

source, or any other more cost-effective and less burdensome source: The USSTRATCOM SAG provides an unparalleled contribution to the Nation, the DoW, and the mission of the U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) and its operations. Composed of recognized, talented, innovative public and private sector leaders the USSTRATCOM SAG provides independent technical advice that cannot be duplicated elsewhere on matters pertaining to development and implementation of the Nation's strategic deterrence objectives and other matters related to the Nation's strategic forces. These matters include, but are not limited to scientific, technical, intelligence, nuclear command, control, and communications, electromagnetic spectrum operations, and policy-related matters of interest to the SecWar, the CJCS, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the USSTRATCOM, and the Commander, USSTRATCOM (CDRUSSTRATCOM).

USSTRATCOM SAG also provides independent reviews of DoW and Department of Energy modernization efforts related to all three legs of the nuclear triad (intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles, and strategic bombers) and Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications systems. These reviews include assessments of proposed technologies, evaluations of program schedules, and recommendations for consideration. The USSTRATCOM SAG will be instrumental to the National Command Authority as the Nation implements modernization plans over the next 10–20 years, requiring informed decision-making on complex technical and strategic issues.

6. *If the consultation is a committee renewal, a summary of the previous accomplishments of the committee and the reasons it needs to continue:* USSTRATCOM SAG provides insights on emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence/machine learning, quantum technologies, and other disruptive innovations. This expertise supports USSTRATCOM's ability to anticipate and address potential threats, develop advanced capabilities, and maintain effective deterrent and warfighting capabilities. These insights include evaluating the potential applications of these technologies to strategic systems and identifying potential vulnerabilities.

Consistent with 10 U.S.C. 6117, the CDRUSSTRATCOM is required to provide the SecWar and the Nuclear Weapons Council an assessment of the

U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile's safety, reliability, performance, and military effectiveness in meeting deterrence requirements. The USSTRATCOM SAG's subcommittee, the SAT, with independent experts with specialized knowledge of the nuclear weapons enterprise, national laboratories, and relevant USSTRATCOM Unified Command Plan mission sets, provides an independent assessment to support the Command in fulfilling this requirement. The SAT's specialized knowledge, residing outside the Command, contributes to the objectivity of this assessment, ensuring an unbiased evaluation of the stockpile's condition. This assessment is then reviewed and approved by the SecWar and the President before it is provided to Congress.

7. *Explanation of why the committee/subcommittee is essential to the conduct of agency business:* As described by the SecWar, the DoW mission is “warfighting, preparing for war and preparing to win” the Nation's wars with “victory our only acceptable end state.” A strong, viable military is essential to the defense of the U.S. homeland and hemispheric security. The USSTRATCOM SAG and SAT provides the SecWar, CJCS, CDRUSSTRATCOM key advice and recommendations on strategies, capabilities, technologies, modernization efforts related to all three legs of the nuclear triad (intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles, and strategic bombers), Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications systems, the Nation's nuclear weapons stockpile and innovations to win the Nation's wars, protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the homeland and our access to key terrain throughout the region, restore American military dominance in the Western Hemisphere, deny adversaries' ability to position forces or other threatening capabilities in our hemisphere, support commitment to allies and international partners, and ensure the lethality and readiness of America's fighting force to further the goal of peace through strength. This public interest determination document for the committee is essential to the conduct of agency business and the information to be obtained is not already available through another advisory committee or source within the Federal Government.

Dated: May 1, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2026–08784 Filed 5–5–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket no. CP26–17–000]

Leaf River Energy Center, LLC; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Leaf River Capacity Expansion Project

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. To ensure consideration of your comments on the proposal prior to making a decision on the Project, it is important that the Commission receive your comments on or before 5:00pm Eastern Time on June 1, 2026. Instructions for filing comments are provided on pages 2 and 3.

