

MVP

SUBJECT: 2023 Rule, as amended, Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), MVP-2022-02034-JLK

MVP

June 4, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Approved Jurisdictional Determination in accordance with the “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”; (88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023) as amended by the “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’; Conforming” (8 September 2023) ,¹ MVP-2022-02034-JLK [MFR 1 of 1]²

BACKGROUND. An Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) is a Corps document stating the presence or absence of waters of the United States on a parcel or a written statement and map identifying the limits of waters of the United States on a parcel. AJDs are clearly designated appealable actions and will include a basis of JD with the document.³ AJDs are case-specific and are typically made in response to a request. AJDs are valid for a period of five years unless new information warrants revision of the determination before the expiration date or a District Engineer has identified, after public notice and comment, that specific geographic areas with rapidly changing environmental conditions merit re-verification on a more frequent basis.⁴

On January 18, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Army (“the agencies”) published the “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States,’” 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023) (“2023 Rule”). On September 8, 2023, the agencies published the “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’; Conforming”, which amended the 2023 Rule to conform to the 2023 Supreme Court decision in *Sackett v. EPA*, 598 U.S., 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023) (“*Sackett*”).

This Memorandum for Record (MFR) constitutes the basis of jurisdiction for a Corps AJD as defined in 33 CFR §331.2. For the purposes of this AJD, we have relied on Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA),⁵ the 2023 Rule as amended,

¹ While the Revised Definition of “Waters of the United States”; Conforming had no effect on some categories of waters covered under the CWA, and no effect on any waters covered under RHA, all categories are included in this Memorandum for Record for efficiency.

² When documenting aquatic resources within the review area that are jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act (CWA), use an additional MFR and group the aquatic resources on each MFR based on the TNW, the territorial seas, or interstate water that they are connected to. Be sure to provide an identifier to indicate when there are multiple MFRs associated with a single AJD request (i.e., number them 1, 2, 3, etc.).

³ 33 CFR 331.2.

⁴ Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02.

⁵ USACE has authority under both Section 9 and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 but for convenience, in this MFR, jurisdiction under RHA will be referred to as Section 10.

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as well as other applicable guidance, relevant case law, and longstanding practice in evaluating jurisdiction.

1. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS.

- a. Provide a list of each individual feature within the review area and the jurisdictional status of each one (i.e., identify whether each feature is/is not a water of the United States and/or a navigable water of the United States).

Name of Aquatic Resource	JD or Non-JD	Section 404/Section 10
Wetland w27	Non-Jurisdictional	None

2. REFERENCES.

- a. "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States,'" 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023) ("2023 Rule")
- b. "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States'; Conforming" 88 FR 61964 (September 8, 2023))
- c. *Sackett v. EPA*, 598 U.S. 651, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023)

3. REVIEW AREA.

- a. Project Area Size (in acres): 0.18
- b. Location Description: The project/review area is located in Section 25, Township 22N, Range 24E, Kewaunee County, Wisconsin.
- c. Center Coordinates of the Project Site (in decimal degrees)
Latitude: 44.3399002 Longitude: -87.537201
- d. Nearest City or Town: Kewaunee
- e. County: Kewaunee
- f. State: Wisconsin
- g. Other associated Jurisdictional Determinations (including outcomes):

4. NEAREST TRADITIONAL NAVIGABLE WATER (TNW), THE TERRITORIAL SEAS, OR INTERSTATE WATER TO WHICH THE AQUATIC RESOURCE IS CONNECTED. NA

