to the interstate pipeline
  - Existing natural gas facilities in proximity to the proposed project
  - Portions of the existing natural gas facilities that would be modified by the proposed project
  - Proposed associated facilities including meter stations, regulator stations, above ground valve sites, including associated proposed driveways and proposed permanent storm water management features
  - Proposed right-of-way (ROW)
  - Required land purchases for associated facilities
  - Temporary and permanent access roads proposed outside of road ROWs
  - Proposed laydown areas
  - Installation method(s)
- **Environmental Data**
  - Soils
  - Wetlands and waterways – refer to Section 7.3 for mapping details
  - NHI rare species occurrences[9] (confidential)
  - Topographic maps

[7] Aerial imagery raster data is no longer required to be submitted with GIS data. Do NOT submit aerial imagery raster data.

[8] Provide a route centerline GIS data file that identifies all routes divided into segments at points of intersection between multiple routes or other associated facilities (e.g. meter station, regulator station, etc.). Number all segments sequentially from one end of the project to the other. Denote segments that have alternatives with the corresponding route letter next to the segment number (e.g. 1A, 1B, 1C, etc.). Common segments (i.e. segments with no alternatives) require no letter. All segments must be consistent with the records in PSC Impact Table 1 - General Route Information and PSC Table 2 – Land Cover. Also, provide an additional route centerline GIS file that can be symbolized by construction method (e.g. HDD, trench, etc.). Deliver all centerline data with the GIS files requested in Section 1.11.

[9] NHI data is no longer required to be submitted with GIS data. Do NOT submit NHI GIS data.

- Floodplains and flood–prone areas

- **Parcel Data**
  - Private properties
  - Public properties (symbolized differently than private properties), including parks and trails
  - Tribal properties
  - Political subdivision boundaries
  - Township, range, section

- **Land Use**
  - Existing land cover
  - Zoning
  - Recreation areas and trails

- **Utility/Infrastructure Data**
  - Existing, natural gas, electric, water, or other infrastructure adjacent to or within the proposed easement
  - Applicable infrastructure ROWs (*e.g.*, DOT, pipeline, electric distribution, electric transmission, railroad, trail)
  - Roads, highways, interstates, railroads

1.11. **GIS Data Files (see Introduction)**

1.11.1 Provide shapefile GIS data files that support all maps submitted for the application as described in Section 1.10 above. **Do not provide geodatabases or aerial imagery raster data.**

1.11.2 Provide a spreadsheet that lists each GIS file (clearly named and organized), a description of the data, data source, and the date when the data was generated or collected for field data.

2. Project/Route Alternatives and Need Analysis

2.1. **Describe any major system level alternatives, such as connecting to a different interstate pipeline system and explain why these alternative where not selected.**

2.2. **Provide information supporting the purpose and necessity of the project with supporting data.**

2.3. **Describe how the proposed project relates to any future projects the applicant is considering in the area.**

2.4. **Provide an explanation of how the project is consistent with future overall projects.**

2.5. **Provide an analysis of the ability of energy conservation and efficiency to reduce, alter, or eliminate the need for this project.**

Analysis should include:

2.5.1 A description of the existing services available to customers, including any demand response programs or voluntary energy efficiency programs operated by the utility.

2.5.2 An indication of the amount of additional energy efficiency and demand response, needed to reduce, alter, or eliminate the need for this project. Clearly identify and distinguish the amount of energy efficiency and demand response assumed to be achieved through Focus on Energy and utility programs from the additional energy efficiency and demand response needed to reduce, alter, or eliminate the need for this project.

2.5.3 A discussion of the feasibility of achieving the level of energy efficiency and demand response identified in Section 2.5.2. Feasibility analysis should take into account:

- A clear definition of the energy efficiency and demand response programming options considered by the utility, and the potential savings, defined as the reduction in energy and capacity associated with the programs, that are available through those options;
- The cost-effectiveness of available energy efficiency and demand response options, relative to the costs per unit of the proposed project;
- The total savings required to reduce, alter, or eliminate the need for the project, and the corresponding financial investment required to achieve those savings; and
- The utility's ability to implement new or expanded programs to achieve available savings.

Please provide analysis to address multiple different scenarios that distinguish between options for reducing, altering, and eliminating the project need. Please provide modeling and/or spreadsheet analysis to fully assess the cost comparison between the proposed project and all alternative scenarios analyzed.

2.6. **Provide an analysis that examines the proposed project's cost-effectiveness, technical feasibility and environmental soundness in meeting the energy demand with respect to the following energy priorities (Wis. Stat. §§ 1.12(4) and 196.025(1)(ar)). The feasibility analysis language used above in section 2.5.3 should be adapted and applied to the following two resource types:**

2.6.1 Noncombustible renewable energy resources

2.6.2 Combustible renewable energy resources

2.7. **Routing and Siting Information**

2.7.1 Describe the factors considered and weighted criteria used in the applicant's evaluation of potential routes and locations for the natural gas pipeline/infrastructure and its associated facilities, including the use of weighted criteria used to evaluate potential routes.

2.7.2 Identify route(s) that were considered (including existing line corridors in the area and major land use boundaries) and explain why those corridors were or were not chosen.

2.7.3 Describe contacts or consultations held with government entities, landowners, and other interested parties prior to application submittal regarding alternative project routes.

