
CONSTRUCTION MONITOR MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, LLP (DEP) PERSON COUNTY PROJECT

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Person County Site Aerial Photograph

Source: Zachry Group - EPC Monthly Report - Person Unit 1 May – 2026 Report #11 to Duke Energy

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OCTOBER 2026 — MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION MONITORING REPORT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This October 2026 Construction Monitoring Report (CMR) has been prepared by E3 Consulting Services, LLC (E3) pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-33-195 and § 58-33-200 for the Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP) Person County natural gas combined cycle facility (the Project). E3 is a consultant to the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) as construction monitor under § 58-33-195 and serving as the independent construction analyst under § 58-33-200.

The Project is 2,730 megawatt (MW) natural gas combined cycle generating facility located in Person County, North Carolina consisting of two power blocks each of 1,365 MW electrical output. This CMR provides an update on E3's construction monitoring activities during October 2026 related to the Project's progress. E3's analysis is based on documents and responses to questions received from DEP on October 12, 2026, in response to the ORS request for information dated October 01, 2026, including documentation provided in the August 2026 engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractor's monthly project reports updated with actual progress through August 31, 2026. In addition, E3 participated in a joint meeting held on October 15, 2026, with ORS and DEP to discuss the Project status (October Construction Monitoring Joint Meeting). E3 and ORS staff performed a site visit on October 20, 2026, and met with DEP construction management staff and toured the Person County construction site accordingly.

On October 7, 2026, a Gas Turbine Generator for Unit 1 being transported by a third-party supplier to the Person County site was involved in a transportation incident in Caswell County, North Carolina. DEP has communicated to E3 and ORS that the logistics company, in coordination with local authorities, continues to develop and execute a recovery plan to safely remove the equipment from the highway. The extent of any equipment damage has not yet been established. DEP anticipates equipment removal to occur by mid-November. E3 will continue to monitor the resolution of this incident, the recovery of engineering progress, equipment delivery schedules, transmission interconnection requirements, and the adequacy of project contingencies.

DEP continues to report that the Project remains on schedule to achieve its contractual completion milestones and within the approved project budgets. Based on E3's review of the available project documentation, discussions with DEP management, and observations made during the site visit, construction activities for the Person County Project continue to progress. Civil construction activities for CC-1 remain ahead of plan, while engineering activities for both CC-1 and CC-2 require continued monitoring, particularly the mechanical engineering discipline.

2.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Project is a natural gas fired facility consisting of two - 2x1 configured combined cycle power blocks, Combined Cycle Block 1 (CC-1) and Combined Cycle Block 2 (CC-2), each with a total generating capacity of 1,365 MW. The 2x1 configuration consists of two 7HA.03 combustion turbine generators (CTG) with a heat recovery steam generator (HRSG) providing steam to a steam turbine generator (STG). The CTGs are capable of firing hydrogen as a future fuel source. The Project is to be constructed adjacent to an existing energy complex with water and transmission networks available. Zachry is the Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) Contractor for both units. General Electric Vernova (GEV) is the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) gas turbines, gas turbine generators, steam turbines, and steam turbine generators.

During the October Construction Monitoring Joint Meeting, DEP stated all necessary permits have been obtained to continue progressing the work. DEP is working with the EPC contractor to secure any remaining permits as each is required.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL, PERMIT AND COMPLIANCE STATUS

During the October Construction Monitoring Joint Meeting, DEP stated all necessary permits have been obtained to continue progressing the work. DEP is working with the EPC contractor to secure any remaining permits as each is required.

4.0 SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AND STATUS OF EPC CONTRACTOR

4.1 Engineering

The EPC contractor's August 2026 monthly progress report for CC-1 indicates the actual engineering progress has improved (66.5% complete versus planned 67.5%), and most engineering disciplines are ahead of planned progress. The engineering for CC-1 is meeting procurement and construction requirements but as noted herein, the mechanical engineering discipline is still behind plans for September. According to DEP, the EPC Contractor is maintaining focus on improving progress in this area. During the site visit, DEP stated that the delays in mechanical engineering are not impacting current construction and critical path activities.

The EPC contractor's August 2026 monthly progress report for CC-2 indicates engineering is not currently meeting the project plan (9.8% complete versus 13.9% planned). The CC-2 Engineering Progress is an area of focus and needs to be closely managed by the EPC Contractor to avoid delays to CC-2. During the site visit, DEP stated they are discussing with Zachry the engineering schedule and monitoring accordingly.

