



**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT INFORMATION
APPLICATION FILING REQUIREMENTS
TYPE 2 WATER PROJECTS**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

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Contents

Environmental Impact Information	i
Application Filing Requirements	i
Type 2 Water Projects	i
Joint PSC/DNR Pre-Application Consultation Process	i
DNR Joint Application Needs	ii
Application Formats	iv
Contact for Questions	vi
Application Filing Requirements	1
Type 2 Water Projects	1
1. Project Overview	1
2. Project Development and Alternatives	4
3. Route Information	4
4. Community Impacts	6
5. Natural Resource Impacts	7
6. DNR Permits and Approvals for Impacts to Waterways and Wetlands	Error! Bookmark not defined.
7. Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species and Natural Communities	16
8. DNR Guidance Information (not a PSC requirement)	17



Environmental Impact Information Application Filing Requirements Type 2 Water Projects

Introduction

A number of water utility construction projects require a Certificate of Authority (CA) from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) pursuant to Wis. Stat. §196.49, and these requirements are further described in Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 184. All projects are defined in Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 4 as either Type 1, 2, or 3 Actions. The vast majority of water construction projects that need a CA are Type 3 Actions and are not subject to these filing requirements described in this document. These filing requirements apply only to Type 2 water projects. However, Type 3 projects must follow Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 184.

A small number of water construction projects will be categorized as Type 2 Actions. Type 2 water projects are those projects which include the construction of a water pipeline three or more miles long and with a diameter of eight inches or greater.

This document lists information required for CA applications and the format in which those applications should be submitted. The CA is a PSC certification, but applicants will most likely need certain Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) permits, as well. This document therefore also lists the information required for permits from DNR under Wis. Stat. § 30.025.

Overall, the filing requirements are intended to organize information consistently and to facilitate PSC and DNR application reviews. For some projects, a simplification of these filing requirements is appropriate. Any simplification of these filing requirements will be determined through the required pre-application consultations between the applicant and the agencies.

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 4.70(1)). 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 and subject matter, such as for maps and tables
- Specific permits and approvals required for the project
- PSC's and DNR's projected review timelines and important milestones
- Alternative routes or designs
- Alternatives to a new water supply project (conservation and efficiency, cooperative arrangements with other systems, etc.)
- Appropriate type, scope, and timing of required field work (habitat assessments, archeological 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 application for the project review to proceed. The applicant must consult DNR staff to ensure that particular requirements for the joint application review 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 DNR Office of Energy's Energy Project Liaison staff (<https://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 obtain concurrence from DNR for an ER Review completed by a certified individual. The ER Review includes an analysis of the information contained in the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) database. An ER Verification Form may also be submitted if the project is covered by the Broad Incidental Take Authorization for No/Low Impact Activities. 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>).

Habitat Assessments and Biological Surveys

Habitat assessments or biological (plant and/or animal) surveys may be required. The applicant should complete an ER screening as stated above early in the pre-application process with DNR 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. Within one year of construction starting, DNR will require project information such as the project schedule, major project actions, and current aerial imagery of the project area. For this review, the project area is defined as any location under consideration for any facilities associated with the proposed project. For most species, the field season begins in the second quarter of the year; however, some rare species may require that field work be conducted earlier or later in the year. DNR will discuss with the applicant the timing and scope of the required studies based on project specifics and the application schedule.

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. The need for field delineations can be discussed with DNR staff during the pre-application meetings. If field delineations will not be completed by the time of the joint application submittal, the applicant must consult with DNR staff to determine alternative sources of information prior to filing.

Download links for Wetland and Waterway impact tables can be found in the PSC Water Construction Application on the PSC website. Copies of these DNR Tables must be submitted in Excel format. Complete the wetland sections of these DNR tables with the wetland mapping method discussed at the pre-application meeting.

The applicant must submit separate tables, 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.

These 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.**

Wetlands:

Project areas limited to temporary impact may be evaluated for the presence of wetland 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).

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

Municipal and/or water utility proposed projects that affect a farming operation are required to notify the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and may require an Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS). If the project is subject to AIS requirements, applicants should contact the DATCP AIS program prior to submitting an application to the PSC to determine DATCP filing requirements. DATCP may require a 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 Electronic Records Filing (ERF) system.

