

PUBLIC VERSION

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EXHIBIT 10

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF SHANNON JENKINS

LA Public Service Commission

ON BEHALF OF CLECO POWER LLC

REDACTED TO OMIT CONFIDENTIAL,
COMPETITIVELY SENSITIVE, TRADE SECRET,
AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION PURSUANT
TO RULE 12.1 OF THE COMMISSION'S
RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

BEFORE THE
LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

EX PARTE: APPLICATION OF	)	
CLECO POWER LLC FOR	)	
AUTHORIZATION OF: (I) SITE	)	
SPECIFIC CONTRACT FOR LARGE	)	
LOAD CUSTOMER;	)	
(II) BRIDGE CAPACITY CONTRACT;	)	
(III) CONSTRUCTION OF NEW	)	DOCKET NO. U-_____
TRANSMISSION	)	
INTERCONNECTION;	)	
(IV) CONSTRUCTION OF NEW	)	
GENERATION; (V) ASSOCIATED	)	
WAIVERS; AND (VI) EXPEDITED	)	
TREATMENT.	)	

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

SHANNON JENKINS

ON BEHALF OF

CLECO POWER LLC

JULY 1, 2026

**CLECO POWER LLC
DIRECT TESTIMONY OF SHANNON JENKINS
LPSC DOCKET NO. U-_____**

EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION
Exhibit SJ-1	Single Line Diagram of Proposed Transmission Facilities

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I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Q1: PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, OCCUPATION, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A: My name is Shannon Jenkins. I am the Vice President – Engineering and Project Management for Cleco Power LLC (“Cleco Power” or the “Company”). My business address is 2030 Donahue Ferry Road, Pineville, Louisiana, 71360.

Q2: PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR JOB RESPONSIBILITIES.

A: I provide leadership and oversight for the execution of major capital projects at Cleco Power. My responsibilities include ensuring proper project management governance and controls are implemented to effectively manage scope, budget, schedule, and risk for substantial capital investments. Additionally, my team oversees transmission design, protection engineering, and transmission maintenance for Cleco Power.

Q3: PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL HISTORY.

A: I received a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering in 1992 from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana. That same year, I accepted a position at Cleco Power as an associate engineer in their Distribution Standards department. Since that time and over the past 34 years, I have served in various roles including Manager – Engineering Services, Manager – GIS Services, Manager – Transmission Protection & Apparatus, Director – Project Governance & Controls, and Director – Engineering & Project Management before my current role. In addition, I have served on several strategic initiatives for the Company including serving as Project Manager for the Dolet Hills power plant retirement and Project Manager for the sale of Cleco Cajun LLC.

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**Q4: HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (“LPSC” OR THE
“COMMISSION”)?**

A: No, I have not.

Q5: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A: My testimony supports the Company’s application (the “Application”) in this proceeding. The Application seeks, among other things, the approval of an Electric Service Agreement (“ESA”) that is a Site Specific Contract and related agreements with Applied Digital Corporation (the “Customer”); approval to enter into a capacity agreement with Tenaska Frontier Partners, Ltd. (the “Capacity Agreement”); approval of or exemption for construction of transmission interconnection infrastructure to serve a new \$3.6 billion hyperscale data center to be developed by Applied Digital Corporation (the “Customer”) in Rapides Parish, Louisiana (the “Project”);¹ and approval of the Company’s construction of new generation infrastructure to serve Cleco Power’s existing and future customer load. Cleco Power’s Application describes its prayers for relief; however, my direct testimony will focus on Cleco Power’s transmission-related needs to interconnect and reliably serve the Project. Specifically, I will provide an overview of Cleco Power’s plan to construct the transmission and related facilities necessary to interconnect and serve the Project, as well as the associated estimated costs and construction timeline. Company witness Christopher Thibodeaux discusses Cleco Power’s transmission system more generally, including a

¹ See Louisiana Economic Development, *Central Louisiana Secures \$3.6 Billion Applied Digital AI Factory Campus* (May 26, 2026); <https://www.opportunitylouisiana.gov/news/central-louisiana-secures-3-6-billion-applied-digital-ai-factory-campus>.

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1 discussion of transmission planning, the role of the Midcontinent Independent System
2 Operator, Inc. ("MISO"), and how MISO's processes relate to the Company's plan to
3 interconnect and serve the Project. Mr. Thibodeaux also addresses the Company's proposal
4 to construct a new generator to serve Cleco Power's customers and related MISO and
5 transmission planning matters.