2.7.4 Identify any issues and concerns raised.

2.7.5 Describe how the issues and concerns were addressed in the selection of the proposed routes.

3. Project Costs

3.1. **Provide the estimated cost of the project by major plant categories or functions. Explanations of the plant accounts are included in the PSC's Uniform System of Accounts. Engineering, legal construction, inspection, and administrative costs should be included in the above stated plant accounts.**

3.2. **For the proposed project, provide the following information:**

3.2.1. A complete list of all FERC accounts associated with the project,

3.2.2. The depreciation rates for each FERC account listed in 3.2.1 above.

3.3. **Provide the estimated annual operations and maintenance (O&M) costs of the project by major expense categories and function.**

3.4. **Include a description and cost of any property being replaced or retired as a result of the proposed project.**

3.5. **Provide an economic evaluation of the proposed project, including any evaluation of customer contributions under the applicant's service extension rules.**

3.6. **Provide an economic evaluation of the project alternatives, including any evaluation of customer contributions under the applicant's service extension rules.**

3.7. **Provide the proposed method of financing.**

3.8. **Provide any known credits and/or tax impacts (e.g. bonus depreciation, PTC, ITC, RTC, deferred tax, etc.) associated with the project and describe how they would be applied to the project and its financing.**

3.9. **Describe the effect of the proposed project on applicant's cost of operation and its effect on the quality, reliability, and quantity of service.**

4. Detailed Information

4.1. **Provide a general description of the proposed route and project area including the percentage of the route that will be constructed within road ROWs.**

4.2. **Route Segments**

4.2.1 If the route(s) has been broken up into segments, provide the number of, names of, and total length of each segment for each proposed route.

4.2.2 For each route segment, describe and/or show the following. Figures and/or illustrations may be necessary to adequately describe the following:

4.2.2.1 Pipeline – diameter, material, wall thickness, grade (steel only), maximum allowable operating pressure, and operating pressure

4.2.2.2 ROW size required (width and length) and the relationship to other ROW's (e.g. new ROW, partially overlapping existing pipeline ROW, completely within existing ROW, in road ROW, etc.)

4.2.2.3 Valve locations

4.2.2.4 Meter stations, regulator stations, gate, stations, and odorizing equipment, if any
4.2.2.5 All other proposed facilities

4.3. **Easements and existing utility infrastructure**

If the proposed project contains segments that would share part or all of an existing pipeline ROW, submit the following for each of those segment(s):

4.3.1 Identify if existing easements would be modified to accommodate the proposed facilities, or if new easements would be pursued. Provide an example of a standard easement agreement that would be utilized for the proposed project, if approved.
4.3.1 Describe changes to the location or width of existing pipeline ROW.
4.3.2 Provide the results of the analysis of existing pipeline easements that would be shared by application route(s) and the potential problems that may be encountered.
4.3.3 State if the existing easements are to be renegotiated and/or rewritten. If so, indicate the reason (for example language modernization, change in easement size, change in pipe size, etc.).

4.4. **For each associated new or expanded above-ground facility, such as a meter station or regulator station, provide the following details:**

4.4.1 Identify the type of new or expanded facility
4.4.2 The location of the new or expanded facility
4.4.3 The size and dimensions of the new facility or expansion of the existing facility, including any new or expanded driveways.
4.4.4 The total size of the parcel the new or expanded facility will be placed on, and the orientation of the facility within the parcel
4.4.5 State if the applicant owns the parcel or is in negotiations for purchase of the parcel.
4.4.6 Current land use and zoning of the parcel
4.4.7 Construction procedures to build or expand the facility
4.4.8 Describe associated permanent storm water management features that will be constructed, or expansion of or modification to existing storm water treatment facilities. Identify the locations of the point(s) of collection and discharge.

4.5. **Identify and describe the number, location, footprint, and existing land use of staging areas and any additional temporary workspaces required.**

4.6. **If the proposed project is associated with a generation plant project, provide the following information:**

4.6.1 The builder and owner of gas system connection.
4.6.2 The source of the gas supply (interstate pipeline connection). Rate conditions under which service is to be taken.
4.6.3 A discussion of the gas service availability to other property owners along the route.
4.6.4 A flow diagram of provider's system showing how the power plant at maximum gas flow rate would affect system pressures.

4.6.5 A description of any change to the interstate pipeline system needed to supply the proposed power plant (*i.e.,* if the interstate pipeline must be upgraded to supply project, that must be detailed as well).

4.7. **Impact Tables**

Complete the Route Summary and Segment Impact Tables (Tables 1-3) in the Microsoft Excel spreadsheets provided. For each table indicate the type and date of source material and the methods used to determine the table inputs.

4.7.1 Table 1: General Route Impacts. The length of segments of the proposed routes and the requirements for new and shared ROW

4.7.2 Table 2: Land Cover

4.7.3 Table 3: Federal, State, Local and Tribal Lands Excluding Road ROWs

4.8. **For route segments that would be located within or cross Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) ROWs, provide documentation that the proposed route is generally acceptable to WisDOT.**

4.9. **For route segments that would corridor share with town or county roads, state whether the municipality has been notified of the proposed facilities and describe the potential temporary and permanent impacts to the road.**

4.10. **For route segments that would share or cross ROW with railroads, provide the following information:**

4.10.1 Owner(s) of the railroad

4.10.2 Whether the railroad is active or abandoned

4.10.3 Whether the owner of the railroad agrees to corridor sharing

4.11. **Construction Impacts**

4.11.1 Discuss the proposed construction sequence for all proposed facilities.

4.11.2 Identify the installation method(s) that will be utilized (e.g. directional bore, open-cut trench, plow, etc.).

4.11.3 Provide a general description of project construction methods including machinery to be used, size of trench, and width/dimensions of construction disturbance zone. Include how spoil material will be managed and temporarily stored.