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 submitted in Microsoft Excel, 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 OR CURRENT RESIDENT	123 EAST STREET	MADISON	WI	53703	
	LANDOWNER OR 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 \(Public\)](#)” page¹. GIS data files must be submitted in a format that is compatible with the current version of ArcGIS. 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 and additional items 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 at 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.

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

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.

Confidential Materials

Organize the application so that all confidential materials are only in Appendices and separated from non-confidential materials. Submit confidential materials in compliance with the confidential materials handling procedures of each agency.

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.

- Send to the PSC case coordinator and DNR Office of Energy project manager the number of paper copies of the non-confidential portion of the application agreed upon by PSC staff and the applicant.
- Coordinate with PSC² and DNR³ to 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 shapefile GIS data. Do not provide geodatabases or aerial imagery raster data.**

² Contact the PSC Case Coordinator of the docket for instructions.

³ Contact the Water Reg/Zoning Specialist at DNR Office of Energy assigned to your application for instructions.

⁴ Consult Section 1.8 of this document for a detailed description on how this data should be organized.

- 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

Post to the PSC ERF, all application materials both confidential and non-confidential, including all materials provided to DNR.

Contact for Questions

If you have questions about the Application Filing Requirements, initial questions can be directed to the Environmental Review Coordinator listed on that website.

Adam Ingwell, PSC, (608) 267-9197, Adam.Ingwell@wisconsin.gov.

⁵ Contact PSC Records Management Unit at pscrecordsmail@wisconsin.gov with any questions on filing confidential materials.



Application Filing Requirements

Type 2 Water Projects

A complete application must contain the following information or a showing must be made as to why the information is not applicable. The information requirements for Type 2 water projects include all facilities such as water mains, intake structures, pump stations, and treatment facilities. The application's organization should follow the major format and numbering system of these filing requirements. 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, village, 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 all proposed construction including mains, pump houses, water treatment facilities, storage tanks, and intake structures.**
- 1.3 **Identify if proposed construction is new construction, changes to an existing facility, or abandonment of a facility.**
- 1.4 **Provide the anticipated construction schedule, noting any phases or seasonal or regulatory construction constraints.**
- 1.5 **Provide the names and contact information for utility representatives available to answer technical questions concerning the proposed project, cost, rates, etc.**
- 1.6 **Other Agency Correspondence/Permits/Approvals**
 - 1.6.1 Provide copies of all official correspondence between the applicant and all state, federal, or local government entities as described in the *Introduction, page v*.
 - 1.6.2 Identify any issues or concerns raised by any state, federal, or local government and how those issues/concerns have been addressed in the application.
 - 1.6.3 Provide a list of all federal, state, and local permits/approvals that would be required for this project and their status.
- 1.7 **Mailing Lists**
 - 1.7.1 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 v*.
 - 1.7.2 Provide the following mailing lists:
 - 1.7.2.1 Properties that would be crossed by any construction of the project. Include the owners name, the address of the property, and the property owner's address if different from the property's address.

- 1.7.2.2 Public properties, such as schools or other government-owned land through which structures or mains would be constructed.
- 1.7.2.3 Chief executive officers of cities, villages, townships, and counties potentially affected by the project.
- 1.7.2.4 Regional Planning Commission with jurisdiction over the project area.
- 1.7.2.5 Applicable state and federal agencies
- 1.7.2.6 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)

1.8 Project Maps

Below is a list of the most common items that should be included in application project maps. 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 old⁶
- **Project Data**
 - Proposed and Alternative routes/segments⁷
 - Segment nodes
 - Proposed associated facilities
 - Construction method locations (open trench, HDD, etc.)
 - Temporary and permanent access roads proposed outside of road ROWs
 - Proposed laydown areas
 - Installation method(s)
- **Environmental Data**
 - Rivers, lakes, and other waterways

⁶ Aerial imagery raster data is no longer required to be submitted with GIS data. Do NOT submit aerial imagery raster data.

⁷ If applicable, provide route centerline GIS data that identifies all routes divided into segments at points of intersection between alternative routes or other associated facilities (e.g. pumping station, well, etc.). Number all segments sequentially from one end of the project to the other. Denote alternative sections by A and B for proposed and alternative segments, respectively, and common segments require no letter (e.g. 1A, 1B, 2, 3A, 3B, 4, 5A, 5B). These segments must be consistent with the records in PSC Impact Table 1 - General Route Information and PSC Impact Table 2 - Land Cover. Also, split the centerline data by construction method (e.g. HDD, trench, etc.). Deliver the centerline data with the GIS files requested in Section 1.9.