6 **II. PROJECT OVERVIEW**

7 **Q6: PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT AND HOW CLECO**
8 **POWER PLANS TO SERVE THE PROJECT.**

9 **A:** The Project is a new, hyperscale data center being constructed by the Customer in Rapides
10 Parish, Louisiana. The Project broke ground in early 2026, is expected to begin taking
11 service for construction power later this year and permanent service in mid-2027, and ramp
12 up to full capacity in 2028. To reliably serve the Project, Cleco Power will reconductor the
13 existing 230 kV Rodemacher-to-Rapides transmission line and cut this line to construct
14 two (2) new 0.6-mile transmission lines in and out of a new 230 kV substation (the
15 "Peninsula Substation") on the Customer's premises in Rapides Parish, Louisiana. Cleco
16 Power will also add an additional terminal to the 230 kV Rodemacher Substation located
17 at the Brame Energy Center and construct a new 2.4-mile 230 kV transmission line to the
18 Peninsula Substation.

19 **Q7: HAVE YOU PROVIDED A SINGLE LINE DIAGRAM OF THE PROPOSED**
20 **TRANSMISSION FACILITIES?**

21 **A:** Yes. Please see Exhibit SJ-1 for a single line diagram of the proposed transmission
22 facilities to be developed to interconnect and serve the Project. Specific structure designs
23 will depend on soil conditions, wind loading requirements, and other design requirements.

**Q8: WHAT FACILITIES ARE NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT'S
CONSTRUCTION AND COMMISSIONING?**

A: Initial construction power will be provided from an existing 13.2 kV distribution line located on the Customer's property. In addition, a second 34.5 kV distribution line will be extended approximately 1.2 miles to the Customer's premises to support additional construction power needs until Phase 1 construction of the Peninsula 230 kV to 34.5 kV Substation is completed and energized, which is expected to occur in early 2027. The Peninsula Substation will then serve as the primary power source for commissioning and permanent service while the Project is ramping up to full capacity in 2028.

III. TRANSMISSION FACILITIES

**Q9: PLEASE PROVIDE A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED
TRANSMISSION FACILITIES NECESSARY TO INTERCONNECT AND SERVE
THE PROJECT.**

A: Below is a summary of the substation, point of delivery projects, and other upgrades that will be required to meet the Customer's power requirements and reliably serve the Project (collectively, the "Project Transmission Upgrades"):

- **Peninsula Substation:** The Customer's premises are located approximately 2.5 miles from Cleco Power's Rodemacher Substation and are adjacent to the existing Rodemacher-to-Rapides 230 kV transmission line. Cleco Power will construct the new Peninsula Substation on the Customer's premises. The substation will include a breaker-and-a-half 230 kV station and three 230 kV – 34.5 kV, 250 MVA power transformers to serve the Project. Additionally, the Company will install two (2) 28.8 MVAR capacitor banks for voltage support.

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- 1 • **Rodemacher-to-Peninsula 230 kV Transmission Line #1:** Cleco Power's existing
2 Rodemacher-to-Rapides 230 kV line will be cut into and out of the new Peninsula
3 Substation, creating two lines: (i) a Rodemacher-to-Peninsula transmission line, and
4 (ii) a Peninsula-to-Rapides transmission line. The Rodemacher-to-Peninsula
5 transmission line will be rebuilt to increase line capacity.
- 6 • **Peninsula-to-Rapides 230 kV Transmission Line:** The Peninsula-to-Rapides
7 transmission line will be created by cutting into the existing Rodemacher-to-Rapides
8 transmission line at the Peninsula Substation, and this transmission line will be rebuilt
9 to increase line capacity.
- 10 • **Rodemacher Substation:** Cleco Power will upgrade equipment and relaying and add
11 a new terminal to support the Rodemacher-to-Peninsula 230 kV Transmission Line #2.
- 12 • **Rodemacher-to-Peninsula 230 kV Transmission Line #2:** Cleco Power will
13 construct a second 2.4-mile, 230 kV transmission line between the Rodemacher and
14 Peninsula Substations, along with the additional terminal at the Rodemacher
15 Substation.
- 16 • **Rapides Substation:** Cleco Power will install equipment and relaying upgrades at the
17 Rapides Substation.