4.11.4 Describe the construction disturbance zone and whether all work would be conducted inside the proposed ROW. Identify those areas where construction disturbance would occur outside of the proposed ROW, and the size of these areas outside of the proposed ROW.

4.11.5 Describe any special construction methods that would be used in/around agricultural lands, forest lands, grasslands, surface waters, or wetlands.

4.11.6 If construction methods other than open trench are proposed at any locations, indicate on the maps or aerial imagery the locations where the alternative methods would be employed and describe the alternative construction methods in detail.

4.11.7 Describe the dewatering method(s) that may be utilized during excavation activities, such as pit/trench dewatering or high capacity wells. Identify treatment methods that would be utilized to treat the discharge, and the discharge location.

4.11.8 State if the new pipeline will be hydrostatically tested. If so, identify the potential locations of and methods for water withdrawal and discharge.

4.12. **Off-ROW Access Roads**

4.12.1 Identify those areas along the proposed routes and segments where off-ROW access roads may be required. Provide the number of off-ROW access roads proposed, and an identifying name or number for each off-ROW access road.

4.12.2 For each access road, provide the dimensions (length and width) and construction method, including if any modifications would be needed to utilize the off-ROW access roads, such as road widening, road fill placement, or tree clearing.

4.12.3 Discuss the reasons for the necessity for off-ROW access roads, such as topography, rivers/wetlands, etc. If protection of a natural resource is a reason, discuss how the resource would be protected during construction and operation of the proposed project.

4.12.4 Provide quantitative land cover information and estimated distances for the off-ROW access roads similar to the information provided in PSC Impact Tables.

4.12.5 If the off-ROW access roads would be modified post-construction, provide details.

5. Community Impacts

5.1. **Communication with Potentially Affected Public**

5.1.1 List all attempts made to communicate with and provide information to the public.

5.1.2 Provide a description of public information meetings and who was invited.

5.1.3 Submit copies of the public outreach mailings and handouts.

5.1.4 Provide electronic copies of written public comments (*e.g.*, letters, emails, forms, etc.) submitted prior to filing the application with the PSC.

5.2. **Construction Impacts to Property Owners**

5.2.1 Provide details on methods for mitigating inconveniences caused by construction to homeowners and businesses along the route. Include issues related to temporary and permanent impacts of noise, dust, curbs, sidewalks, and landscape vegetation that may be affected.

5.2.2 Provide details on safety procedures, methods and timing of notification during construction and duration of construction as it affects individual property owners.

5.3. **Potential Impacts to Agricultural Lands**

For agricultural lands that may be impacted by any aspect of the proposed project, describe the following:

5.3.1 Type of farming: pasture, row crops, or other type (e.*g.*, orchards, tree plantations, cranberry bogs, etc.).

5.3.2 Any agricultural practices that may be affected by the project, such as irrigations systems, windbreaks, organic farming practices, and drainage systems (tiles, ditches, laterals).

5.3.3 Identify the number and size of parcels enrolled in farmland preservation programs and permanent agricultural or conservation easements that may be affected by the proposed project.

5.3.4 Specific details for mitigating or minimizing construction impacts in and around agricultural lands.

5.3.5 Identify any parcels of land in the project area that may impact a Drainage District, and identify the Drainage District if applicable. The following applies when any part of a project impacts a Drainage District.

5.3.5.1 The County Drainage Board will need to be notified before undertaking any action, including any change in land use that will alter the flow of water into or from a district drain, increase the amount of soil erosion, or the movement of sediment solids to a district drain or affect the operation of the drainage district, or the costs incurred by the Drainage District. This applies to parcels of land that receive water from, or discharge water to a Drainage District, regardless of whether the land is included in the Drainage District.

5.3.6 Whether a DATCP Agricultural Impact Statement would be required.

5.3.7 If the project would affect any properties used for agricultural purposes, submit one of the following, either:

5.3.7.1. A completed Agricultural Impact Notice (see DATCP web site and search "Agricultural Impact Notice" for appropriate form or contact DATCP).

5.3.7.2. A release letter from DATCP stating that an AIS will not be written for this proposed project.

5.4. **Parks and Recreation**

5.4.1 Identify any parks and recreation areas or trails that may be impacted by the proposed project and the owner/manager of each recreation resource.

5.4.2 Provide any communications with these owners/managers.

5.4.3 Discuss how short- and long-term impacts to these resources will be avoided and minimized, including access.

6. Natural Resource Impacts

Refer to Section 7 for describing locations of and impacts to wetlands and waterways, and Section 8 for describing locations of and impacts to endangered resources.

6.1. **Forested Lands**

Forested lands[10] are defined as an upland area of land covered with woody perennial plants reaching a mature height of at least six feet tall with definite crown (closure of at least 10%). For the purposes of these AFRs, forested lands would not include narrow windbreaks located between agricultural areas, but would include shrublands and wooded riparian areas.

6.1.1 For each route segment, describe the forested lands that would be impacted by the proposed project. Include the following information in that description.

- Type of forest
- Dominant species
- Average age, size of trees
- Ownership (private, county, etc.)

[10] Forested lands definition adopted from Wiscland 2 Land Cover User Guide 2016 accessed at: https://p.widencdn.net/8ghipa/Wiscland_2_User_Guide_September_2016

- Use (recreation, timber, riparian habitat, etc.)
- Timing of clearing activities
- Equipment to be used.