- Outstanding or Exceptional Waterways, Trout Streams, Wild or Scenic Rivers
- Field-delineated wetlands and Wisconsin Wetland Inventory wetlands – Refer to Section 6.3 for mapping details
- Soils and hydric soils
- NHI rare species occurrences⁸ (confidential)
- Topographic maps
- Floodplains and flood-prone areas
- **Parcel Data**
 - Private properties
 - Public properties (symbolized differently than private properties)
 - Tribal properties
 - Political subdivision boundaries
 - Township, range, section
- **Land Use**
 - Existing land cover and land use
 - Zoning
 - Recreation areas and trails
- **Utility/Infrastructure Data**
 - Existing electric, natural gas, 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
- **DNR-required information**

Include information such as locations of possible Chapter 30 activities (*e.g.*, grading, riprap), temporary clear span bridges, pole locations and ROW, Wisconsin Wetland Inventory, wetland/waterway field data (correlatable to DNR tables), etc. (see Sections 6.1 and 6.2).

1.9 GIS Data Files (see Introduction)

- 1.9.1 Provide GIS data files that support all maps submitted for the application as described in Section 1.8 above.
- 1.9.2 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.

⁸ NHI data is no longer required to be submitted with GIS data. Do NOT submit NHI GIS data.

2 Project Development and Alternatives

- 2.1 Describe the purpose and necessity of the proposed project with supporting data.
- 2.2 Describe how the proposed project relates to any future projects the applicant is considering in the area.
- 2.3 Describe any major system level alternatives such as connections to a different water system, use of a different water source, additional water treatment. Explain why these alternatives were not selected and their approximate costs.
- 2.4 Describe the factors considered when evaluating possible routes and locations for the water main and associated facilities.
- 2.5 Identify possible route corridors (including existing linear corridors in the area and major land use boundaries) that were considered and explain why those corridors were or were not chosen.
- 2.6 Describe any issues and concerns raised during the pre-application consultation meetings with state agency staff. Describe how the issues and concerns were addressed during selection of the proposed routes.
- 2.7 Describe any contacts or consultations held with government entities, landowners, and other interested parties prior to application submittal regarding alternative project routes/locations. Identify any issues and concerns raised, and describe how the issues and concerns were addressed in the selection of the proposed routes.

3 Route Information

- 3.1 Provide a general description of the proposed route or site and project area including the percentage of the route that will be constructed within road ROWs.
- 3.2 For each segment of the route, provide the following information:
 - 3.2.1 Main diameters and Length
 - 3.2.2 Main materials
 - 3.2.3 The number of hydrants
 - 3.2.4 ROW size required (width and length) and the relationship to other ROW's (e.g. new ROW, partially overlapping existing main ROW, completely within existing ROW, in road ROW, etc.)

3.3 Associated Facilities Information

For projects that involve construction of associated facilities such as pump houses, storage tanks, treatment facilities, and/or intake structures, provide the following information for each facility.

- 3.3.1 Drawing or diagram showing the location, dimensions (in feet and acres), and site layout of the associated facilities.
- 3.3.2 Size (in acres) of the land purchase required and orientation of the facilities within the purchased parcel(s).
- 3.3.3 Statement if the applicant owns the parcel or is in negotiations for purchase of the parcel(s).
- 3.3.4 Current land use and zoning of the parcel(s).
- 3.3.5 Location of all mains entering and leaving the facility. Show details on any structures that might impact adjacent land owners.

- 3.3.6 Location of any waterways or wetlands within the purchased parcel and how the construction of the facilities would avoid, minimize, or mitigate the potential impacts.
 - 3.3.7 Details on any access roads required (width, length, location, etc.).
 - 3.3.8 Details on any proposed landscaping.
- 3.4 Identify and describe the location, footprint, and existing land use of staging areas and any additional temporary workspace required.

3.5 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.

