

CC: Julie
Drew
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Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Ellen Nowak, Chairperson
Phil Montgomery, Commissioner
Mike Huebsch, Commissioner

610 North Whitney Way
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

June 16, 2015

JUN 18 2015 AM 9:49

Re: Application of Wisconsin Power and Light Company for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Build an Approximately 650 Megawatt Natural Gas-Fueled Power Plant at its Riverside Energy Center Facility in the Town of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin 6680-CE-176

To the Person Addressed:

This letter is for the consideration of landowners and land managers whose properties might be affected by the operation of a new natural gas-fired electric generation facility to be built and operated on the existing Wisconsin Power and Light Company (WP&L) property next to the Rock River, south of Town Line Road, and east of South Walters Road in the town of Beloit in Rock County. I am also sending this letter to public officials serving the potentially affected county and municipalities, and requesting that they post this announcement publicly.

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission or PSC) is the Wisconsin state agency that regulates utilities. The Commission is reviewing the proposal for this project, which would be built and operated by WP&L. WP&L is a subsidiary of Alliant Energy and supplies electricity to much of southern Wisconsin.

Project Description

WP&L's project would include a new, 650 megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired, combined-cycle power plant facility built at one of two sites on the existing WP&L Rock River Generating Station property (see attached Map 1) next to the existing WP&L Riverside Energy Center combined-cycle generating plant and the retired WP&L Rock River Generating Station. The project also would include a 2 MW solar installation on the same property. The new combined-cycle plant would burn natural gas and also generate steam to make electricity for WP&L's customers. Construction would begin in July 2016 for operation in February 2019. The new plant would utilize mostly existing facilities to deliver water and natural gas, to discharge waste water, and to deliver electricity to the existing nearby 138 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission system.

Project Review and Commission Decision

Before construction may begin, the Commission must grant WP&L a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the project under Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3). Commission staff is reviewing the stated need for the project, the project's potential engineering impacts and costs, and the project's potential environmental impacts.

The Commission must hold a hearing before granting a CPCN. The Commission will distribute a public notice by mail at least 30 days prior to the hearing to announce the hearing time and

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location. The record of the hearing will inform the three Commissioners' decisions about whether to approve, modify, or deny the proposal. The Commission will provide an opportunity for any member of the public or government official to offer an opinion on this project either in writing or in person at the public hearing.

Environmental Review

The Commission's decision regarding this CPCN is a Type 2 action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(2), Table 2.a., which requires the preparation of an environmental assessment to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary under Wis. Stat. § 1.11.

Anyone wishing to comment on potential environmental, social, or individual impacts of this project is encouraged to do so in any of the following ways: by mail addressed to Kenneth Rineer, Gas and Energy Division, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854; by e-mail addressed to kenneth.rineer@wisconsin.gov; or via the electronic form on the PSC website at <http://psc.wi.gov/apps40/dockets/comment.aspx>. To use the electronic form, find the project's name or PSC docket number 6680-CE-176. All comments via electronic form will automatically be posted to the PSC website through its Electronic Regulatory Filing (ERF) system.

In order for staff to complete the Commission's environmental assessment on time, comments should be received by Monday, July 27, 2015.

Anyone with a question about how to describe potential impacts should feel free to contact Ken Rineer by telephone at (608) 267-1201.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this docket or who needs to obtain Commission documents in a different format should contact the docket coordinator, Jeff Kitsembel, at (608) 266-9658 or jeff.kitsembel@wisconsin.gov.

For More Information

Questions about the utility's filings can be addressed to Scott Smith, WP&L Director of Regulatory Affairs, by telephone at (608) 458-3924, or by e-mail at ScottRSmith@alliantenergy.com. Copies of the application materials and all documents filed in this docket 6680-CE-176 may be found and accessed on the Commission's website at <http://psc.wi.gov/> through the ERF system. The PSC docket number 6680-CE-176 is required to access the documents from the ERF system.

WP&L must obtain certain permits, particularly related to air and water resources, from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR staff will co-author the environmental assessment. Questions about DNR air and water permits can be addressed to Benjamin Callan of the DNR Bureau of Environmental Analysis and Sustainability at 101 S.

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Webster Street, P.O. Box 792, Madison, WI 53707, by telephone at (608) 266-3524, or by e-mail at benjamin.callan@wisconsin.gov.

Questions and comments about the overall PSC review in this docket can be made to Jeff Kitsemel, Docket Coordinator, by telephone at (608) 266-9658, or by e-mail at jeff.kitsemel@wisconsin.gov.