FERC is the lead federal agency for authorizing interstate natural gas transmission and storage facilities under the Natural Gas Act of 1938 (NGA) and the lead federal agency for preparation of the EA. The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)¹ and the Commission's implementing regulations.² The principal purposes of the EA are to: identify and assess the potential effects on the natural and human environment; describe and evaluate reasonable alternatives; identify and recommend mitigation measures; and facilitate public involvement in the environmental review process. The EA concludes that approval of the proposed project would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The EA addresses the potential environmental effects of the following project facilities:

- increase the working gas capacity of existing natural gas storage Caverns 2 and 4 by 2.6 billion standard cubic feet (Bscf);
- construct and operate new Cavern 5 that would have 12.5 Bscf of working gas capacity, a well pad site, wellhead

¹ National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (Public Law [Pub. L.] 91–190, 42 U.S.C. 4321–4347, as amended by Pub. L. 94–52, July 3, 1975; Pub. L. 94–83, August 9, 1975; Pub. L. 97–258, 4(b), September 13, 1982; Pub. L. 118–5, June 3, 2023; Pub. L. 119–21, July 4, 2025).

² 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 380.

equipment, and other pipeline appurtenances;

- construct a utility Service Corridor that includes 16- and 24-inch-diameter gas pipeline headers, 16-inch-diameter fresh water and brine lines, and appurtenant facilities to connect Cavern 5 with existing facilities;

- install two new gas-powered centrifugal compressors with a total of 27,010 horsepower at the Compression Facility, including enclosures, ancillary facilities, and equipment; and

- install one new 6,130 horsepower of gas-powered centrifugal compressor at an existing Booster Station.

The Commission mailed a copy of the *Notice of Availability* of the EA to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; Native American tribes; environmental and public interest groups; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; and newspapers and libraries in the project area. The EA is only available in electronic format. It may be viewed and downloaded from the FERC's website (www.ferc.gov), on the natural gas environmental documents page (<https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/natural-gas/environment/environmental-documents>). In addition, the EA may be accessed by using the eLibrary link on the FERC's website. Click on the eLibrary link (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search>), select "General Search" and enter the docket number in the "Docket Number" field, excluding the last three digits (*i.e.* CP26-17). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

The EA is not a decision document. It presents Commission staff's independent analysis of the environmental issues for the Commission to consider when addressing the merits of all issues in this proceeding. Under section 7(c) of the NGA, the Commission determines whether interstate natural gas transportation and storage facilities are in the public convenience and necessity and, if so, grants a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct and operate them. The Commission bases its decisions on both economic issues, including need, and environmental effects.

Your comments should focus on the EA's disclosure and discussion of potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental effects. The more specific your comments, the

more useful they will be. For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments to the Commission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has staff available to assist you at (866) 208-3676 or FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to FERC Online. This is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You can also file your comments electronically using the eFiling feature on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to FERC Online. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You must select the type of filing you are making. If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select "Comment on a Filing"; or

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the Commission. Be sure to reference the project docket numbers (CP26-17-000) on your letter. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Filing environmental comments will not give you intervenor status, but you do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered. Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing or judicial review of the Commission's decision. At this point in this proceeding, the timeframe for filing timely intervention requests has expired. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene out-of-time pursuant to Rule 214(b)(3) and (d) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214(b)(3) and (d)) and show good cause why the time limitation should be waived. Motions to intervene are more fully described at <https://www.ferc.gov/how-intervene>.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public

Participation at (202)502-6595 or OPP@ferc.gov. Additional information about the project is available from the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview> to register for eSubscription.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1.)

Dated: May 1, 2026.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-08961 Filed 5-5-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following exempt wholesale generator filings:

Docket Numbers: EG26-227-000.

Applicants: Sundance Solar, LLC.

Description: Sundance Solar, LLC submits Notice of Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status.

Filed Date: 4/30/26.

Accession Number: 20260430-5591.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 5/21/26.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER12-164-031;

ER19-1402-010; ER24-1576-008;

ER22-2046-010; ER20-2288-011;

ER18-2203-011; ER10-2563-015;

ER10-1882-021; ER10-1894-019.

Applicants: Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, Wisconsin River Power Company, Wisconsin Electric Power Company, Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation, Tatanka Ridge Wind, LLC, Sapphire Sky Wind Energy LLC, Maple Flats Solar Energy Center LLC, Coyote Ridge Wind, LLC, Bishop Hill Energy III LLC.

Description: Notice of Non-Material Change in Status of Bishop Hill Energy III LLC, et al.

Filed Date: 4/28/26.