



# Public Notice

## Information Meeting and Request for Comments Notice of Intent Received: Summit Ridge Wind Project



### Nuclear Safety and Energy Facility Siting

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[www.oregon.gov/ENERGY](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY)

### Introduction

The Oregon Department of Energy (the Department) has received a Notice of Intent from LotusWorks – Summit Ridge I, LLC (LotusWorks), to file an application for the construction and operation of a wind-powered electric generating facility near The Dalles, Oregon. The proposed facility is called the Summit Ridge Wind Project and will include approximately 87 wind turbines and have a nominal generating capacity of about 200 megawatts (MW). According to Oregon law, LotusWorks must obtain approval (a Site Certificate) from the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (the Council) before building and operating the Summit Ridge Wind Project.

The Council's Site Certificate process is a consolidated permitting process that includes the review of applicable regulations of most other state agencies. The Department serves as staff to the Council and conducts the application process for site certificates. This notice explains how interested members of the public can provide comments to the Department during the review process.

Please note that the submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to file an application is only the very first step of the application process. The Department does not make any recommendations during this phase of the review process, nor does the Council make any decisions regarding the proposed facility.

We invite you to submit comments or attend the information meeting listed below if you have any questions or concerns. Representatives from the Department and LotusWorks will be on hand to explain the project and answer your questions. The information meeting is not a formal public hearing.

There will be additional chances to provide comments to the Council during the application review process, even if you do not have any comments about the NOI. The review process is explained on Page 2 of this notice.

### Date this Notice Issued:

June 11, 2009

### Comment Period:

June 11, 2009 through  
July 13, 2009 (5:00 p.m.)

### Informational Meeting:

**Date:** June 25, 2009  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

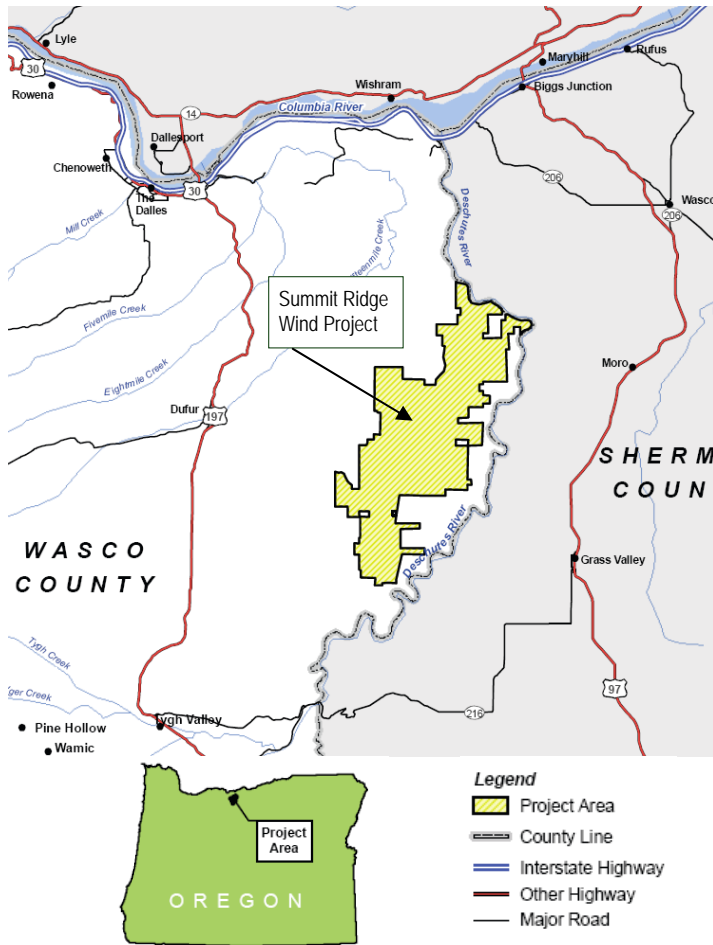
### Location:

Dufur High School  
802 NE 5th Street  
Dufur, Oregon 97021  
<http://www.dufur.k12.or.us/>

### Where is the proposed facility located?

The proposed Summit Ridge Wind Project will be located about ten miles east of Dufur, Oregon on approximately 25,500 acres of private land in Wasco County. Much of the project site is agricultural land used for dry land winter wheat production. The proposed facility would be built on land one to four miles west of the Deschutes River Canyon extending from approximately river mile 7 on the north end of the project boundary (Free Bridge Historical Site) to river mile 31 on the south end (Cedar Island).

The map on the next page shows the general project location. More detailed maps can be found in the Summit Ridge Notice of Intent that is posted on the Department's website at [www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/review.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/review.shtml)



**Description of Summit Ridge Wind Project**

The proposed Summit Ridge Wind Project includes approximately 87 wind turbines (2.3 MW each) with a total nominal generating capacity of 200 MW of electricity. The total height of the wind turbines will be approximately 430 feet when the rotor blades are in the vertical position. The “hub height” of the wind turbines will be 262 feet (80 meters), with a rotor diameter of 332 feet (101 meters). In addition to the wind turbines, the facility will include about 25 miles of new access roads, foundations, underground electrical collection systems, meteorological towers, and an operations and maintenance building.

