

State of Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers

**Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection** Secretary Randy Romanski

May 19, 2025

## **Errata Sheet**

AIS #4622

Rochester Lateral Pipeline, Kenosha, Milwaukee and Racine Counties, WI

Dear Reader,

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (the "Department" or "DATCP") published Agricultural Impact Statement ("AIS") #4622 entitled Rochester Lateral Pipeline on March 11, 2025. Since the publication of AIS #4622, the Department had made a correction to the AIS on March 27, 2025 and issued an accompanying errata sheet. The Department determined that an additional correction regarding AIS #4622 is required. Upon review of the AIS and consultation with the Public Service Commission (PSC), the Department is no longer recommending that the PSC consider requiring that the project initiator, Wisconsin Electric Gas Operations (WE-GO), be required to hire an Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM) or an Independent Agricultural Monitor (IAM). Instead, DATCP has determined that the Agricultural Inspector (AI) that WE-GO plans to hire will be sufficient for the project, a finding which is based on precedent with past AIS recommendations and PSC rulings.

To view these changes, the Department refers the reader to the following revisions contained within the revised publication on AIS #4622:

## Agricultural Impact Statement Recommendations: Recommendations to the Public Service Commission

The Department removed recommendation 2 and 3 from page 14:

2. Based upon the scale of the project, affecting several hundred acres of farmland, of landowners citing concerns of ongoing crop yield loss issues and restoration issues related to an existing natural gas pipeline on farmland posed to be impacted, the Department recommends that for the duration of project construction, the PSC require WE-GO to hire an Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM) and/or an Independent Agricultural Monitor (IAM), or an individual with the capacity for both an IEM and IAM, but that only has stop-work authority when acting in the capacity of the IEM. If this recommendation is approved by the PSC, the IEM/IAM should be hired in consultation with and the approval of the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR and all reports generated by IEM/IAM should be shared with the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR.

3. If PSC determines an IAM should be hired by WE-GO, the Department suggests that PSC require that the IAM is hired in consultation with and the approval of the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR and all reports generated by IEM/IAM should be shared with the



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PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR. Furthermore, the IAM should be required to complete the Department's standard Agricultural Monitoring Form for Pipeline Projects (ARM-LWR-543) as seen in Appendix H and submit said monitoring forms to DATCP weekly or a timeframe that is consulted with and approved by PSC, DATCP and WisDNR. If WE-GO has an applicable form that shares information that is requested on form ARM-LWR-543, then that can be used in lieu of ARM-LWR-543.

Recommendation 2 now reads: "WE-GO confirmed in personal communication to DATCP (Joel Brieske, January 2025) that WE-GO will hire at least one Agricultural Inspector (AI) for the Project. DATCP recommends that the PSC require all reports generated by the AI should be shared with the PSC, DATCP, and DNR. Furthermore, the potential AI should be required to complete DATCP's standard Agricultural Monitoring Form for Pipeline Projects (ARM-LWR-543) as seen in Appendix H and submit said monitoring forms to DATCP weekly or a timeframe that is consulted with and approved by PSC, DATCP and DNR. If WE-GO has an applicable form that shares information that is requested on form ARM-LWR-543, then that can be used in lieu of ARM-LWR-543."

## Section 5.1 Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM)

The Department removed the following sentences on page 54: "If approved by the PSC, the Department recommends WE-GO be required to hire an IEM for the duration of the construction of Project. The IEM should be hired in consultation with and the approval of the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR and all reports generated by IEM should be shared with the PSC, DATCP, and WisDNR."

The paragraph on page 54 now reads: "However, the Department believes the potential magnitude of environmental impacts do not constitute the need for an IEM."

## Section 5.2: Agricultural Inspector (AI) & Independent Agricultural Monitor (IAM)

The Department removed the following sentence on page 55: "*Regardless of the route selected, the proposed Project will impact several hundred acres of agricultural land and the Department recommends that the PSC require WE-GO to hire an IAM for the duration of Project construction.*"

The paragraph on page 55 now reads: "WE-GO plans to hire an experienced Agricultural Inspector to work with farmers in the near future and through negotiations, construct ruction and restoration. Absent an IAM, the Agricultural Inspect hired or selected by the WE-GO will have the ability to assist impacted agricultural landowners and help mitigate the potential agricultural impacts from the Project."

The Department removed the following paragraph from page 55 and 56: "Should the PSC require an IAM for the Construction Project, the Department recommends the IAM complete the



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Department's standard Agricultural Monitoring Form for Pipeline Projects (ARM-LWR-543) in Appendix H. For the Department to maintain constant review of Construction Project activities occurring on agricultural lands, the IAM should document daily observations of construction activities on agricultural land only. The IAM should send the Department an updated form weekly."

The paragraph on page 55 and 56 now reads: "The Department recommends the PSC require WE-GO's hired AI to complete the Department's standard Agricultural Monitoring Form for Pipeline Projects (ARM-LWR-543) in Appendix H. For the Department to maintain constant review of Construction Project activities occurring on agricultural lands, the IAM should document daily observations of construction activities on agricultural land only. The IAM should send the Department an updated form weekly."