

# Oregon Department of **ENERGY**

Energy Facility Siting  
Council Meeting

Grass Valley Pavilion  
233 N. Mill Street  
Grass Valley Or

January 15, 2026



## Opening Items:

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Announcements

# Announcements:

---

- Reminder to Council and to anyone addressing the Council to please remember to state your full name clearly, and no not use the speakerphone feature, as it will create feedback.
- You may sign up for email notices by clicking the link on the agenda or the Council webpage.
- You are also welcome to access the online mapping tool and any documents by visiting our website.

# Announcements continued:

---

- Please silence your cell phones
- Please use the “Raise Your Hand” feature in Webex to speak during the public comment period, or press \*3 to raise your hand if you are participating by telephone.
- Energy Facility Council meetings shall be conducted in a respectful and courteous manner where everyone is allowed to state their positions at the appropriate times consistent with Council rules and procedures. Willful accusatory, offensive, insulting, threatening, insolent, or slanderous comments which disrupt the Council meeting are not acceptable. Pursuant to Oregon Administrative Rule 345-011-0080, any person who engages in unacceptable conduct which disrupts the meeting may be expelled.

# Agenda Item A (Action Item & Information Item)

## Consent Calendar

- November Council Meeting Minutes
- Council Secretary Report

**January 15, 2026**

# Agenda Item B (Action Item)

## **Summit Ridge Renewable Energy Facility – Request to Extend Expiration of Notice of Intent**

**Sarah Esterson, Senior Policy Advisor**

January 15, 2026

# Summit Ridge Renewable Energy Facility - Request to Extend Expiration of Notice of Intent

---

## Background

- On Jan 26, 2024, Summit Ridge Wind, LLC (applicant) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) for Summit Ridge Renewable Energy Facility
- NOI is valid for two years (Jan 25, 2026).
- On Nov 24, 2025, the applicant submitted a petition to extend the NOI expiration date by one year to Jan 25, 2027.

# Summit Ridge Renewable Energy Facility - Request to Extend Expiration of Notice of Intent

---

## Requirements OAR 345-020-0060

- Applicant has two years from the date of submitting the NOI to submit their preliminary application for site certificate.
- If NOI expires, a new NOI must be submitted.
- Applicant can request a one-year extension of the NOI
  - Must be submitted not less than 45 days before the NOI expiration date
  - If Council finds that the petition shows good cause, the Council may extend the expiration date for a period of up to one year.

# Summit Ridge Renewable Energy Facility - Request to Extend Expiration of Notice of Intent

---

## Request for Extension

- The petition for NOI extension was submitted 62 days before expiration and was timely.
- The petition explains that the one-year extension is needed to allow sufficient time to:
  - Negotiate with landowners and finalize agreement, to allow field studies (wildlife and rare plant surveys) on their property
  - Account for BPA planning related to the construction of the Boyd Ridge Substation (interconnection substation)

# Council Options

---

## Option 1 - Recommended

Approve the petition  
for extension

## Option 2

Deny the petition for  
extension

# Council Deliberation

# Agenda Item C (Public Comment)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Time Limit – 7 Minutes per commentor**

