

Wisconsin Building Trades Council: Skilled trades celebrate USDA's green light to Nemadji Trail Energy Center project

Posted on Monday, Dec 18, 2023

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

SUPERIOR — On Friday, the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service [issued a Finding of No Significant Impact \(FONSI\)](#) for the Nemadji Trail Energy Center (NTEC) project. This long-awaited decision marks a crucial milestone in advancing sustainable energy solutions for Wisconsin and underscores the commitment to fostering economic growth in the region.

"This project is a game-changer for Northern Wisconsin. NTEC is not just about energy; it is a catalyst for economic growth that will ripple throughout our region," said Kyle Bukovich, President of the Northern Wisconsin Building and Construction Trades Council, "This project has been meticulously reviewed by energy professionals, state and federal regulators, and state courts and has received every possible regulatory approval. Now, we look forward to the skilled trades jobs NTEC creates providing stability and prosperity throughout our community."

At peak construction, the \$750 million flexible, low-emitting natural gas facility will generate 350 family-supporting jobs in the area, representing the largest private investment in Douglas County history. The project will also sustain approximately 20-25 permanent jobs, 150 indirect jobs, and an estimated \$2 million annually for state and local governments. A critical resource in Wisconsin's overall energy transition, this facility will help support the expansion of renewable energy and reduce dependency on fossil fuel and other legacy facilities.