



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Summer Strand, Chairperson
 Kristy Nieto, Commissioner
 Marcus Hawkins, Commissioner

4822 Madison Yards Way
 P.O. Box 7854
 Madison, WI 53707-7854

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
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March 26, 2026

Re: Application of Columbia Project, LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install, and Operate a Wind Electric Generating Facility Capable of Generating Up to 277 MW, Known as the Columbia Wind Project in the Towns of Columbus, Hampden, Leeds, Fountain Prairie, Lowville, Otsego, Courtland, Springvale and the Village of Doylestown, Columbia County, Wisconsin 9836-CE-100

To the Person Addressed,

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) received an application from Columbia Project LLC (Columbia Wind or applicant) for the construction of a new wind electric generation facility and associated facilities in the Towns of Columbus, Hampden, Leeds, Fountain Prairie, Lowville, Otsego, Courtland, Springvale and the Village of Doylestown, Columbia County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would construct up to 47 wind turbines with a total capacity of 277.3 megawatts (MW). Columbia Wind has identified 47 proposed turbine sites and 12 alternative turbine sites. The turbines would be located in a project area of approximately 48,377 acres. Approximately 784 acres of temporary ground disturbance impacts are expected during construction of the project, and approximately 100 acres would host the long-term operational facilities of the proposed project.

The Commission is sending this letter to property owners near the proposed wind facility site and associated facilities, as well as individuals who have asked to be placed on our mailing list or have expressed interest in the project. This letter is also being sent to public officials in the project area. If you are a municipal clerk and receive this letter, please post it in a location where it can be viewed by the public.

Commission and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) staff are now analyzing the application and conducting a review of the environmental impacts of the proposed project. As part of this effort, the agencies are requesting comments from the public to help the state agencies determine the potential impacts associated with the project and the scope of the environmental assessment (EA). The agencies encourage persons with local information or environmental concerns to submit comments on the proposed project to the Commission.

Comments regarding the scope of the environmental assessment of the proposed project can be submitted through:

- The Commission’s website at <https://psc.wi.gov> where you can scroll down to the “e-services” heading toward the bottom of the webpage, then click “file a comment” in the middle of the page, then locate docket **9836-CE-100**, or
- A letter addressed to the Commission’s Environmental Assessment Coordinator for this docket (see contacts at the end of this letter).
 - Emails are not an accepted form of comment.

Please note that comments will be made available to the public via the Commission’s Electronic Records Filing System. Personal identifying information is not edited or deleted from submissions.

Comments for the EA scoping are most effective when they discuss:

- Any potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed wind generation project; or
- Any specific actions or changes to the proposed project that might minimize or mitigate the potential impacts of the project.

The deadline for submitting environmental review scoping comments is Friday, April 24, 2026.

Additional opportunities for public participation include the opportunity to comment on the preliminary determination on the need to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the project, and to comment as part of the public hearing for the proposed project. Notification for the preliminary determination and associated comment period will be sent to the mailing list for this project, and you can be added to this mailing list by contacting the PSC Case Coordinator listed below under Project Contacts. Notice will also be provided for the public hearing at a later date when the time and place are determined. See below for further details on the EA, preliminary determination, and public hearing.

Project Description

Columbia Wind is proposing construction of a new wind electric generation facility for 277.3 MW of alternating current (AC) power. The project would be located within an approximately 48,377-acre area of land in the Towns Columbus, Hampden, Leeds, Fountain Prairie, Lowville, Otsego, Courtland, Springvale and the Village of Doylestown, Columbia County, Wisconsin. The project area is comprised predominantly of agricultural land. Approximately 100 acres of land would host the long-term operational facilities of the project. Major components of the proposed project include up to 47 wind turbines, approximately 86.9 miles of underground 34.5 kilovolt (kV) underground collector circuits, a 34.5 kV to 345 kV collector substation, up to three meteorological towers, an aircraft detection lighting

system (ADLS) tower, access roads, temporary laydown yards, and an operation and maintenance (O&M) building. The project proposal includes a total of 59 turbine locations, with 47 proposed wind turbine locations and 12 alternative wind turbine locations. The turbine unit consists of a generator housing located atop a tubular steel tower that is 125 meters tall and a three-bladed turbine. The turbine blade tips would reach up to 206.5 meters above the ground. The applicant has selected a Nordex N163-5.9 MW turbine model to be used for the project. Wind turbine locations can be identified by their identification number, as seen in the attached map.

