



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

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PSC Issues Final EIS for Weston Unit 4 Power Plant Proposal

MADISON – The Public Service Commission today issued its final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposal by Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS) to construct a coal-fired power plant, known as Weston Unit 4, at the existing generation station in Marathon County. An August hearing date has also been set.

WPS applied to construct a 515 megawatt supercritical pulverized coal (SCPC) electric generating unit. This technology involves heating water to a temperature and pressure that creates steam at conditions that capture energy more efficiently. The SCPC technology also creates fewer air pollutant emissions than technologies being used at existing Wisconsin coal-fired power plants. The project site is located along the Wisconsin River, south of Wausau in Marathon County.

The final EIS was prepared by PSC staff and the Department of Natural Resources. Its purpose is to provide information to the public and the PSC Commissioners about the effects of the companies' proposals. The final EIS analyzes the proposed project, sites, connecting infrastructure, environmental impacts, and impacts on the wholesale market. This document covers potential environmental impacts that could result from construction and operation of the proposed power plant and related facilities. It also considers and responds to comments received on the draft EIS, which was released in March.

A public hearing on the final EIS and the proposed project is scheduled for:

Tuesday, August 10
10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
Lodge at Cedar Creek
805 Creske Avenue
Meeting Room A
Mosinee, Wisconsin

The public hearing is designed to take testimony from the public. The technical hearing on the project is open to the public, and will be held on August 3, at 9:00 a.m. at the PSC office in Madison. The purpose of the technical hearing is to record testimony from the parties and allow for cross examination to examine the information provided in the testimony.

The hearings provide the opportunity for citizens and public interest groups to present information to be included in the formal record established in the case. The hearings are also the vehicle through

which the utilities, Commission staff, and other full-party intervenors present testimony and evidence on the project for the record. On construction cases such as this one, the Commission is required by law to base its decisions on the record that is developed during the hearings.

The Commission is interested in the public's input and asks that people take the opportunity to attend the hearing and express their opinions regarding this proposal. **Interests or concerns expressed outside of the hearing or after the hearing is closed and cannot be used by the Commissioners to make their decision.** The record for the case will later be reviewed by the Commission in deciding whether to approve, modify, or deny the project.

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