6.1.2 Managed Forest Law (MFL) and Forest Crop Law (FCL)

6.1.2.1 Identify properties within proposed ROWs that are enrolled in the MFL or FCL programs. For properties enrolled in MFL, include the anticipated amount of forested areas that would be cleared on each property.

6.1.2.2 Discuss how the proposed project would affect the properties enrolled in the MFL or FCL programs and how landowners would be compensated for that impact.

6.1.3 Provide specific details for mitigating or minimizing construction impacts in and around forested lands.

6.2. **Grasslands**

Grasslands[11] are defined as lands covered by non-cultivated herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation predominated by perennial grasses and forbs.

6.2.1 For each route segment, describe the grasslands that would be impacted by the proposed project. Include the following information in that description.

- Type of grassland (prairie, pasture, old field, etc.)
- Dominant species
- Ownership (private versus public)
- Use (agricultural, non-productive agricultural, recreation, natural area, etc.)

6.2.2 Provide specific details for mitigating or minimizing construction impacts in and around grasslands.

6.3. **Identify any conservation easements that would be impacted by any aspect of the proposed project.**

6.4. **Identify any work occurring in floodplains or flood-prone areas. Discuss if impacts to the floodplain have been evaluated, and how impacts to the floodplain will be avoided or minimized. Provide information on any discussions that have occurred with the applicable floodplain zoning authority, and how the project will comply with local floodplain ordinance(s). Invasive Species (Uplands and Wetlands)**

6.5. **Invasive Species (Uplands and Wetlands)**

6.5.1 Describe areas where invasive species or disease-causing organisms have been observed or are a concern for the construction of the project main and associated facilities (*e.g.*, invasive plants, oak wilt, emerald ash borer, etc.). State if invasive species surveys have occurred or will be conducted. If invasive species surveys have been conducted, provide documentation showing where surveys occurred and locations of invasive species found, indicating which species.

[11] Grasslands definition adopted from Wiscland 2 Land Cover User Guide 2016 accessed at: https://p.widencdn.net/8ghipa/Wiscland_2_User_Guide_September_2016

6.5.2. Describe mitigation methods that would be used to prevent the introduction and the spread of invasive plants or disease-causing organisms and comply with Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 40, such as cleaning of machinery, etc.

6.6. **Archaeological and Historic Resources**

Confidential information includes only the specific location and other sensitive details of archaeological and human burial sites (e.g. maps).[12,13] Confidential information should be submitted on ERF as a confidential version in addition to a redacted public version. The Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) can provide a list of qualified archaeologists, architectural historians, human burial specialists, or tribal preservation officers who may be required to perform steps of this review. Access to the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database (WHPD) is required to complete this review. Access to WHPD is free at the WHS headquarters or can be used online for a fee. Depending on the outcome of this review, the Commission may be required to consult with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). SHPO consultation may take up to an additional 30 days. The *Guide for Public Archeology in Wisconsin*, provides information about best management practices.[14]

6.6.1 Provide maps and a description of all archaeological sites, historic buildings and districts, and human burial sites within the project's area of potential effect (APE). For archaeological and historic sites, the APE is comprised of the physical project area where any ground disturbing activity may occur (e.g. digging, heavy equipment movement, etc.). For historic buildings and districts, the APE consists of the distance that the project may be visible from the outside of the project area. Maps of archaeological and burial sites must be submitted confidentially.

6.6.2 For archaeological sites and historic buildings or districts within the APE, determine the boundaries, historic significance, and integrity of each resource. Additional field surveys may be required to make these determinations. In some cases, such as a landowner not granting land access, field surveys may instead be performed following the approval of a project.

6.6.3 Identify the potential project effects on each resource.

6.6.4 Describe modifications to the project that would reduce, eliminate, avoid, or otherwise mitigate effects on the resources. Examples of modifications include changes to construction locations, modified construction practices (e.g. use of low-pressure tires, matting, etc.), placement of protective barriers and warning signage, and construction monitoring.

6.6.5 For any human burial sites within the APE, contact WHS to determine whether a Burial Site Disturbance Authorization/Permit is required.

6.6.6 Provide an unanticipated archaeological discoveries plan. The plan should outline procedures to be followed in the event of an unanticipated discovery of

---

[12] Wisconsin Stat. 157.70(2)(a): Any information in the catalog related to the location of any burial site, the disclosure of which would be likely to result in the disturbance of the burial site or the cataloged land contiguous to the burial site, is not subject to s. 19.35(1).

[13] Wisconsin Stat. 44.48(1)(c): The director may keep any specific information regarding archaeological resources closed to the public if the director determines that disclosure of the information would be likely to result in disturbance of the archaeological resources.

[14] *Guide for Public Archeology in Wisconsin*. The Wisconsin Archeological Survey. August 2012.

archaeological resources or human remains during construction activities for the project.

6.6.7 Notify Wisconsin Tribal Historic Preservation Officers of any Native American human burial sites and significant prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE. Provide copies of all correspondence.

6.7. **Restoration of Disturbed Areas**

Provide a re-vegetation and site restoration plan which discusses the following items:

6.7.1 Type of re-vegetation proposed for impacted areas (*e.g.* traditional restoration seed mixes, specialty native seed mixes for restoration of high quality habitats or habitat enhancement such as seeding with a pollinator species).