# How to Raise Your Hand in Webex:

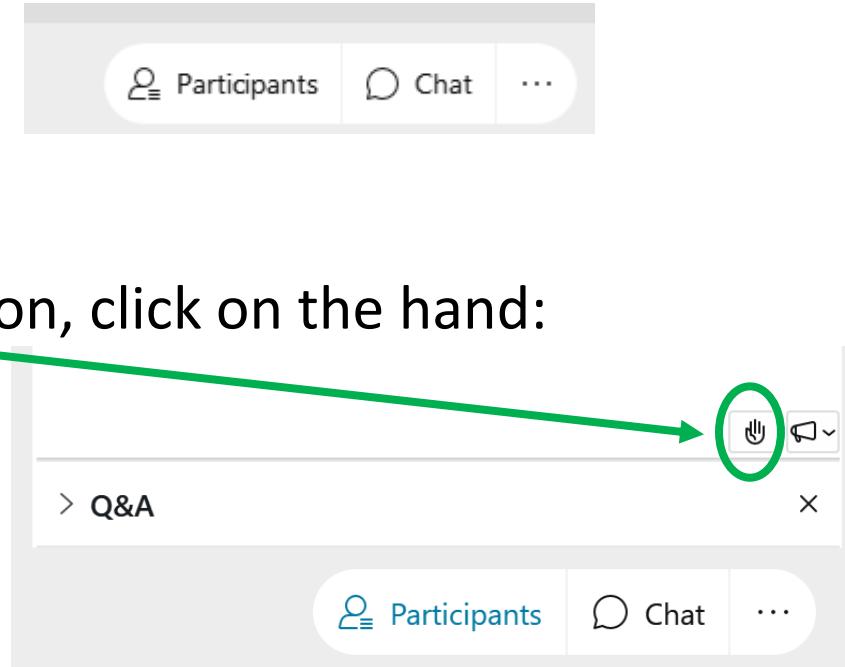
## Webinar Participants

The bottom right of the main window is a set of icons:

Click on “Participants”

The bottom right of the participant window is a hand icon, click on the hand:

Clicking on it again will lower your hand.



## Phone Participants

Press \*3 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand.

Press \*3 again on your telephone keypad to lower your hand.

# Agenda Item D (Action Item)

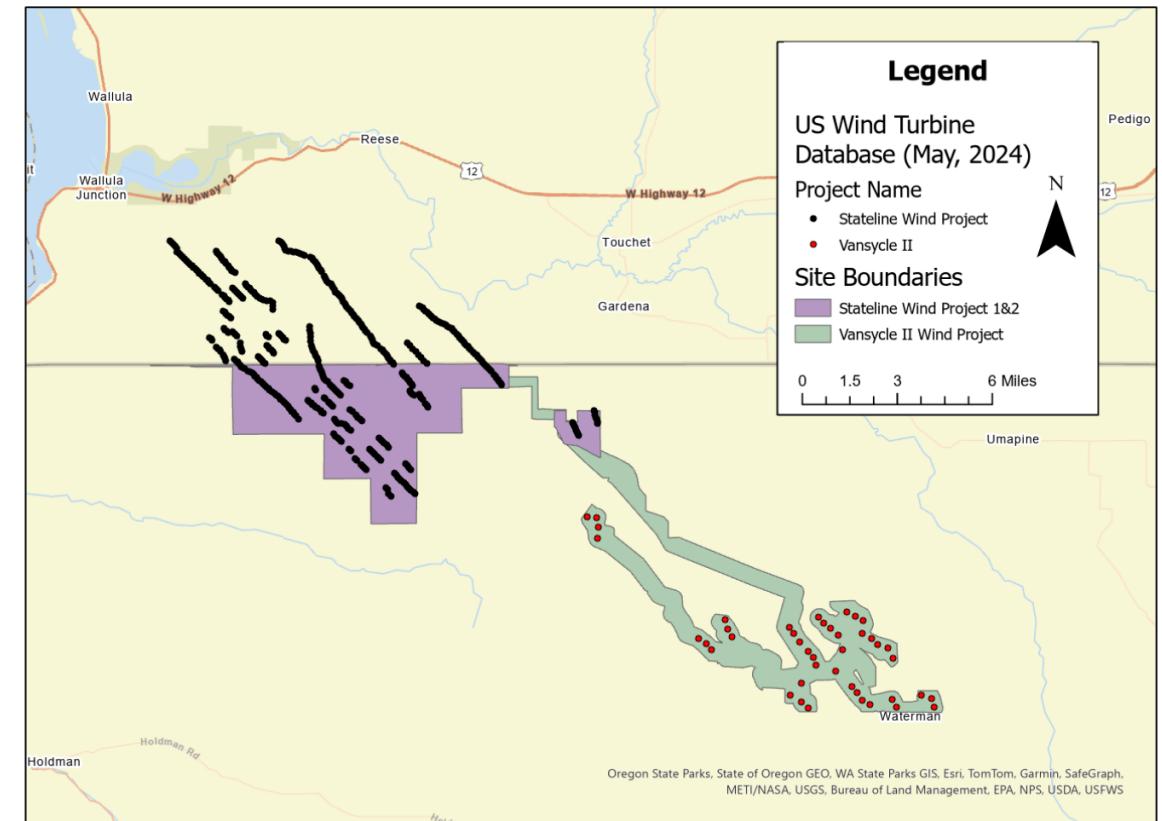
## **Stateline Wind Project – Wildlife Monitoring Mitigation Plan Amendment**