4.2 Procurement

DEP has procured all necessary major power block owner-furnished equipment (OFE) such as steam turbines, combustion gas turbines and their associated generators and transformers. The balance of plant equipment is provided by the EPC contractor and includes the heat recovery steam generators (HRSG), raw water intake, cooling towers, field erected tanks, ancillary buildings and other associated required equipment. Zachry is continuing to progress with these procurements and the required engineering for such. During the October Construction Monitoring Joint Meeting, DEP reported that both combustion gas turbines for CC-1 have arrived on site and are in their respective storage areas (see Photo 1 on Attachment B). The two combustion gas turbines for CC-2 are scheduled for delivery to the site in early 2027.

The procurement and award of the raw water intake structure subcontract remains an area of focus for DEP and the EPC contractor. During the October 20, 2026, site visit, DEP updated E3 and ORS that DEP and Zachry continue to evaluate the subcontract scope, pricing, and associated construction requirements. DEP continues to finalize the Raw Water Intake subcontracts to allow the execution of the raw water intake structure. However, DEP also reported that an interim arrangement is available to support initial commissioning activities should completion of the permanent intake facilities extend beyond the required commissioning dates.

E3 will continue to monitor the subcontract award, implementation of the interim arrangement, associated costs, and any potential impacts to commissioning and contractual completion milestones.

4.3 Construction

The Person County site continues to make construction progress. DEP stated during the October Construction Monitoring Joint Meeting that the key civil site works continue to progress ahead of plan. During the site visit E3 noted excavations for the CC-2 areas have progressed significantly and E3 confirmed, the CC-1 steam turbine and gas turbine base mat concrete foundations are complete and pedestals for the steam turbine “tabletop” are being constructed currently (see Photo 2 on attachment B).

The site civil subcontractor is continuing necessary site excavations, blasting, structural backfill and underground utility installations ahead of the approved schedule requirements. DEP, Zachry and other site subcontractors are coordinating their work efforts and there are no reported significant issues to date. Site laydown, planning and coordination efforts, for both CC-1 and CC-2 equipment, in support of future material and equipment deliveries, are reported to be continuing to progress.

The site visit did not identify any concerning conditions or new issues not already being pursued by DEP and the EPC contractor. Also noted, during the site visit on October 20th,

the overall site logistics are well organized and the safety aspects for machinery and personnel are being managed to current high standards of the construction industry.

5.0 INTERCONNECTION STATUS (WORK OUTSIDE OF EPC CONTRACT)

5.1 Electrical Interconnection Status

DEP reported that construction activities associated with the transmission switchyard are progressing and that the related engineering and design activities continue without significant reported conflicts.

DEP has submitted a provisional service request for an additional 89 MW of network capacity to support CC-1 requirements. Based on the August 2026 project documentation, certain transmission line upgrades identified through the Definitive Interconnection System Impact Study (DISIS) are currently scheduled for completion in June 2029, after the planned CC-1 commercial operation date in December 2028.

E3 notes that the timing of required network transmission upgrades represents a potential schedule and operational risk requiring continued monitoring. E3 will evaluate the status of the provisional service arrangements, the completion schedule for the required transmission upgrades, and any potential impacts on the planned commissioning and commercial operation dates as additional information becomes available.

5.2 Water Supply and Discharge Status

The intake design and contractor procurement process is on-going, and the construction is to be further explored in next CMR for any issues and associated delays.

5.3 Gas Supply Status

The selected gas pipeline Owner, Enbridge, mobilized their contractor in August 2026. Design is reported complete and construction activities are on-going. The construction program remains on schedule as reported by DEP.

6.0 BUDGET REVIEW

During the October Construction Monitoring Joint Meeting, DEP stated the Project budget is consistent with the budget provided during the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) hearing. DEP reported that some contingencies have been utilized for various required EPC contract change orders and tariff impacts from suppliers of the OFE. DEP stated during the October Construction Monitoring Joint Meeting, financial impacts to date are being managed within the contingency portion of the project budgets for both CC-1 and CC-2.

7.0 SCHEDULE

7.1 Schedule Narrative

For CC-1, DEP reports that the EPC contractor submitted the Project baseline schedule, and the initial review is complete. Final approval of the baseline schedule by DEP has not been indicated to E3 and further confirmation from DEP is still required. E3 will continue to closely monitor mechanical engineering progress and any impact to procurement and construction activities. Notwithstanding the potential impact (if any) from the CC-1 gas turbine generator transportation incident to the completion dates, current forecast completion dates meet project commitments. The current critical path is thru HRSG piping delivery and installation sequencing and then the tertiary path runs thru the steam turbine installation. The current critical path floats noted herein, are less than seven days to the project target schedule, there remains considerable float available to remedy these critical paths to the contractual schedule.