6.7.2 Vegetative monitoring criteria (number of post-construction years or percent cover achieved) and methods.

6.7.3 Invasive species monitoring and management.

6.7.4 Proposed landscaping at any associated facilities.

6.8. **Contaminated Sites**

6.8.1 Using the Wisconsin Remediation and Redevelopment Database (WRRD), http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Brownfields/WRRD.html, identify any contaminated sites (open and closed) within the project area and within two miles of the project area.

6.8.2 Using the Historic Registry of Waste Disposal Sites, http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Landfills/registry.html, identify any Environmental Repair and Solid Waste disposal sites within the project area and within two miles of the project area.

7. Waterway and Wetland Permitting Activities

This section covers information required by DNR for wetland and waterway permits. The following subsections apply to all proposed project sites or routes. These sections should be consistent with the wetlands and waterways included in DNR Tables 1 and 2 and associated wetland and waterway maps. See the Wetlands and Waterways section of the Introduction portion of this document on what to include in DNR Tables 1 and 2 regarding waterway resources. Questions about this section should be directed to DNR Office of Energy's Energy Project Liaison staff.

7.1 Waterway Activities

This section should be consistent with the waterways included in DNR Tables 1 and 2 and associated maps. This section should apply to the proposed and alternative sites/routes (if applicable) and their associated facilities (for example, off-ROW access roads, staging areas, permanent structures, new substations and/or expansion of existing substations (including associated driveways and permanent storm water management features to be constructed).

7.1.1 Identify the number of waterways present, including DNR-mapped waterways and additional field identified waterways. Also identify the number of times the waterway meanders in and out of the project area and indicate the number of waterway crossings.

7.1.2 Identify any waterways in the project route(s) that are classified as Outstanding or Exceptional Resource Waters, Trout Streams, Wild Rice Waters, and/or Wild or Scenic Rivers.

7.1.3 State if you are requesting DNR staff perform a navigability determination on any of the DNR mapped waterways and/or field identified waterways that will be impacted and/or crossed by project activities. If a navigability determination is requested, provide the following information in a separate appendix with the application filing:

- A table with columns for:
    - The crossing unique ID,
    - Waterbody Identification Code (WBIC) for each waterway (found in the Surface Water Data Viewer or in the GIS data for the DNR mapped waterways),
    - Latitude and longitude for each crossing,
    - Waterway name,
    - Waterway characteristics from field investigation, and;
    - Any other pertinent information or comments.
- Site photographs, clearly labeled with the photo number, direction, date photo taken, and crossing unique ID. A short description of what the photo is showing, and any field observation must also be included in the caption.
- Aerial photograph review of multiple years, including historical photos.
- Project map showing the following:
    - Aerial imagery (leaf-off, color imagery is preferred),
    - DNR mapped waterways (labeled with their unique ID),
    - Field identified waterways (labeled with their unique ID),
    - The location of each site photograph taken (labeled with the photo number),
    - The project area , and;
    - Call out box/symbol for each DNR mapped waterway crossing where the navigability determination is requested (labeled with their unique ID).

7.1.4 Provide the following information:

7.1.4.1 How many waterway crossings are proposed to be traversed with equipment and how that crossing will be accomplished (i.e. placement of temporary clear span bridges (TCSB), use of existing bridge or culvert, driving on the bed, etc.).

7.1.4.2 How many structures are proposed to be placed below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of a waterway. Indicate if structures are temporary or permanent.

7.1.4.3 Indicate if any other waterways would be impacted and/or crossed by other construction activities regulated under Chapter 30 Wis. Stats. (i.e. placement of a new storm water pond within 500 feet of a waterway, stream relocation, staging areas, placement of riprap, etc.).

7.1.4.4 For underground infrastructure (e.g. pipelines) installation only: Indicate the amount of waterway crossings via underground

infrastructure installation and specify the installation method (i.e. X waterways will be bored, Y waterways will be trenched, etc.)

7.1.5 Provide the methods to be used for avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating construction impacts in and near waterways. This discussion should include, but not be limited to, avoiding waterways, installation methods (i.e. directional bore versus open-cut trenching or plowing), equipment crossing methods (i.e. for temporary access, the use of TCSB versus temporary culvert; for permanent access, the use of permanent bridge versus permanent culvert), sediment and erosion controls, invasive species protocols for equipment, etc.

7.1.6 For waterways that will be open-cut trenched, provide the following:

7.1.6.1 State if any waterways are wider than 35 feet (measured from OHWM to OHWM).

7.1.6.2 The machinery to be used, and where it will operate from (i.e. from the banks, in the waterway channel) and if a TCSB is needed to access both banks.

7.1.6.3 The size of the trench (length, width, and depth) for each waterway crossing.

7.1.6.4 Details on the proposed in-water work zone isolation/stream flow bypass system (i.e. dam and pump, dam and flume, etc.).

7.1.6.5 Duration and timing of the in-stream work, including the installation and removal of the isolation/bypass system and the trenching activity.

7.1.6.6 How impacts to the waterway will be minimized during in-water work (i.e. energy dissipation, sediment controls, gradually releasing dams, screened and floating pumps, etc.).

7.1.6.7 How the waterway bed and banks will be restored to pre-existing conditions.

7.1.7 For waterways that will be directionally bored, provide the following:

7.1.7.1 The location and size of any temporary staging and equipment storage.

7.1.7.2 The location and size of bore pits and their distance from waterways.

7.1.7.3 Provide a contingency plan for bore refusal and a plan for the containment and clean-up of any inadvertent releases of drilling fluid (e.g. a frac-out).