- 3.5.1 Table 1: General Route Impacts. The length of segments of the proposed routes and the requirements for new and shared ROW.
 - 3.5.2 Table 2: Land Cover.
 - 3.5.3 Table 3: Federal, State, Local and Tribal Lands Excluding Road ROWs.
- 3.6 For route segments that would corridor share with Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) ROWs, provide documentation that the proposed route is generally acceptable to WisDOT.
- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 For route segments that would share or cross ROW with railroads, provide the following information:
- 3.8.1 Owner(s) of the railroad
 - 3.8.2 Whether the railroad is active or abandoned
 - 3.8.3 Whether the owner of the railroad agrees to corridor sharing.
- ### 3.9 Construction Impacts
- 3.9.1 Discuss the proposed construction sequence for all proposed facilities.
 - 3.9.2 Provide a general description of project construction methods including machinery to be used, size of trench, and width/dimensions of construction disturbance zone.
 - 3.9.3 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.
 - 3.9.4 Describe any special construction methods that would be used in/around agricultural lands, forested lands, grasslands, surface waters, and/or wetlands.
 - 3.9.5 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.
 - 3.9.6 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.
 - 3.9.7 State if the new pipeline will be hydrostatically tested. If so, identify the potential locations of and methods for water withdrawal and discharge.

3.10 Off-ROW Access Roads

- 3.10.1 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.
- 3.10.2 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.
- 3.10.3 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.
- 3.10.4 Provide quantitative land cover information and estimated distances for the off-ROW access roads similar to the information provided in PSC Impact Tables.
- 3.10.5 If the off-ROW access roads would be modified post-construction, provide details.

4 Community Impacts

4.1 Communication with Potentially Affected Public

- 4.1.1 List all attempts made to communicate with and provide information to the public.
- 4.1.2 Provide a description of public information meetings and who was invited.
- 4.1.3 Submit copies of the public outreach mailings and handouts.
- 4.1.4 Provide electronic copies of written public comments (*e.g.*, letters, emails, forms, etc.) submitted prior to filing the application with the PSC

4.2 Construction Impacts to Property Owners

- 4.2.1 Provide details on methods for mitigating inconveniences caused by construction to home owners 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.
- 4.2.2 Provide details on safety procedures, methods and timing of notification during construction and duration of construction as it affects individual property owners.

4.3 Potential Impacts to Agricultural Lands

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

- 4.3.1 Type of farming: pasture, row crops, or other type (*e.g.*, orchards, tree plantations, cranberry bogs, etc.).
- 4.3.2 Any agricultural practices that may be affected by the project, such as irrigations systems, windbreaks, organic farming practices, and drain tiles.
- 4.3.3 Identify the number and size of parcels enrolled in farmland preservation programs that may be affected by the proposed project.
- 4.3.4 Specific details for mitigating or minimizing construction impacts in and around agricultural lands.
- 4.3.5 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.
 - 4.3.5.1 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.

4.3.6 Whether a DATCP Agricultural Impact Statement would be required.

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

4.3.7 A completed Agricultural Impact Notice (see DATCP web site and search “Agricultural Impact Notice” for appropriate form or contact DATCP).

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

4.4 Parks and Recreation

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

4.4.2 Provide any communications with these owners/managers.

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

5 Natural Resource Impacts

Refer to Section 6 for describing locations of and impacts to wetlands and waterways, and Section 7 for describing locations of and impacts to endangered resources.

5.1 Forested Lands

Forested lands⁹ 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.

5.1.1 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.)
- Use (recreation, timber, riparian habitat, etc.)
- Timing of clearing activities
- Equipment to be used.

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

5.1.2.1 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.

⁹ Forested lands definition adopted from Wisland 2 Land Cover User Guide 2016 accessed at: https://p.widencdn.net/8ghipa/Wisland_2_User_Guide_September_2016

5.1.2.2 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.

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

5.2 Grasslands

Grasslands¹⁰ are defined as lands covered by non-cultivated herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation predominated by perennial grasses and forbs.

5.2.1 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.)

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

5.3 Identify any conservation easements that could be impacted by any aspect of the proposed project.

5.4 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).

5.5 Invasive Species (Uplands and Wetlands)

5.5.1 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.

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

5.6 Archaeological and Historic Resources

Confidential information includes only the specific location details of archaeological and human burial sites (e.g. maps or portions of text that describe precise locations such as USGS data).^{11,12} 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

¹⁰ Grasslands definition adopted from Wisland 2 Land Cover User Guide 2016 accessed at: https://p.widencdn.net/8ghipa/Wisland_2_User_Guide_September_2016

¹¹ Wis. 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).

¹² Wis. 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.

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.¹³ Work with SHPO to submit any updated records to WHPD (i.e. new reports, updates to sites or buildings, etc.).