The applicant is Columbia Project, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Alliant Energy Finance, LLC. Columbia Wind anticipates that Wisconsin Power & Light (WPL), Alliant Energy Corporation's Wisconsin public utility subsidiary will seek Commission approval in a separate docket to acquire the project from Columbia Wind.

If you are unable to determine how the project's location may impact you or areas of concern based on the information available to you in the application, on the PSC website, or in this notification, please contact the PSC Environmental Review Coordinator or PSC Case Coordinator for the docket listed below.

State and Federal Agency Jurisdiction

The proposed project requires a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) from the Commission before construction can begin. Based on the record of analysis of potential environmental and societal impacts, the Commission will decide whether to approve, modify, or deny the applicant's proposal. DNR will consider the application for wetland and waterway permits, if applicable under Wis. Stat. ch. 30, potential impacts to rare species, and other affected resources under its jurisdiction. Other reviews, approvals, or permits may be necessary from local, state, or federal entities.

Environmental Assessment

The proposed project is a Type II action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(2). The Commission will prepare an EA for this project jointly with DNR. The EA will evaluate the location of the project and its potential environmental, community, and private property impacts. There will be a preliminary determination when the EA is complete that will determine whether the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is necessary under Wis. Stat. § 1.11. Comments on this preliminary determination will be accepted and considered before a final determination is made. At the time of the preliminary determination, the Commission shall make copies of the EA available to those persons that request it.

Public Hearings and Commission Decision

The Commission intends to hold technical and public hearings (date and times have not yet been determined) on the proposed project. At least 30 days before the hearings, the Commission will issue a Notice of Hearing (Notice) for this proposed project and notify the local news media.

The Notice will include the time, date, and location of the hearings, as well as instructions regarding how to provide testimony for the hearing record. If you have any concerns about the project, you should take part in the hearing to make the Commission aware of your concerns. People can speak and submit comments about the project at the hearing and also provide comments in writing online and through the mail. The Commission must base its decisions about the project, in part, on the record of the hearing. The Commission will discuss the record for this project at a meeting open to the public where it will make its decision on the project.

For more information on becoming involved in the Commission review of construction cases, please visit our [public participation page](#) or contact one of the project contacts listed below.

Information and Contacts

To review project application materials and additional related documents

- PSC website (<https://psc.wi.gov>) under the docket's "E-Services" tab, click "Docket Search (CMS)" link, and search docket number 9836-CE-100.
- PSC website, type "Columbia Wind Project" in the search field to navigate to the project-specific webpage.
- An interactive web-map of the project is available via the project-specific webpage. To view how proposed project facilities may impact specific addresses or properties, click the magnifying glass icon in the top right corner of the interactive web map and type the appropriate address or locational information.
- Contact the PSC Environmental Review Coordinator to request an e-mailed or paper map showing the proposed project facilities in relation to a specific property you are interested in.

Agency Contacts

- PSC Docket Coordinator
Hannah Burns
(608) 266-8950
Hannah.burns@wisconsin.gov
P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854
- PSC Environmental Assessment Coordinator
Olivia Poelmann
(608) 266-5528
olivia.poelmann@wisconsin.gov
P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854

- DNR Contact
Weston Matthews
(608) 228-9164
weston.matthews@wisconsin.gov
- PSC Media Contact
Meghan Sovey-Lashua
608-267-3871
meghan.ovey1@wisconsin.gov

Sincerely,

/s/ Olivia Poelmann

Environmental Review Coordinator
Division of Digital Access, Consumer and Environmental Affairs

OMP:bs DL:02118322

Attachment: Columbia Wind Project Scoping Map

Columbia Wind Project 9836-CE-100