For CC-2, DEP reports the EPC contractor is expected to submit the Project baseline schedule in December 2026, and DEP is targeting final approval in Q2 2027. The current delays in engineering deliverables supporting procurement and construction activities will be closely monitored in future reporting months and associated with remedial actions to bring back to schedule requirements. Site civil works for CC-2 have commenced and are tracking to project requirements.

7.2 Milestone Review

The following table shows the key milestone dates for the Project from the CPCN testimonies by DEP.

Table 1
Key Milestones for Person Combined Cycle Block 1 (CC-1)
and Combined Cycle Block 2 (CC-2)

Event	CC-1 Date	CC-2 Date
Award CTG Contract	Completed	Completed
Receive CPCN ruling	Completed	Completed
Obtain Air Permit	Completed	Completed
Award EPC Contract	Completed	Completed
Begin Site Works	Completed	Completed
Natural Gas Available	Q3 2027	Q3 2028
Transmission Backfeed	Q4 2027	Q3 2028
Commissioning and Testing	Q2 2028	Q2 2029
Substantial Completion & Commercial Operation	Q4 2028	Q4 2029
Final Completion	Q1 2029	Q2 2030

ATTACHMENT A – REPORT ACRONYMS

The following table shows the acronyms used in this CMR and the definition for each.

Table 2
Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
CC-1	Combined Cycle Block 1
CC-2	Combined Cycle Block 2
CMR	Construction Monitoring Report
CPCN	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
CTG	Combustion Turbine Generator
DEP	Duke Energy Progress, LLC
DISIS	Definitive Interconnection System Impact Study
E3	E3 Consulting Services, LLC
EPC	Engineering, Procurement and Construction
GEV	GE Vernova
GT	Gas Turbine
HRSG	Heat Recovery Steam Generator
MW	Megawatt
ORS	South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff
OFE	Owner Furnished Equipment
Q1	First Quarter
Q2	Second Quarter
Q3	Third Quarter
Q4	Fourth Quarter
STG	Steam Turbine Generator

ATTACHMENT B – SITE PHOTOS



Photo 1: CC-1 gas turbines in site storage area

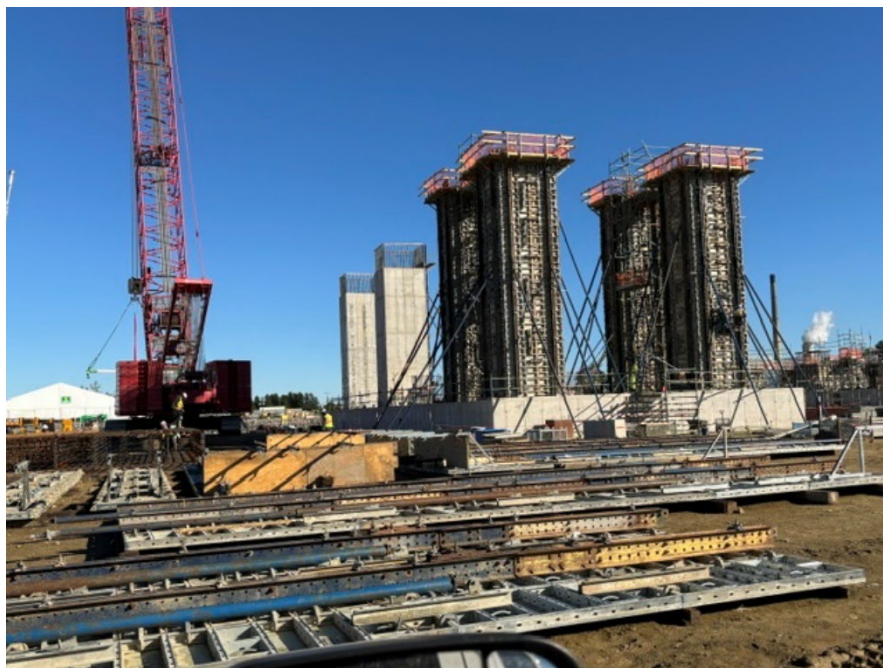


Photo 2: CC-1 Steam Turbine Tabletop Columns