

Pachwaywit (FKA Montague Solar Facility): Revegetation Plan

[May AY 2021,

I. Introduction

This plan ~~was amended in November 2025 to remove duplicative and confusing vegetation restoration requirements. describes For~~ methods, success criteria, ~~and~~ monitoring and reporting requirements for restoration of areas ~~temporarily~~ disturbed during the ~~construction and~~ **operations and maintenance (Condition 44)** of the Montague Solar Facility (facility), ~~see the Noxious Weed Plan (Condition 43). excluding areas occupied by permanent facility components (the “footprint”).~~¹ The objective of revegetation is to restore the disturbed areas to predisturbance conditions or better. ~~The evaluation of predisturbance conditions~~ **revegetation success is based on the evaluation comparison** of the revegetated area conditions compared to conditions of approved, fixed point reference sites, which serve as a proxy for predisturbance conditions. It is important to note, however, that habitat conditions at reference sites may fluctuate over time depending on climate and landscape scale shifts in plant communities, as further described in Section VI. The site certificate for the facility requires restoration of disturbed areas to satisfy the requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Habitat standard (OAR 345-022-0060).

~~This plan was developed in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and approved by the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (“Council”) in the Final Order on the Application for Site Certificate for the Montague Wind Power Facility issued in September 2010. The plan was amended in September 2017 to satisfy the requirements of Condition 92, based on the final Phase 1 facility design/layout and habitat impact assessment completed in 2017 to satisfy requirements of Condition 31. Temporary habitat impacts (Category 4) required to be mitigated through revegetation, as evaluated in September 2020, are represented in Table 1 below and temporary disturbance locations are presented on the figure in Attachment 1.~~

~~In September 2020, the Council approved Final Order on Request for Amendment 5 of the Montague Wind Power Facility site certificate (Final Order on RFA5), authorizing previously approved facility components (Phase 2) to be allocated under original site certificates for facilities named Montague Solar Facility and Oregon Trail Solar Facility. The site certificate issued for the Montague Solar Facility was based entirely on the previously approved Montague Wind Power Facility site certificate; mitigation plans were based entirely on those approved in the Final Order on Request for Amendment 4 of the Montague Wind Power Facility (Final Order on RFA4); modifications were incorporated into the site certificates and mitigation plans based on the allocation of previously approved facility components, location, and type of equipment.~~

~~The Montague Solar Facility is a 162-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic energy facility located within a 1,228-acre solar micrositing area and 1,763-acre site boundary, in northeastern Gilliam County.~~

~~The temporarily affected area includes cultivated or otherwise developed agricultural land (cropland) and annual exotic grassland. No other habitat types are present within the facility area. The intensity of the construction impact will vary. In some areas, the impact will be relatively light, but in other areas, heavy construction activity will remove all vegetation, remove topsoil, and compact the remaining subsoil. Where vegetation outside the solar array fence line~~

¹ This plan is incorporated by reference in the site certificate for the Montague Solar Facility and must be understood in that context. It is not a “stand-alone” document. This plan does not contain all mitigation required of the certificate

| ~~holder.~~

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~~has been damaged or removed during construction, the certificate holder shall restore suitable vegetation. In addition, the certificate holder shall maintain erosion and sediment control measures put in place during construction until the affected areas are restored as described in this plan and the revegetation efforts have succeeded enough to control erosion. When there is enough grass in place to hold the soil, the control measures can be removed.~~

~~H. Description of the Facility Site~~

~~The facility is in Gilliam County, Oregon. The facility site is on private agricultural land used primarily for wheat and hay farming and livestock grazing. Most of the facility components are located on three primary soil types: the Wrentham Rock outcrop Licksillet, the Ritzville-Mikkalo Unit, and the Warden Sagehill-Taunton Unit. Soils are typically well drained, moderately permeable, fertile silt loams formed in loess deposits. The area receives between approximately 9 and 14 inches of precipitation annually, most of which occurs between October 1 and March 31.~~

~~The site is within the Columbia Plateau physiographic province. The facility is located on an upland plateau at elevations ranging from approximately 1,119 feet to 1,289 feet. Most of the native vegetation within the site boundary has been modified by historical and ongoing farming and livestock grazing.~~

~~The land cover types within the site boundary consist of cropland throughout most of the site and one small area of exotic annual grassland adjacent to Highway 19.~~

~~1. Description of the Wildlife Habitat Revegetation Areas~~

~~Wildlife habitat revegetation areas temporarily impacted during construction, based on the certificate holder's preconstruction evaluation, are presented in Table 1 and depicted on the figure in Attachment 1.~~

~~Table 1: Summary of Wildlife Habitat Revegetation Areas~~

Habitat Description	Temporary Impact (Acres)
Category 4	
Grassland—Exotic Annual	0.11
Category 4 Subtotal	0.11
Total Temporary Impacts to Wildlife Habitat Revegetation Areas (Category 4)=	0.11