Members of the media should contact Nathan Conrad, PSC Governmental and Public Affairs, by telephone at (608) 266-9600, or by e-mail at nathan.conrad@wisconsin.gov.

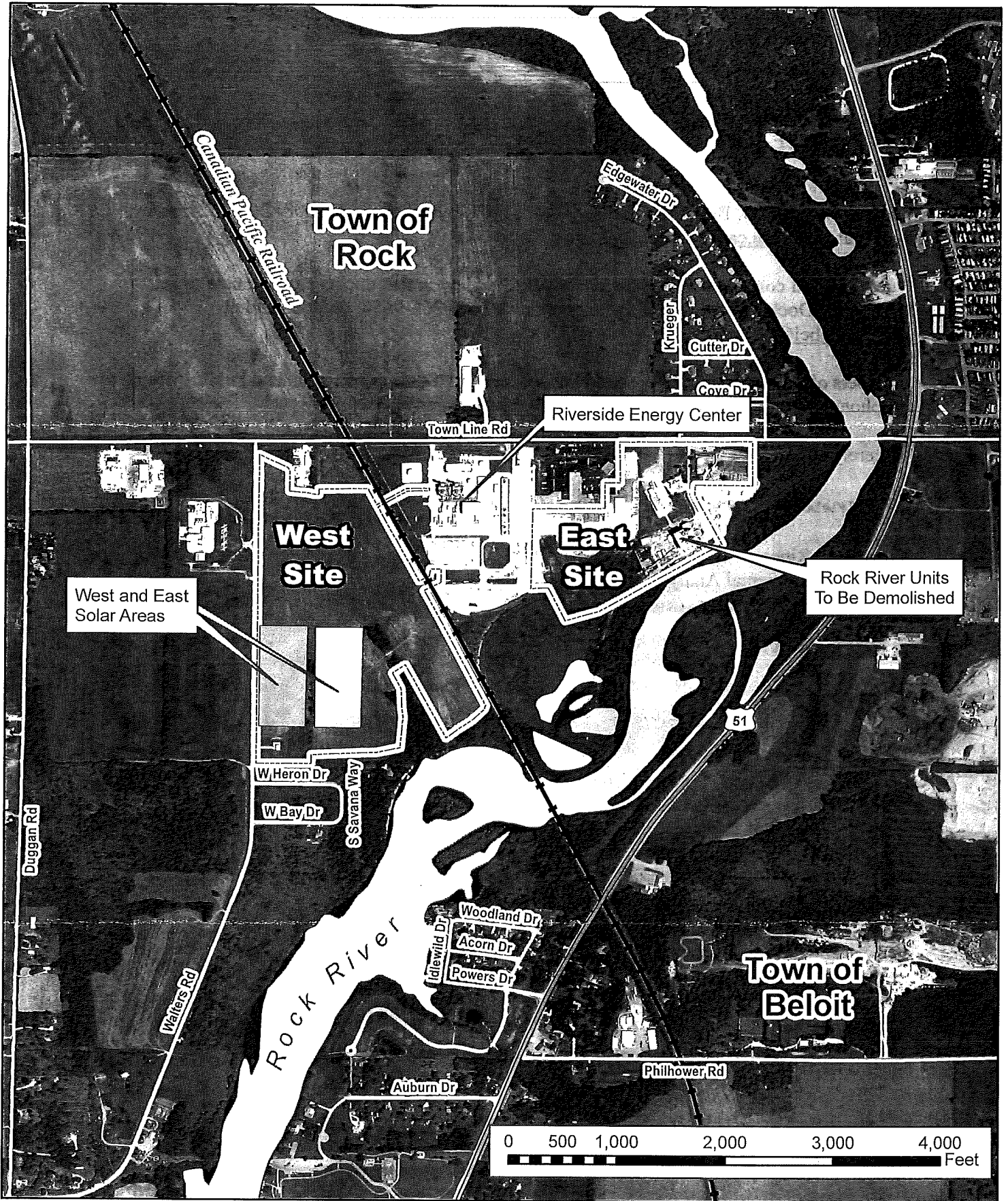
Sincerely,

/s/ Kenneth C. Rineer

Kenneth C. Rineer
Senior Environmental Analyst
Gas and Energy Division

KCR;jlt:DL: 00976043

Attachment



**MAP 1: Proposed WPL Riverside Energy Center Expansion
Rock County
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