The facility will also include a communication system, a substation, and interconnection facilities to tie into the electrical grid. LotusWorks expects to interconnect the Summit Ridge Wind Project to the Bonneville Power Administration’s (BPA) “Big Eddy to Maupin-Redmond” transmission line, located to the west of the project. The transmission feeder line will be an overhead 230 kV (kilovolt) line and will be approximately eight miles long.

**What is a Notice of Intent (NOI)?**

The NOI contains preliminary information about the proposed facility, its location, and its potential environmental and community impacts. The NOI also identifies federal, state, and local government permits needed for the facility, and provides the names and addresses of adjacent property owners. (You might have received this notice because you are on the list the applicant provided.) The applicant must also state how it intends to comply with Oregon’s land use standards, and must include other information required by Oregon law. LotusWorks has indicated in the NOI that it intends to satisfy the Council’s land use standard by seeking a Council determination of compliance with Wasco County’s land use standards.

The NOI is not the actual application to construct the facility, only a notice to the Department and the public that the applicant intends to submit an Application for a Site Certificate in the near future. The actual application contains much more detail than the NOI. As explained in the next section, an additional comment period is held when a complete application is filed with the Department.

**What happens next?**

After the NOI public comment period is complete, the Department and the applicant review and consider the comments received. The Department also reviews comments from other government agencies (city, county, state, federal, and tribal). Each agency identifies the agency’s requirements that apply to the facility, and any other issues of special concern. The Department uses the comments to prepare a “Project Order” for the applicant. The Project Order identifies specific information that the applicant must include in the Application for a Site Certificate. The time between the Notice of Intent and the Project Order represents Phase 1 in the review and approval process for a Site Certificate.

Phase 2 begins when the applicant submits a preliminary application containing the information required in the Project Order. LotusWorks anticipates submitting the preliminary application in August, 2009. The Department and other government agencies then begin the review of the preliminary application. The Department usually requests additional information from the applicant during this review phase. Phase 2 can last several months and ends when the Department determines that the application is complete.

Phase 3 begins after the Department files the complete application and sends another public notice inviting interested persons to comment on the application. The Department publishes the notice in a local newspaper and sends it to persons on the Department's mailing lists and to property owners listed in the application. The Department may hold another public information meeting during the application comment period. After the close of the comment period on the application, the Department reviews and prepares responses to the comments received and begins preparation of its recommendations to the Council.

Phase 4 begins when the Department issues a "Draft Proposed Order." The Draft Proposed Order includes proposed findings on each of the Council's standards. It is during this phase that the Department opens a public comment period and conducts a public hearing. You must provide oral or written comment during this phase if you want to preserve your right to participate in contested case proceedings or subsequent appeals of the Council's decision.

The Department's website describes the Council's site certificate review and approval process in much greater detail. The website also describes the standards the applicant must meet to obtain a Site Certificate, and the options the applicant has to comply with Oregon's land use standards. Please see the Department's website at [www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/process.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/process.shtml).

### **How do I get more information and review related documents?**

You can review and download documents about the Summit Ridge Wind Project, including the Notice of Intent, on the Department's web page at [www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/review.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/review.shtml) or at the Salem or Hermiston offices of the Oregon Department of Energy listed on the first page (please call ahead for an appointment). The Department has also sent this notice and a copy of the NOI to the locations listed below. Please call the library or check the websites below for operating hours:

#### **The Dalles-Wasco County Library**

722 Court Street  
The Dalles, Or 97058  
(541) 296-2815

Web: [www.ci.the-dalles.or.us/library.htm](http://www.ci.the-dalles.or.us/library.htm)

#### **Dufur School/Community Library**

802 NE 5th Street  
Dufur, OR 97021  
541-467-2509

Web:

[www.dufur.k12.or.us/Library/dufur\\_library\\_home.htm](http://www.dufur.k12.or.us/Library/dufur_library_home.htm)

You can also call, write, fax, or e-mail the Department's Project Officer for the proposed facility:

Sue Oliver, Energy Facility Siting Officer  
245 East Main St., Hermiston, OR 97838

**Phone:** 541-567-3840 (Ext. 225)

**Fax:** 541-567-6861

**Toll-free in Oregon:** 1-800-221-8035

**E-mail:** [sue.oliver@state.or.us](mailto:sue.oliver@state.or.us)

The Project Officer can assist you with information about the Site Certificate process and the proposed facility. The Project Officer can also accept your written comments about the proposed facility.

### **How do I submit my comments?**

You can submit your comments by writing, faxing, or e-mailing the Department's Project Officer listed above. You can also submit your comments to the Department's Salem office. Comments on this NOI can be submitted any time from June 10, 2009 through July 13, 2009, including at the public meeting to be held on June 25, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. (See Page 1).

The Department would like to hear your concerns or comments about the facility. Although this is not the only opportunity to provide comments about Summit Ridge Wind Project, providing comments now helps the Department ensure that the Application for a Site Certificate addresses local concerns.

### **Accessibility information**

The Department is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify us of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in an alternate format. To make these arrangements, contact Meiko Kristiansen in the Department's Salem office at (503) 378-3895, toll-free in Oregon at (800) 221-8035, fax to (503) 373-7806, TTY 800-735-2900, or e-mail to [MKristi@odoe.state.or.us](mailto:MKristi@odoe.state.or.us).