7.1.8 For waterways that will have a TCSB installed across them, provide the following:

7.1.8.1 Description of the TCSB proposed, including dimensions, materials, and approaches. Verify the TCSB will completely span the waterway.

7.1.8.2 State if any waterways are wider than 35 feet (measured from OHWM to OHWM), and/or if any in-stream supports will be used.

7.1.8.3 State how the TCSB placement and removal will occur (i.e. carried in and placed with equipment, assembled on site, etc.) and if any disturbance would occur to the bed or banks for the installation and removal, including bank grading or cutting.

7.1.8.4 Duration of the placement of the TCSB.

7.1.8.5 Sediment controls that will be installed during the installation, use, and removal of the TCSB's.

7.1.8.6 How the TCSB's will be inspected during use and how they will be anchored to prevent them from being transported downstream.

7.1.8.7 State if the required 5-foot clearance will be maintained, or if the standards in NR 320.04(3), Wis. Adm. Code will be complied with.

7.1.8.8 How the waterway bed and banks will be restored when the TCSB is removed.

7.1.9 Describe the proposed area of land disturbance and vegetation removal at waterway crossings. Include a description of the type of vegetation to be removed (e.g. shrub, forest), and if this vegetation removal will be temporary (allowed to regrow) or permanent (maintained as cleared).

7.1.10 If any of the following activities are proposed, provide the information as detailed on the applicable permit checklist:

- New culvert placement: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterways/documents/PermitDocs/GPs/GP-CulvertWPEDesign.pdf https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waterways/documents/PermitDocs/IPs/IP-culvert.pdf (General Permit) or (Individual Permit).

- New permanent bridge placement: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterways/documents/PermitDocs/GPs/GP-ClearSpanBridge.pdf https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waterways/documents/PermitDocs/IPs/IP-bridgeTempCross.pdf (General Permit, no in-stream supports) or (Individual Permit, in-stream supports).

- New storm water pond placed within 500 feet of a waterway: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterways/documents/PermitDocs/GPs/GP-StormwaterPond.pdf.

7.2 Wetland Activities

This section should be consistent with the waterways included in DNR Tables 1 and 2 and associated maps. This section should apply to the proposed and alternative sites/routes (if applicable) and their associated facilities (for example, off-ROW access roads, staging areas, permanent structures, new substations and/or expansion of existing substations (including associated driveways and permanent storm water management features to be constructed).

7.2.1 Describe the method(s) used to identify wetland presence and boundaries within the project area (i.e. wetland field delineation, wetland field determination, conservative desktop review, etc.). If conservative desktop review was the only method used to identify the presence of wetlands, state if any areas will be field-verified (and when). If a combination of methods were used, describe which project areas utilized which method. The associated delineation report and/or desktop review documentation should be uploaded to the PSC's website as part of the application filing.

7.2.2 Identify the number of wetlands present and by wetland type, using the Eggers and Reed classification. Provide as an overall project total, as well as broken

down by the proposed site and the alternative site(s) (if applicable) and their associated facilities.

7.2.3 Wetland functional values:

7.2.3.1 Discuss the existing functional values of the wetland present. Functional values include but are not limited to floristic diversity, fish and wildlife habitat, flood storage, water quality, groundwater discharge and recharge, public use, etc.

7.2.3.2 Discuss how the project may impact existing functional values of wetlands.

7.2.3.3 Provide Wisconsin Rapid Assessment Methodology (WRAM) forms, or other assessment methodology documentation, if completed.

7.2.4 Identify any wetlands in the project area that are considered sensitive and/or high-quality wetlands, including, but not limited to:

7.2.4.1 Any wetlands in or adjacent to an area of special natural resource interest (ASNRI) (NR 103.04, Wis. Adm. Code).

7.2.4.2 Any of the following types: deep marsh, northern or southern sedge meadow not dominated by reed canary grass, wet or wet-mesic prairie not dominated by reed canary grass, fresh wet meadows not dominated by reed canary grass, coastal marsh, interdunal or ridge and swale complex, wild rice-dominated emergent aquatic, open bog, bog relict, muskeg, floodplain forest, and ephemeral ponds in wooded settings.

7.2.4.3 Any wetlands with high functional values based on factors such as abundance of native species and/or rare species, wildlife habitat, hydrology functions, etc.

7.2.5 Provide the following:

7.2.5.1 The number of wetlands that would have construction matting placed within them to facilitate vehicle access and operation and/or material storage. Provide the total amount of wetland matting, in square feet

7.2.5.2 The number of structures that would be constructed within wetlands. Indicate if structures are temporary or permanent. Provide the total square footage of permanent and temporary wetland impact for the placement of structures.

7.2.5.3 How many wetlands will have permanent fill placed within them. Provide the total amount of permanent wetland fill, in square feet.

7.2.5.4 How many shrub and/or forested wetlands would be cleared for construction. Provide the total amount of shrub and/or forested wetland conversion, in square feet.

7.2.5.5 How many wetlands will be impacted and/or crossed by other construction activities regulated under 281.36 Wis. Stats. (i.e. road building activities such as grading and cutting, substation upgrades, new tie-ins, vehicle/equipment access across wetland resulting in soil mixing or soil rutting, etc.).

7.2.5.6 For underground installation only: how many wetlands will be crossed by collection lines and specify the installation method (i.e. X wetlands will be bored, Y wetlands will be trenched, etc.).