**Christopher Clark, Senior Siting Analyst**

January 15, 2026

# Stateline Wind Project - Facility Overview

- The Stateline Wind Project is a wind power generation facility in Umatilla County. NextEra Energy Resources LLC is the parent company.
- The facility consists of two geographic units:
  - Stateline 1 & 2 (186 turbines in Oregon)
  - Vansycle II (43 turbines)
- Final Order on RFA7 authorized repowering of turbines at Vansycle II.



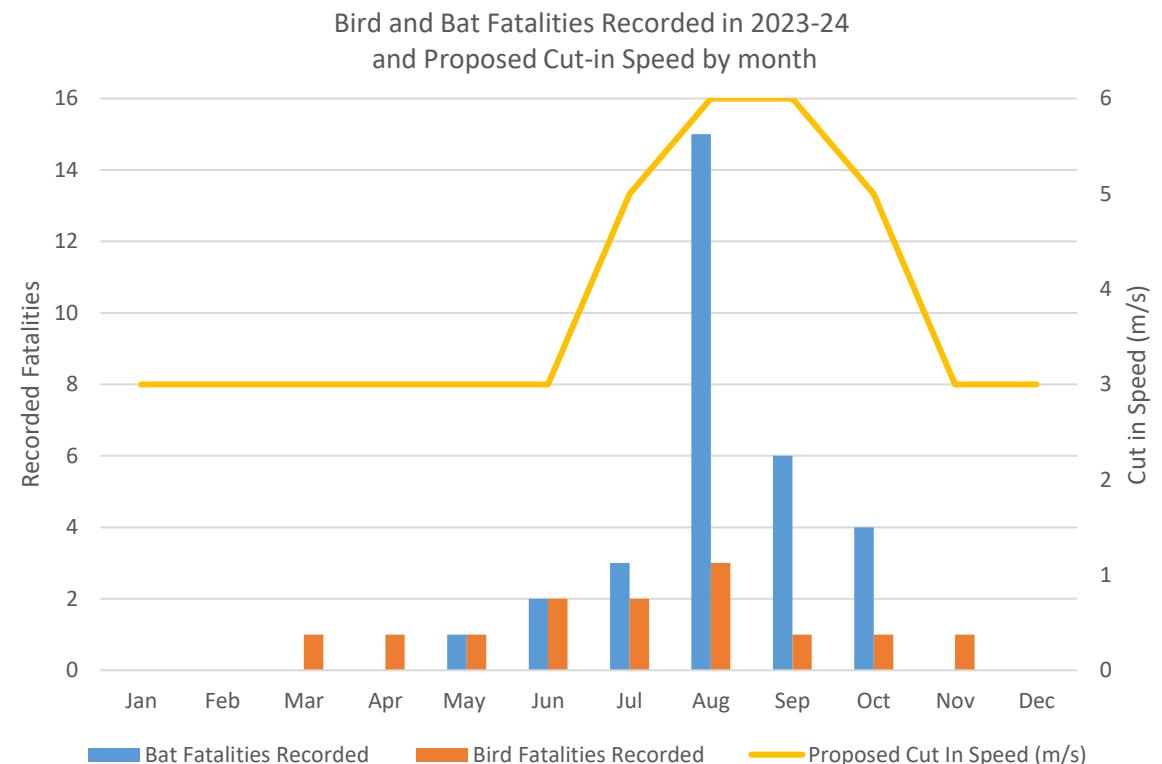
# Stateline Wind Project – WMMP Background

---

- Repowering was completed in 2023. One year of post-repowering fatality monitoring was required by WMMP.
- April 24, 2025, certificate holder notified Department that monitoring indicated an exceedance of the “threshold of concern” for bat fatalities.
- July 2025, following required public comment period, Department notified certificate holder that mitigation was necessary.
- October 2, 2025, certificate holder provided mitigation proposal.
- The WMMP authorizes the Department to agree to mitigation actions. The Department must notify the Council of any mitigation actions agreed to, and the Council retains the authority to approve, reject or modify the actions.