5. FLOWPATH FROM THE SUBJECT AQUATIC RESOURCES TO A TNW, THE TERRITORIAL SEAS, OR INTERSTATE WATER. NA

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6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS⁶: Describe aquatic resources or other features within the review area determined to be jurisdictional in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Include the size of each aquatic resource or other feature within the review area and how it was determined to be jurisdictional in accordance with Section 10.⁷
N/A
7. SECTION 404 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS: Describe the aquatic resources within the review area that were found to meet the definition of waters of the United States in accordance with the 2023 Rule as amended, consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett*. List each aquatic resource separately, by name, consistent with the naming convention used in section 1, above. Include a rationale for each aquatic resource, supporting that the aquatic resource meets the relevant category of "waters of the United States" in the 2023 Rule as amended. The rationale should also include a written description of, or reference to a map in the administrative record that shows, the lateral limits of jurisdiction for each aquatic resource, including how that limit was determined, and incorporate relevant references used. Include the size of each aquatic resource in acres or linear feet and attach and reference related figures as needed. NA
 - a. Traditional Navigable Waters (TNWs) (a)(1)(i): N/A
 - b. The Territorial Seas (a)(1)(ii): N/A
 - c. Interstate Waters (a)(1)(iii): N/A
 - d. Impoundments (a)(2): N/A
 - e. Tributaries (a)(3): N/A
 - f. Adjacent Wetlands (a)(4): N/A
 - g. Additional Waters (a)(5): N/A

⁶ 33 CFR 329.9(a) A waterbody which was navigable in its natural or improved state, or which was susceptible of reasonable improvement (as discussed in § 329.8(b) of this part) retains its character as "navigable in law" even though it is not presently used for commerce, or is presently incapable of such use because of changed conditions or the presence of obstructions.

⁷ This MFR is not to be used to make a report of findings to support a determination that the water is a navigable water of the United States. The district must follow the procedures outlined in 33 CFR part 329.14 to make a determination that water is a navigable water of the United States subject to Section 10 of the RHA.

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8. NON-JURISDICTIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES AND FEATURES

- a. Describe aquatic resources and other features within the review area identified in the 2023 Rule as amended as not “waters of the United States” even where they otherwise meet the terms of paragraphs (a)(2) through (5). Include the type of excluded aquatic resource or feature, the size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to meet one of the exclusions listed in 33 CFR 328.3(b).⁸

Wetland w27 is a linear feature running east to west with an industrial area immediately north, a roadway to the west, an open grassy area to the south and east, and an additional industrial area further south. Review of historical aerial photos show this ditch was constructed sometime before 2000 to provide drainage for industrial operations. Further review of historical aerial photos demonstrates a lack of wet signatures and other wetland indicators (standing water, repeated vegetation stress, etc.) in the location of the ditch, suggesting this area was uplands prior to construction. Additionally, the Wisconsin Surface Water Data Viewer shows no mapped wetlands or hydric soils within the footprint of Wetland w27, aerial photos show there is no relatively permanent flow, and the delineation report shows the feature does not drain other waters. Based on this information, Wetland w27 is not jurisdictional under exclusion (b)(3) of the 2023 Revised Definition of “Waters of the United States”: confirming 88 FR 61964 Final Rule.

- b. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area that were determined to be non-jurisdictional because they do not meet one or more categories of waters of the United States under the 2023 Rule as amended (e.g., tributaries that are non-relatively permanent waters; non-tidal wetlands that do not have a continuous surface connection to a jurisdictional water).
9. DATA SOURCES. List sources of data/information used in making determination. Include titles and dates of sources used and ensure that information referenced is available in the administrative record.
 - a. Office evaluation conducted on June 2, 2025.
 - b. National Regulatory Viewer-Lidar Data and Google Earth Pro assessed June 2, 2025.
 - c. Kewaunee County, WI GIS (Historical Aerial Photos)

⁸ 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023)