~~2. Description of the Cropland Revegetation Areas~~

~~Cropland revegetation areas temporarily impacted during construction, based on the certificate holder's preconstruction evaluation, are presented in Table 2 and depicted on the figure in Attachment 1.~~

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Table 2: Summary of Cropland Revegetation Areas

Habitat Description	Temporary Impact (Acres)
Category 6	
Developed—Dryland Wheat	28.34
Developed—Other	3.20
Total Temporary Impacts to Cropland Revegetation Areas (Category 6) —	31.54

III. Restoration of Cropland

The certificate holder shall seed disturbed cropland areas with wheat or other crop seed. The certificate holder shall consult with the landowner and farm operator to determine species composition, seed and fertilizer application rates, and application methods.

Cropland areas are successfully revegetated when the replanted areas achieve crop production comparable to adjacent, undisturbed cultivated areas. The certificate holder shall consult with the landowner or farmer to determine whether these areas have been successfully revegetated and shall report to the Oregon Department of Energy (Department) on the success of revegetation in these areas.

IV. Restoration of Wildlife Habitat Areas

Installation of the facility's transmission line along Highway 19 and Old Tree Road will result in temporary disturbances to exotic annual grassland habitat at some of the structure locations. The monopole structures will be installed by predrilling a hole, placing the pole, and then backfilling. Leftover spoils will be given to adjacent landowners to incorporate into their fields. Vegetation will be crushed by construction equipment, but the work areas will not be graded or grubbed; therefore, the area requiring restoration will be limited to 10 to 20 square feet per structure.

The certificate holder shall seed disturbed exotic annual grassland areas, as identified in Table 1 above. The seed mix will be specified in the project's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System 1200-C permit or using the County's right-of-way seed mix.

V. Noxious Weed Prevention and Control

The certificate holder shall implement weed prevention and control measures according to the Weed Control Plan.

VI. Monitoring

1. Revegetation Record

The certificate holder shall maintain a record of revegetation work for wildlife habitat areas. In the record, the certificate holder shall include the date that construction activity was completed in the area to be restored, a description of the affected area and supporting figures

representing the location (location, acres affected and predisturbance condition), the date that revegetation work began, and a description of the work done within the affected area. The

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certificate holder shall report restoration activities to the Department for the first five years after the completion of facility construction. After five years, any restoration actions will be described in the annual report per OAR 345-026-0080(e).—

2. Monitoring Procedures—

The certificate holder will conduct qualitative surveys to monitor the recovery of the Category 4 exotic annual grassland disturbed during construction by comparing to preconstruction photos conditions. The certificate holder shall take— similar photos each spring (April—June) monitor for the first 3 years after construction. The certificate holder shall monitor the revegetation of wildlife habitat areas, as described in this section, unless the landowner has converted the area to a use inconsistent with the success criteria.—

The certificate holder will provide the pre and post construction comparison monitoring photos results as part of its annual report along with a description of revegetation success.—

3. Success Criteria—

In each monitoring report to the Department, the certificate holder shall provide an assessment of revegetation success for the Category 4 exotic annual grassland. A wildlife habitat The revegetation areas is are successfully revegetated when its habitat quality has to returned to is equal to, or better than, the preconstruction habitat quality Category 4 exotic annual grassland, defined as follows: as documented in the preconstruction photos (see preconstruction photos in Attachment 2) as follows based on a comparison of each monitoring year's photos:—

- Grasses are similar in diversity and density to preconstruction photos and noxious weeds, as identified in the Weed Control Plan, are not present or at best are present only at a very low cover (e.g., less than 5% or 10%). as the predisturbance Category 4 exotic annual grassland.

When the Department finds that the condition of a wildlife habitat area satisfies the criteria for revegetation success, the Department shall conclude that the certificate holder has met its restoration obligations for that area. If the Department finds that the landowner has converted a wildlife habitat area to a use that is inconsistent with these success criteria, the Department shall conclude that the certificate holder has no further obligation to restore the area for wildlife habitat uses.—

4. Remedial Action—

If the exotic annual grassland does not recover to preconstruction conditions within 3 years, then the certificate holder will reseed the areas. The certificate holder has a Road Use Agreement with Gilliam County to provide funding to the County for reseeding of the right-of-way along Old Tree Road.—

VII.—Amendment of the Plan—

This revegetation plan may be amended from time to time by agreement of the certificate holder and the Council. Such amendments may be made without amendment of the site certificate. The Council authorizes the Department to agree to amendments to this plan. The Department shall notify the Council of all amendments, and the Council retains the authority to

| ~~approve, reject, or modify any amendment of this plan agreed to by the Department.~~