# Stateline Wind Project – WMMP Mitigation Proposal

- Certificate holder proposes to curtail operation of all Vansycle II turbines during low wind speeds for the life of the facility.
- November to June: curtailment below 3.0 m/s
- July and October: curtailment below 5.0 m/s
- August and September: curtailment below 6.0 m/s



# Stateline Wind Project – WMMP Mitigation Proposal

---

- Based on the potential reductions documented in a peer-reviewed study, the certificate holder estimates that the proposed curtailment would reduce bat fatality rates to 2.49 fatalities per MW per year, which is below the threshold established in the WMMP.
- On November 18, 2025, ODFW provided a memo supporting curtailment as a strategy to minimize and mitigate bat mortality risks associated with wind power projects, and notes that, if implemented, this would be the first wind energy facility to implement curtailment measures in Oregon.
- On December 18, 2025, the Department notified the certificate holder that, based on consultation with ODFW and the evidence provided, the Department agreed that the proposed curtailment is reasonably likely to be effective in reducing fatalities to levels below the threshold and agreed to the proposed mitigation.

# Council Options

---

## Option 1 - Recommended

Approve the proposal  
as recommended

## Option 2

Approve the proposal  
with changes

## Option 3

Deny the proposal

# Council Deliberation

# Agenda Item E (Action Item)

## **Oregon Trail Solar Facility – Request to Amend Revegetation and Noxious Weed Plans**

**Sarah Esterson, Senior Policy Advisor**

January 15, 2026

# Request to Amend Revegetation Plan

## Certificate Holder's Proposed Changes

- Remove all requirements and route to the Noxious Weed Plan
  - All temporary impacts are within Category 6 (includes grassland, annual grassland and agricultural lands)
  - Noxious Weed Plan is based on approach requiring seeding and noxious weed control; and short- and long-term monitoring. Provides benefits of both plans. Two plans are unnecessary.

# Request to Amend Noxious Weed Plan

## Proposed Changes

- Certificate holder's request: Add sheep grazing as a veg mgmt. strategy; monitoring and reporting requirements apply
- ODFW's request: if sheep grazing is implemented, require certificate holder to:
  1. Notify ODFW when domestic sheep will be at the facility
  2. Ensure fence checks are completed
  3. Conduct staff training
  4. Notify ODFW if bighorn sheep are sited outside the fence, and if any domestic sheep escape from inside the fence