- 5.6.1 Identify and provide a description as well as confidentially-filed maps of all WHPD properties (i.e., archaeological sites, historic buildings and districts, and human burial sites recorded on WHPD) within the project's area of potential effect (APE). Maps of archaeological and burial sites must be submitted confidentially. 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.
- 5.6.2 For WHPD properties within the APE, determine the boundaries, historic significance, and integrity of each resource as they apply to Wis. Stat. s. 44.36(2), which is the state register of historic places criteria. 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.
- 5.6.3 Identify the potential project effects on each WHPD property within the APE that meets the Wis. Stat. s. 44.36(2) historic property criteria.
- 5.6.4 Describe modifications to the project that would reduce, eliminate, avoid, or otherwise mitigate effects on the WHPD properties within the APE that meet the historic property criteria. 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.
- 5.6.5 For any human burial sites within the APE, contact WHS to determine whether a Burial Site Disturbance Authorization/Permit is required.
- 5.6.6 Provide an unanticipated archaeological discoveries plan. The plan should outline procedures to be followed in the event of an unanticipated discovery of archaeological resources or human remains during construction activities for the project.
- 5.6.7 Notify Wisconsin Tribal Historic Preservation Officers of any Native American human burial sites and significant prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE.

5.7 Restoration of Disturbed Areas

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

- 5.7.1 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).
- 5.7.2 Vegetative monitoring criteria (number of post-construction years or percent cover achieved) and methods
- 5.7.3 Invasive species monitoring and management.

¹³ *Guide for Public Archeology in Wisconsin*. The Wisconsin Archeological Survey. August 2012.

5.7.4 Proposed landscaping at any associated facilities.

5.8 Contaminated Sites

5.8.1 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.

5.8.2 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.

6 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.

6.1. 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).

- 6.1.1 Identify the number of waterways present, including all 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. For each waterway crossing, state the installation method (i.e. trenched, directionally bored, etc.).
- 6.1.2 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.
- 6.1.3 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).

6.1.4 Provide the following information:

- 6.1.4.1 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.).
- 6.1.4.2 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.
- 6.1.4.3 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 stormwater pond within 500 feet of a waterway, stream relocation, staging areas, placement of riprap, etc.).
- 6.1.4.4 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.).

6.1.5 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.

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

- 6.1.6.1 State if any waterways are wider than 35 feet (measured from OHWM to OHWM).
- 6.1.6.2 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.
- 6.1.6.3 The size of the trench (length, width, and depth) for each waterway crossing.
- 6.1.6.4 Details on the proposed in-water work zone isolation/stream flow bypass system (i.e. dam and pump, dam and flume, etc.).
- 6.1.6.5 Duration and timing of the in-stream work, including the installation and removal of the isolation/bypass system and the trenching activity.

- 6.1.6.6 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.).
- 6.1.6.7 How the waterway bed and banks will be restored to pre-existing conditions.
- 6.1.7 For waterways that will be directionally bored, provide the following:
 - 6.1.7.1 The location and size of any temporary staging and equipment storage.
 - 6.1.7.2 The location and size of bore pits and their distance from waterways.
 - 6.1.7.3 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).
- 6.1.8 For waterways that will have a TCSB installed across them, provide the following:
 - 6.1.8.1 Description of the TCSB proposed, including dimensions, materials, and approaches. Verify the TCSB will completely span the waterway.
 - 6.1.8.2 State if any waterways are wider than 35 feet (measured from OHWM to OHWM), and/or if any in-stream supports will be used.
 - 6.1.8.3 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.
 - 6.1.8.4 Duration of the placement of the TCSB.
 - 6.1.8.5 Sediment controls that will be installed during the installation, use, and removal of the TCSB's.
 - 6.1.8.6 How the TCSB's will be inspected during use and how they will be anchored to prevent them from being transported downstream.
 - 6.1.8.7 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.
 - 6.1.8.8 How the waterway bed and banks will be restored when the TCSB is removed.
- 6.1.9 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).
- 6.1.10 If any of the following activities are proposed, provide the information as detailed on the applicable permit checklist:
 - New culvert placement:
 - <https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3500-130.pdf>
 - <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Waterways/checklist/IP/IP-culvert.pdf>
 - (General Permit) or (Individual Permit).
 - New permanent bridge placement:
 - <https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3500-130.pdf>
 - <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Waterways/checklist/IP/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://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3500-147.pdf>

6.2. Wetland Activities

This section should be consistent with the wetlands 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 buildings and/or expansion of existing buildings (including associated driveways and permanent storm water management features to be constructed).

