

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Regional Office

ACTION: Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has released an Environmental Assessment (EA) dated March 2026 for the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin (Tribe) Kenosha Casino and Fee-to-Trust Project. The EA has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 United States Code §4321 et seq.), the DOI NEPA Interim Final Rulemaking 7-2025 (DOI NEPA Final Rulemaking 2-2026, 43 CFR Part 46 is the current governing regulation), 43 CFR Part 46; and Executive Order 14154, Unleashing American Energy (Jan 20, 2025), and assesses the environmental impacts that could result from the acquisition by the BIA of approximately 59 acres in the City of Kenosha, Kenosha County, Wisconsin (Project Site) into federal trust status for the benefit of the Tribe under Section 5 of the Indian Reorganization Act, 25 U.S.C. § 5108, and issuance of a Two-Part Determination by the Secretary of the Interior under Section 20 of Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, 25 U.S.C. § 2719. (Proposed Action). Once in trust, the Tribe proposes land use planning and development of the Project Site for a casino, hotel, and associated amenities and infrastructure on the Project Site (Proposed Project).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to facilitate tribal self-sufficiency, self-determination, and economic development, thus satisfying both the Department of the Interior's (Department) land acquisition policy as articulated in the Department's trust land regulations at 25 CFR Part 151. The Department's authority to act on the Tribe's application is governed by the Department's regulations at 25 CFR Part 151. The BIA serves as the Lead Agency for NEPA compliance and will use the EA to determine if the Proposed Action would result in significant adverse effects to the environment. Public comments will be considered by the BIA, and either a Finding of No Significant Impact will be prepared or additional environmental analysis will be conducted. After the NEPA process is complete, the BIA may issue a determination on the Proposed Action.

DATES: The public comment period for the EA will begin on March 13, 2026 and end on April 12, 2026 (30 days after the initial date). Written comments should be emailed to Chelsa.Johnson@bia.gov or mailed to the following address by end of day April 12, 2026. The EA is available for public review online at: <https://menominee-kenosha-ea.com>

ADDRESS: Comments for the EA should be addressed to:
Chelsa Johnson, Branch Chief and Regional Environmental Scientist (Acting)
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Regional Office
Norman Pointe II Building
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Chelsa Johnson, Division of Environmental & Cultural Resources Management (DECRM) Branch Chief and Regional Environmental Scientist (Acting), Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Regional Office, at 612.725.4597 or by email at Chelsa.Johnson@bia.gov.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: The Project Site is located west of Interstate 94 (I-94) in the City of Kenosha, Wisconsin. The Project Site consists of four parcels located directly south of 60th Street, north of 75th Street, and west of I-94. Existing land uses near the Project Site include residential areas, agriculture, commercial uses and undeveloped grassland.

Director,
Bureau of Indian Affairs – Midwest Region

Date