# Council Options

---

## Option 1 - Recommended

**Approve the proposal  
as recommended**

## Option 2

**Approve the proposal  
with changes**

## Option 3

**Deny the proposal**

# Council Deliberation

# BREAK

# Agenda Item F (Public Hearing)

## **Biglow Canyon Wind Farm - Public Hearing on Proposed Order on Request for Site Certificate Amendment 4**

**Chris Clark, Senior Siting Analyst**

January 15, 2026

# **Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4**

## **Public Hearing Overview**

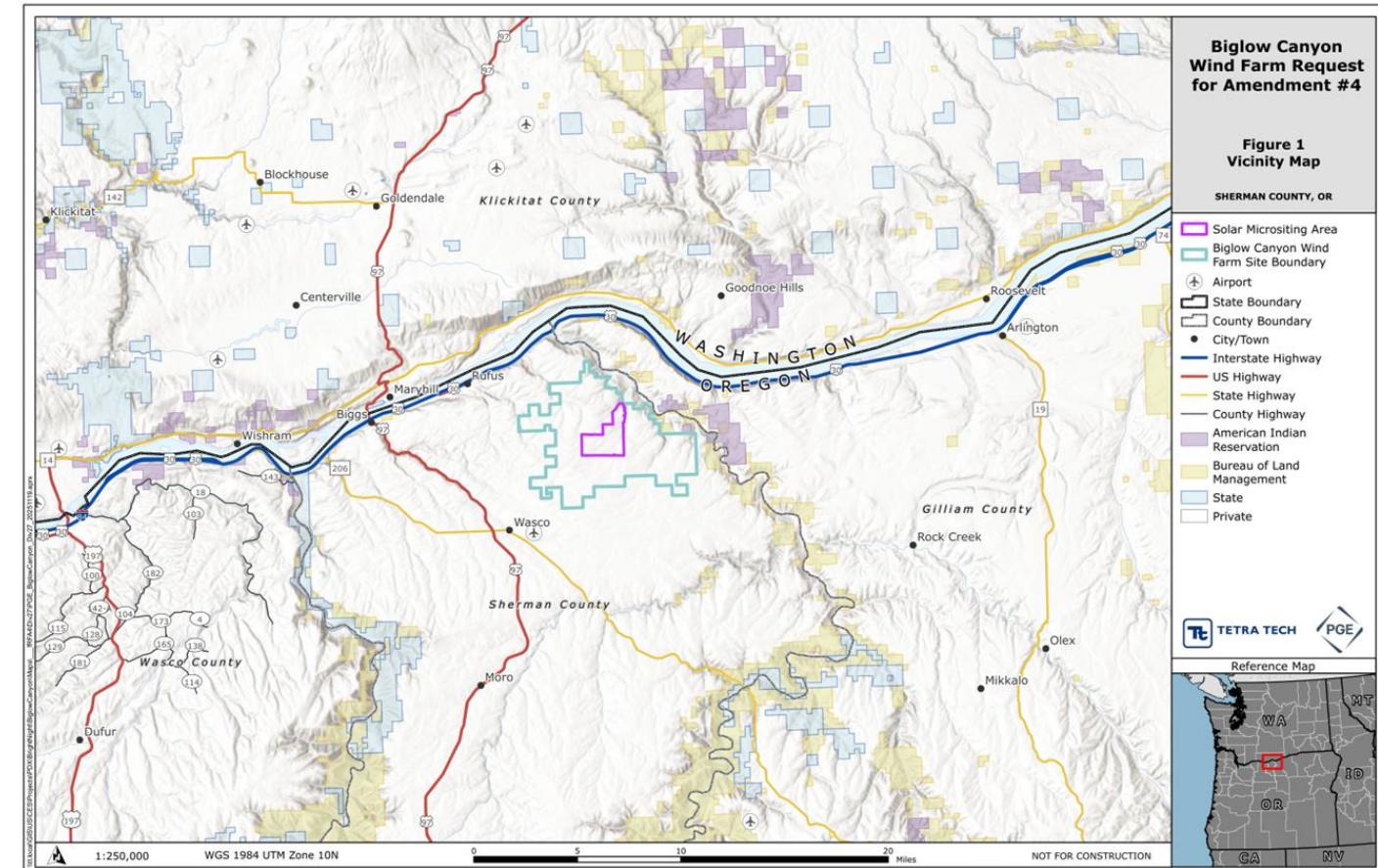
---

- Overview of Proposed Amendment & Proposed Order – Chris Clark, Senior Siting Analyst
- Hearing Overview – Sarah Esterson, Presiding Officer
- Public Hearing & Oral Testimony – Sarah Esterson, Presiding Officer
  - Certificate Holder
  - Public
  - Council