- 6.2.1 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.
- 6.2.2 Identify the number and total area of wetlands in the project area. Indicate the wetland types, using the Eggers and Reed classification.
- 6.2.3 Wetland functional values:
 - 6.2.3.1 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.
 - 6.2.3.2 Discuss how the project may impact existing functional values of wetlands.
 - 6.2.3.3 Provide Wisconsin Rapid Assessment Methodology (WRAM) forms, or other assessment methodology documentation, if completed.
- 6.2.4 Provide the following:
 - 6.2.4.1 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.
 - 6.2.4.2 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.
 - 6.2.4.3 How many wetlands will have permanent fill placed within them. Provide the total amount of permanent wetland fill, in square feet.
 - 6.2.4.4 How many shrub and/or forested wetlands will be cleared for construction. Provide the total amount of shrub and/or forested wetland conversion, in square feet.
 - 6.2.4.5 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, well or metering station upgrades, new tie-ins, vehicle/equipment access across wetland resulting in soil mixing or soil rutting, etc.).

- 6.2.4.6 For underground installation only: how many wetlands will be crossed by new pipeline and specify the installation method (i.e. X wetlands will be bored, Y wetlands will be trenched, etc.).
- 6.2.5 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.
- 6.2.6 For wetlands that will be open-cut trenched, provide the following:
 - 6.2.6.1 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.
 - 6.2.6.2 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.
 - 6.2.6.3 Duration and timing of the work in wetlands.
 - 6.2.6.4 How the wetlands will be restored to pre-existing conditions.
- 6.2.7 For wetlands that will be directionally bored, provide the following:
 - 6.2.7.1 How bored wetlands and associated bore pits will be accessed.
 - 6.2.7.2 The location and size of any temporary staging and equipment storage.
 - 6.2.7.3 The location and size of bore pits and the distance from wetlands.
 - 6.2.7.4 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).
- 6.2.8 For wetlands that will be plowed, crossed, or accessed by equipment resulting in a discharge of fill (soil mixing and/or soil rutting), provide the following:
 - 6.2.8.1 Provide details on the total disturbance area in wetland, including how total wetland disturbance was calculated.
 - 6.2.8.2 Duration and timing of the work in wetlands.
 - 6.2.8.3 How the wetlands will be restored to pre-existing conditions.

Note: Plowing and 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.
- 6.2.9 For wetland vegetation that will be cleared or cut for construction, provide the following:
 - 6.2.9.1 Justification for why wetland trees and shrubs are proposed to be cleared, and what construction activity the clearing is associated with (e.g. water main installation, off-ROW access road, staging area, etc.).
 - 6.2.9.2 The timing and duration of vegetation removal.
 - 6.2.9.3 Describe the type of equipment that will be used, and if the vegetation removal will result in soil disturbance, including rutting and soil mixing.
 - 6.2.9.4 The type of wetland and type of vegetation to be cleared.
 - 6.2.9.5 State if tree and shrubs removed will be allowed to regrow or be replanted, or if cleared areas will be kept free of trees and shrubs long-term.
 - 6.2.9.6 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.

- 6.2.9.6.1 If debris is not proposed to be removed from all wetlands during clearing, explain why disposal in non-wetland areas is not feasible.
- 6.2.9.6.2 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.
- 6.2.9.6.3 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.

6.2.10 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>

- 6.2.11 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.
- 6.2.12 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.

6.3. 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.

- 6.3.1 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,
- 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 work spaces, such as directional bore setup pads,
- Footprint of new facilities and/or footprint of existing facilities 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 impacting activity regulated under Wis. Stats. Chapter 30 and 281.36.

6.3.2 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).

7 Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species and Natural Communities

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

- 7.1 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 roads, staging areas, new stations, and expansion of existing stations. This should be provided as a confidential document with a redacted version (remove species names, do not redact the entire document).
- 7.2 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.

- 7.3 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.
- 7.3.1 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 will be complied with.
 - 7.3.2 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.
 - 7.3.3 If any recommended follow-up actions are not planned to be incorporated into project construction or operation, state the reasons why.

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

8 DNR Guidance Information (not a PSC requirement)

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.

8.1 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 will 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 the 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. Adm. 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. Adm. 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. Adm. 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. Adm. 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. Adm. 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.

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