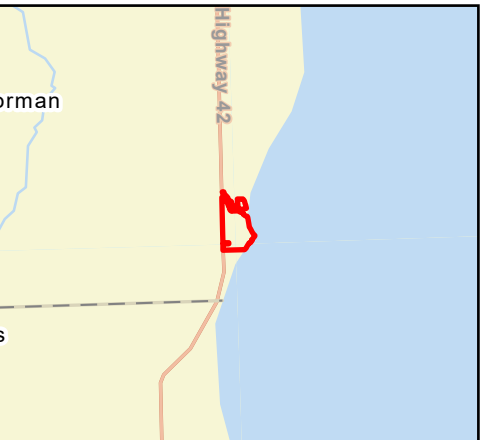
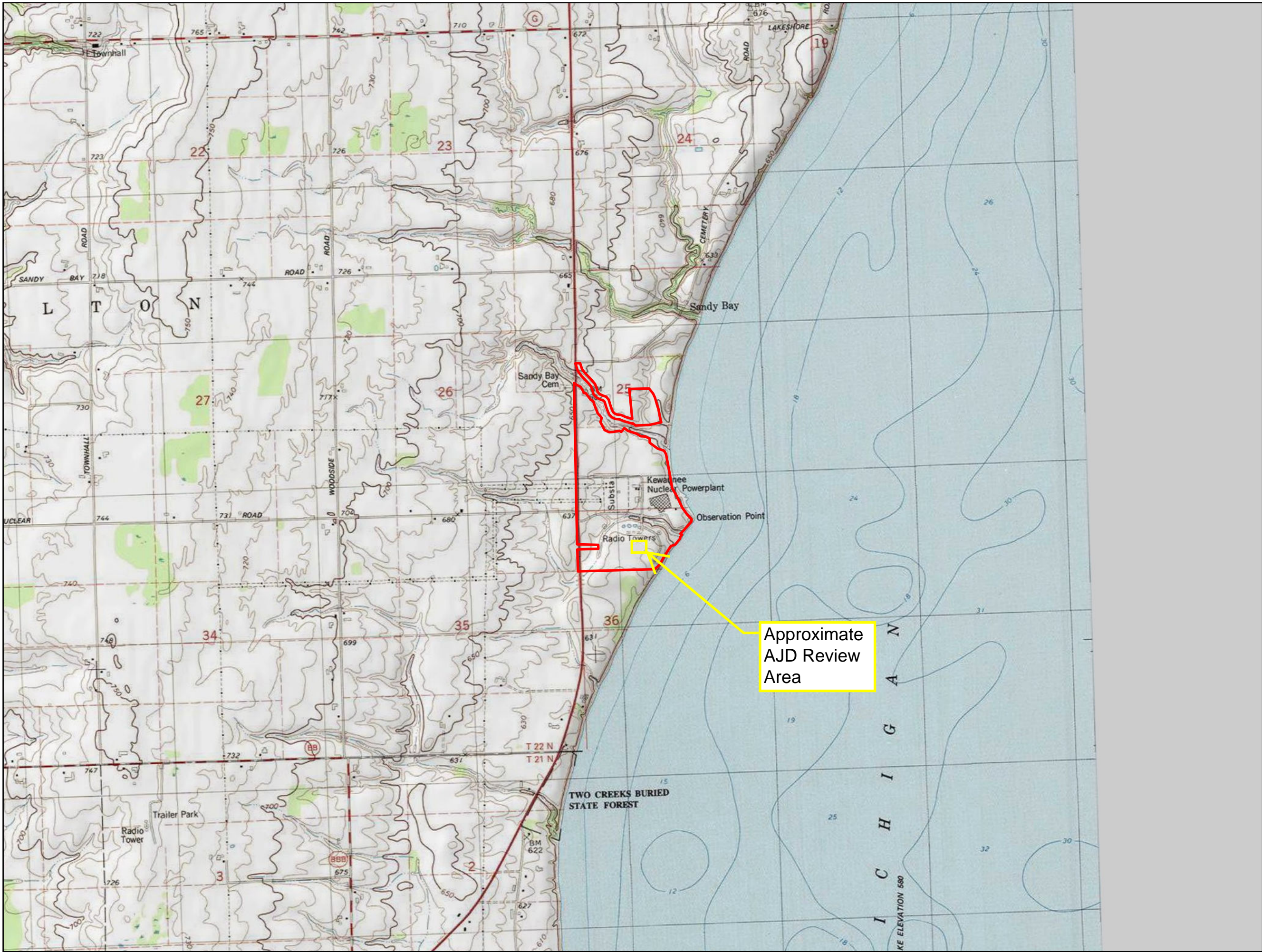
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- d. Kewaunee Power Station, Kewaunee County, Wetland Delineation Report provided by Merjent dated November 2024.

10. OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION. NA

11. NOTE: The structure and format of this MFR were developed in coordination with the EPA and Department of the Army. The MFR's structure and format may be subject to future modification or may be rescinded as needed to implement additional guidance from the agencies; however, the approved jurisdictional determination described herein is a final agency action.



0 1,000 2,000 Feet
1 inch = 2,000 feet

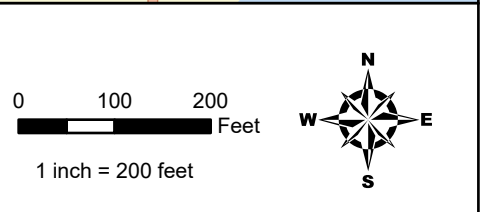
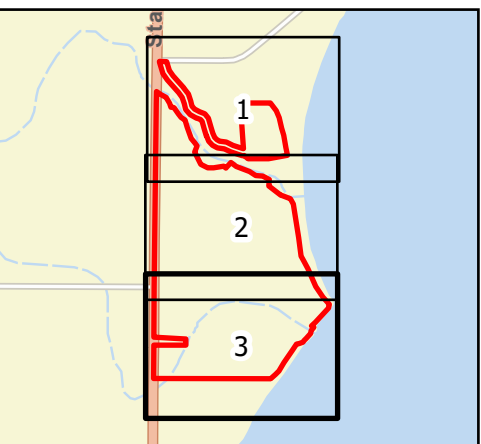


Project Area

Figure 2
Topographic Map
Kewaunee Power Station
Kewaunee County, Wisconsin



For Environmental Review Purposes Only



- Project Area
- Photo Point
- Stream Point
- Upland Data Point
- Wetland Data Point
- Culvert Point
- Intermediate Contour
- Index Contour
- Waterway (WDNR 24k)
- Delineated Waterway
- Delineated Wetland
 - Fresh (Wet) Meadow
 - Hardwood Swamp
 - Seasonally Flooded Basin
 - Shallow Marsh
 - Shallow, Open Water Communities
 - Shrub-Carr

Imagery: Maxar Technologies, October 2021

Proposed Project Narrative

Kewaunee Power Station (KPS) is located on the shore of Lake Michigan in the Town of Carlton, Kewaunee County. The plant is a single-unit, 598-megawatt pressurized water reactor, which operated from 1974 to 2013 and subsequently placed in a SAFSTOR configuration following shutdown. Now, Kewaunee Solutions, Inc. (KS), a subsidiary of EnergySolutions LLC, is actively dismantling the site.

Much of the construction and demolition debris will be trucked offsite in closed-top containers for final disposal. This process will take several years and will require many truck trips and containers. Project management has determined that the current area used for container staging is not sized adequately for future needs and requires expansion to accommodate cost and schedule constraints.

Careful consideration of the expansion options resulted in only one feasible solution—to close the gap between two segments of the existing Container Staging Area (CSA), as seen in the overhead photograph below, highlighted in yellow.



KS is applying for an Artificial Wetland Exemption Determination to allow the construction of a gravel base at the highlighted area, giving the project the land area to properly stage the inventory of containers onsite.

The CSA is special because it is required by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to be enclosed by a locked fence, monitored by onsite security, and designated to stage containers filled with low level radioactive construction and demolition debris. The proposed expansion location will allow seamless integration with the current fenced area.