7.2.6 Describe the sequencing of matting placement in wetlands and the anticipated duration of matting placement in wetlands. For matting placed in any wetland for longer than 60 consecutive days during the growing season, prepare and submit a wetland matting restoration plan with the application filing.

7.2.7 For wetlands that will be open-cut trenched, provide the following:

- 7.2.7.1 Provide details on the total disturbance area in wetland, including how total wetland disturbance was calculated. Include the size of the trench (length, width, and depth), where stockpiled soils will be placed (i.e. in upland, in wetlands on construction mats, etc.), and where equipment will operate.
- 7.2.7.2 Provide details on the proposed trench dewatering, including the method(s) that may be used (pumps, high capacity wells, etc.), how discharge will be treated, and where the dewatering structure will be located.
- 7.2.7.3 Duration and timing of the work in wetlands.
- 7.2.7.4 How the wetlands will be restored to pre-existing conditions.

7.2.8 For wetlands that will be directionally bored, provide the following:

- 7.2.8.1 How bored wetlands and associated bore pits will be accessed.
- 7.2.8.2 The location and size of any temporary staging and equipment storage.
- 7.2.8.3 The location and size of bore pits and the distance from wetlands.
- 7.2.8.4 Provide a contingency plan for bore refusal and a plan for the containment and clean-up of any inadvertent releases of drilling fluid (e.g. a frac-out).

7.2.9 For wetlands that will be plowed, resulting in a discharge of fill (soil mixing and/or soil rutting), provide the following:

- 7.2.9.1 Provide details on the total disturbance area in wetland, including how total wetland disturbance was calculated.
- 7.2.9.2 Duration and timing of the work in wetlands.
- 7.2.9.3 How the wetlands will be restored to pre-existing conditions.

Note: Plowing through saturated or wet/soggy wetlands would likely result in soil mixing and rutting, and thus the plowing would then be 281.36 Wis. Stats. regulated activity.

7.2.10 For wetlands that will be crossed/accessed by vehicle/equipment resulting in a discharge of fill (soil mixing and/or soil rutting), provide the following:

- 7.2.10.1 Provide details on the total disturbance area in wetland, including how total wetland disturbance was calculated.
- 7.2.10.2 Duration and timing of the work in wetlands.
- 7.2.10.3 How the wetlands will be restored to pre-existing conditions.

Note: Vehicle/equipment access through saturated or wet/soggy wetlands would likely result in soil mixing and rutting, and thus the plowing would then be 281.36 Wis. Stats. regulated activity.

7.2.11 For wetland vegetation that will be cleared or cut for construction, provide the following:

7.2.11.1 Justification for why wetland trees and shrubs are proposed to be cleared, and what construction activity the clearing is associated with (e.g. transmission line installation, off-ROW access road, staging area, etc.).

7.2.11.2 The timing and duration of vegetation removal

7.2.11.3 Describe the type of equipment that will be used, and if the vegetation removal will result in soil disturbance, including rutting and soil mixing.

7.2.11.4 The type of wetland and type of vegetation to be cleared.

7.2.11.5 State if tree and shrubs that are removed will be allowed to regrow or be replanted, or if cleared areas will be kept free of trees and shrubs long-term.

7.2.11.6 Indicate the plan for handling and disposing of the debris (brush piles, tree trunks, wood chips, etc.) resulting from vegetation clearing in wetlands. State if debris would be removed from all wetlands to be cleared and disposed of in upland or other non-wetland locations.

7.2.11.6.1 If debris is not proposed to be removed from all wetlands during clearing, explain why disposal in non-wetland areas is not feasible.

7.2.11.6.2 If debris is not proposed to be removed from all wetlands during clearing, state how debris left in wetland will not restrict re-vegetation growth, will not alter surface elevations, and will not obstruct water flow. If wood chips will be placed in wetlands, state the depth (in inches) proposed.

7.2.11.6.3 If debris is not proposed to be removed from all wetlands during clearing, state how these wetlands will be monitored to ensure re-vegetation growth, surface elevations, and water flow are not impacted, and that the proposed depth of chip cover is adhered to. If re-vegetation growth becomes impeded, surface elevations become altered, and/or water flow becomes obstructed from wood chip placement, state how these impacts will be addressed and corrected, if they should occur.

7.2.12 Provide the methods to be used for avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating construction impacts in and near wetlands. This discussion should include, but is not limited to, how wetland impact was first avoided then minimized by shifting the project boundary, relocating structures and/or fill outside of wetland, minimizing construction ROW through wetland, by installation methods (i.e. directional bore versus open-cut trenching, soil segregation during trenching, etc.), equipment crossing methods (i.e. use of construction matting, frozen ground conditions, etc.), sediment and erosion controls, invasive species protocols for

equipment, etc. Additional guidance to prepare this discussion can be found here: https://widnr.widen.net/s/fxdd8pmqgg/paasupp3utility.

7.2.13 Indicate if an environmental monitor will be employed during project construction and restoration activities. If so, describe the monitors roles and responsibilities, frequency of visits, etc.

7.2.14 Describe how all wetlands within the project area will be restored. This discussion should include details on the seeding plan, maintenance and monitoring, restoring elevations and soil profiles, restoring wetland hydrology, etc.

7.3 Mapping Wetland and Waterway Locations, Impacts, and Crossings

Provide the following map sets, as described below, for each proposed and alternative sites/routes (if applicable) and their associated components. Each map set should include an overview or index page that includes page extents for the corresponding smaller-scale map pages within the remainder of the map set. The smaller-scale map pages should show the project and resources in greater detail, include pages numbers to reference to the overview page, and have consistent scales throughout the pages.