18 **Q10: WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE**
19 **NEEDED TO SERVE THE PROJECT?**

20 **A:** An estimated timeline with milestones for completion of the Project Transmission
21 Upgrades is shown in Table 1, below.

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1

Table 1. Schedule Milestones.

Activity/Milestone	Target Start	Target Finish
Stage 1 - Start Project Scope Development	3/6/2025	1/1/2026
Stage 2 - Project Scope Finalized	1/1/2026	5/7/2026
Execute ESA with the Data Center Customer		4/17/2026
Stage 3 - Detailed Design and Material Procurement	5/7/2026	3/1/2027
Line Routing and Right of Way Acquisition		4/30/2026
Issue Purchase Orders for Engineering, Procurement, and Construction & Remaining Long Lead Equipment		5/31/2026
Stage 4- Construction	8/1/2026	3/31/2029
Phase 1 New Peninsula Substation Construction	8/1/2026	3/1/2027
Rodemacher-to-Peninsula Line Rebuild	11/9/2026	2/8/2027
Peninsula-to-Rapides Line Rebuild	11/9/2026	5/18/2027
New Rodemacher-to-Peninsula Line Construction	1/4/2027	8/1/2027
Peninsula Phase 2 Substation Expansion	3/1/2027	8/1/2027
Rodemacher and Rapides Substation Modifications	1/2/2026	10/4/2027
Peninsula Phase 3 Substation Expansion	8/1/2027	4/1/2029
In-Service Dates		
Phase 1 -- Initial Energization		3/1/2027
Phase 2 -- Initial Energization		8/1/2027
Phase 3		4/1/2029
Stage 5 - Project Close-out	4/1/2029	10/31/2029

2 **Q11: WHAT IS THE TOTAL PROJECTED COST FOR THE PROJECT**
3 **TRANSMISSION UPGRADES?**

4 **A:** Based upon the currently available estimate, the total projected cost of the proposed Project
5 Transmission Upgrades is [REDACTED], excluding tax gross-up. Company witness
6 Christina C. McDowell discusses the tax gross-up issue in more detail. The cost estimate
7 is considered a Class 3 engineering estimate and was developed using preliminary design
8 specifications, defined scopes of work, and current vendor and construction cost
9 information available at this stage of project development.

10 **Q12: WILL THE CUSTOMER FUND THE COSTS FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT**
11 **TRANSMISSION UPGRADES?**

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A: Yes. The Customer will pay all costs associated with the proposed Project Transmission Upgrades through Contribution in Aid of Construction (“CIAC”) payments. As discussed further by Company witnesses Vincent Sipowicz and Austin Finn, under the Electric Service Agreement, dated April 17, 2026 (the “ESA”), the Customer is required to make milestone-based CIAC payments corresponding to the development and construction of the transmission facilities, such that Cleco Power’s investment is fully recovered from the Customer and does not assign any cost responsibility to other customers or users of the Company’s transmission system.

Q13: PLEASE PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF THE ESTIMATED COST FOR THE MAJOR COMPONENTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT TRANSMISSION UPGRADES.

A: Please see Table 2, below, for a highly sensitive protected materials (“HSPM”) summary of the latest estimate of the major components of the proposed Project Transmission Upgrades. As noted above, the Customer is responsible for paying for all costs detailed below via CIAC payments.

Table 2 (HSPM). Transmission Cost Breakdown.

Major Component	Cost Estimate (\$M)
Peninsula Substation, three 230 kV customer source terminals, three customer load terminals, and two (2) 28.8 MVAR capacitor banks	██████
Rodemacher-to-Peninsula #1, Rodemacher-to-Peninsula #2, and Peninsula-to-Rapides 230 kV transmission lines	██████
Rodemacher and Rapides 230 kV Substation upgrades	██████
Alfalfa distribution regulator station and distribution line upgrades	██████
Total Costs	██████

Q14: WILL CLECO POWER NEED TO ACQUIRE ANY RIGHT OF WAY (“ROW”) TO CONSTRUCT THE PROJECT TRANSMISSION UPGRADES?

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1 **A:** For the majority of new distribution and transmission facilities required to interconnect and
2 serve the Customer, Cleco Power will be utilizing existing ROW easements. The majority
3 of new easements required are for transmission facilities located on the Customer's
4 premises. Easements for these facilities are being granted by the Customer at no cost. The
5 only exceptions are a small easement required for a new distribution regulator station to
6 support construction power and a new 25.13-acre easement across an adjacent landowner's
7 property to extend new transmission lines from the Rodemacher and Rapides Substations
8 to the Peninsula Substation located on the Customer's premises.