7.3.1 Aerial Map Imagery showing the following:

- Delineated wetlands, labeled with the feature unique ID,
- Wisconsin Wetland Inventory ("Mapped Wetlands" SWDV layer) and hydric soils ("Wetland Indicators & Soils" SWDV layer), if a delineation was not conducted,
- DNR-mapped waterways, labeled with the feature unique ID,
- Field identified waterways, labeled with the feature unique ID,
- Vehicle crossing method of waterways for both permanent and temporary access, labeled by the crossing method (i.e. TCSB, installation of culvert, installation of bridge, installation of ford, use of existing culvert, use of existing bridge, use of existing ford, driving on the bed),
- ROW,
- Locations of temporary and permanent structures,
- Transmission line route,
- Segment names and nodes,
- Access paths (both on and off-ROW). Off-ROW access roads should be labeled with an identifying name or number,
- Staging areas, laydowns, and any temporary workspaces, such as crane pads(labeled with identifying name or number),
- Footprint of new substations and/or footprint of existing substations to be expanded, and associated driveways and permanent storm water management features to be built (ponds, swales, etc.),
- Placement of construction matting in wetlands,
- Underground pipeline installation only: symbolize the line route to indicate installation method (directional bore, open-cut trench, plow etc.). This includes the excavation areas in wetlands (i.e. bore pits, open-cut trench, etc.), and;
- Locations of any other waterway or wetland impacting activity regulated under Wis. Stats. Chapter 30 and 281.36.

7.3.2 A map showing which method(s) were used to identify wetland presence and boundaries within the project area (i.e. wetland field delineation, wetland field determination, conservative desktop review).

8 Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species, and Natural Communities

In the *Introduction, page ii* of this document, additional details are provided on how to perform an Endangered Resources (ER) screening and about performing habitat assessments, if required.

8.1 Provide a copy of the completed ER screening and all supporting materials for all project areas, including all applicable components such as off-ROW access routes, staging areas, new substations, and expansion of existing substations.

8.2 Submit results from habitat assessments and biological surveys for the proposed project, if completed or if required to be completed per the ER screening. If surveys or assessments are required to be completed prior to construction but have not yet been completed, state when these surveys will be completed. Results from additional surveys conducted during the review of the application, prior to the start of construction, and/or post-construction must be submitted as they are completed.

8.3 For all project facilities and areas impacted by construction, discuss potential impacts to rare species as identified in the completed ER screening and/or field assessments.

8.3.1 For any required follow-up actions that must be taken to comply with endangered species law, discuss how each required action would affect the proposed project, and how the required action would be complied with.

8.3.2 For any recommended follow-up actions to help conserve Wisconsin's rare species and natural communities, discuss if and how any recommended actions would be incorporated into the proposed project.

8.3.3 If any recommended follow-up actions are not planned to be incorporated into project construction or operation, state the reasons why.

8.4 Provide communications with DNR and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as applicable.

9. DNR Information regarding Erosion Control and Storm Water Management Plans (not PSC requirements)

This section serves as guidance for development of Erosion Control and Storm Water Management Plans associated with DNR NR 216 Permits. These are not requirements for a PSC CPCN or CA.

9.1 Erosion Control and Storm Water Management Plans

DNR requires a detailed description of temporary and permanent erosion and sediment control measures to be utilized during and after construction of the project.

If the project would involve one or more acres of land disturbance, the applicant's request for permits under Wis. Stat. § 30.025 must identify the need for coverage under the Construction Site Storm Water Runoff General Permit [PDF] from DNR. The permit application itself must be

submitted through DNR's electronic Water Permits system after the PSC order. This permit may also authorize construction site dewatering discharges under certain conditions.

The Storm Water Permit and Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 216 require a site-specific Erosion Control Plan, Site Map, and Storm Water Management Plan. The permittee would be required to implement and maintain, as appropriate, all erosion and sediment control practices identified in the plans from the start of land disturbance until final stabilization of the site. Final stabilization means that all land-disturbing construction activities at the construction site have been completed and that a uniform perennial vegetative cover has been established with a density of at least 70 percent of the cover for the unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures or equivalent stabilization measures.

The Erosion Control Plan, Site Map, Storm Water Management Plan, and any supporting documentation (such as modeling input/output, design specifications, geotech/soil report, site photos, etc.) must be submitted with the Storm Water Permit application through the DNR's ePermitting system.

Erosion Control Plan - See Wis. Admin. Code § NR 216.46 for details regarding information required in the Erosion Control Plan as part of a complete permit application. Sections include:

- Site-specific plans.
- Compliance with construction performance standards in Wis. Admin. Code § NR 151.11.
- Details about the site and the project.
- List and schedule of construction activities.
- Site map(s) with site, project, and erosion and sediment control details.
- Description of temporary and permanent erosion and sediment controls.
- Compliance with material management, velocity dissipation, and inspection schedule requirements.

Storm Water Management Plan – See Wis. Admin. Code § NR 216.47 for details regarding information required in the Storm Water Management Plan as part of a complete permit application. Sections include:

- Compliance with applicable post-construction performance standards in Wis. Admin. Code § NR 151.121 through § NR 151.128.
- Description of permanent storm water management practices at the site and technical rationale.
- Groundwater and bedrock information if using permanent infiltration devices.
- Separation distances of permanent storm water management practices from wells.
- Long-term maintenance agreement for site vegetation and any other permanent storm water management features.

DL: 01502393