9 **Q15: WHAT IS CLECO POWER'S PLAN FOR OBTAINING ANY NECESSARY ROW**
10 **FOR THE NEW TRANSMISSION FACILITIES AND TRANSMISSION LINES?**

11 **A:** Cleco Power has worked proactively with both impacted landowners to reach a mutually
12 agreeable outcome to acquire the necessary ROWs for the required distribution regulator
13 station and the 25.13-acre easement needed to extend new transmission lines into the
14 Peninsula Substation located on the Customer's premises. Cleco Power's acquisition cost
15 for the ROWs will be fully reimbursed by the Customer.

16 **Q16: WHAT PERMITTING WILL BE REQUIRED FOR CONSTRUCTING THE**
17 **PROPOSED PROJECT TRANSMISSION UPGRADES?**

18 **A:** The transmission facilities will be subject to permitting requirements from several
19 governmental authorities, including the Louisiana Department of Transportation and
20 Development, applicable parish planning authorities, and the U.S. Army Corps of
21 Engineers, including permits related to potential impacts on wetlands.
22

IV. CONCLUSION

Q17: PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.

A: The key points of my testimony are as follows:

- Cleco Power has developed a comprehensive scope and plan for constructing necessary transmission infrastructure and upgrades required to serve the Project.
- The necessary transmission upgrades will be fully funded by the Customer via CIAC payments, such that neither the Company's other customers nor other users of the Company's transmission system would be responsible for those costs.

Q18: WHAT WOULD BE THE POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES TO THE PROJECT IF THE COMMISSION WERE TO DELAY CONSTRUCTION OF THE INTERCONNECTION FACILITIES?

A: If the Commission were to decide that the interconnection facilities do not qualify for an exemption under Section VIII(f) of the Transmission Siting Order² and a certification proceeding then delayed their construction, the Project would be at risk of delay or may not proceed as planned. The Customer's development schedule is driven by firm speed-to-market requirements, and the proposed transmission facilities are necessary to reliably interconnect and serve the load within that timeframe. Failure to obtain timely approval could require the Customer to reconsider its investment decisions, including evaluating alternative locations where the necessary infrastructure can be delivered on

² LPSC General Order 09-10-2024 in Docket No. R-36199; *In re: Review and Possible Modification of the Commission's General Order dated October 10, 2013 Governing Transmission Certification and General Siting* (the "Transmission Siting Order"); Attachment A, at p. 9 Exemptions.

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1 schedule, which would jeopardize the Project and the associated economic development
2 benefits for Cleco Power's service area and the State of Louisiana.

3 **Q19: DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

4 **A:** Yes, at this time.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF RAPIDES

AFFIDAVIT

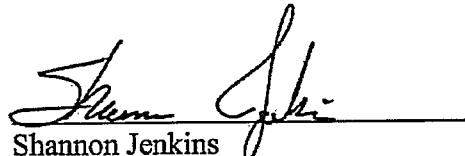
BE IT KNOWN, that before me, the undersigned Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified for the state and parish/county aforesaid, personally came and appeared:

SHANNON JENKINS

("Affiant"), who after being duly sworn did depose and say:

1. Affiant has prepared Direct Testimony on behalf of Cleco Power LLC in support of the Application of Cleco Power LLC for Authorization of: (I) Site Specific Contract for Large Load Customer; (II) Bridge Capacity Contract; (III) Construction of New Transmission Interconnection; (IV) Construction of New Generation; (V) Associated Waivers; and (VI) Expedited Treatment.

2. To the best of Affiant's knowledge, information, and belief, Affiant's Direct Testimony is true, accurate, and complete in all material respects as of the date of this Affidavit.


Shannon Jenkins
Cleco Power LLC
2030 Donahue Ferry Road
Pineville, LA 71360

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED
BEFORE ME, NOTARY PUBLIC,
THIS 29th DAY OF JUNE 2026.

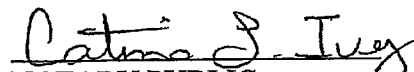

NOTARY PUBLIC
BAR ROLL/NOTARY ID NO.: 51231
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: at death



EXHIBIT SJ-1

SINGLE LINE DIAGRAM OF PROPOSED TRANSMISSION FACILITIES