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

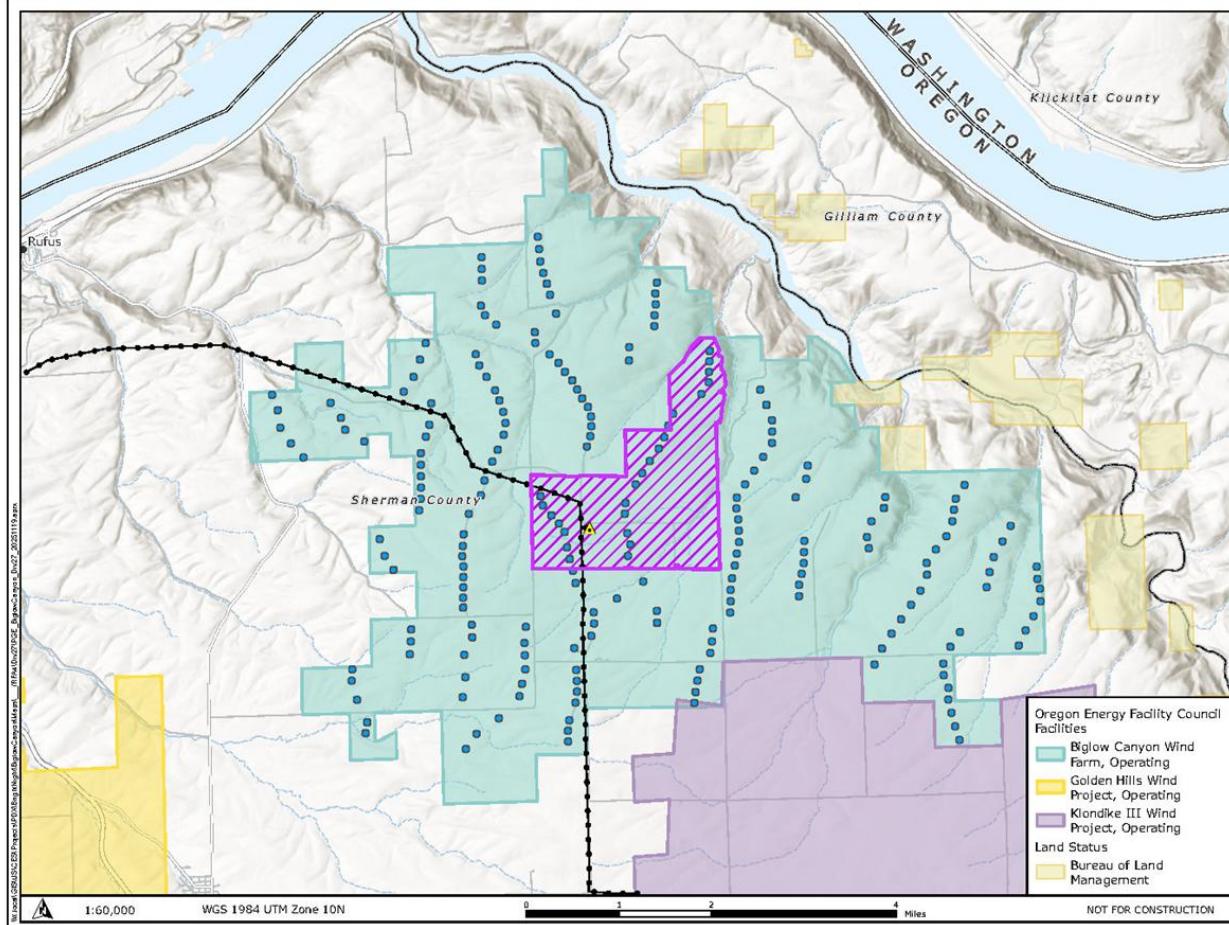
## Existing Facility Overview

- **Certificate Holder:** Portland General Electric Company
- **Operational Facility:** 450-MW wind power generation facility, with 217 turbines and related and supporting facilities.
- **Location/Site Boundary:** Sherman County, in 25,000-acre (39 sq. mi.) site boundary approx. 2 miles NE of Wasco.



# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Amendment Overview



### Energy Facilities

- 125-MW solar photovoltaic facility occupying up to 1,445 acres (2.25 sq. mi.)
- 500-MWh Battery Energy Storage System

### Related or supporting facilities

- 34.5 kV electrical collection system
- Collector substation
- 600-foot 230-kV transmission line
- Operations and Maintenance Building
- 10.5 miles of access roads
- Perimeter fencing, gates, etc.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Amendment Process

Preliminary  
Request for  
Amendment

Complete  
Request for  
Amendment

Proposed  
Order

Draft Final  
Order

Final Order

Certificate  
Holder

Certificate  
Holder

ODOE

ODOE

EFSC

ODOE

Public  
Comment &  
Hearing

Agency  
Coordination

Agency  
Coordination

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

---

Proposed Order recommends that existing conditions of approval, or new or amended “standard” conditions are adequate to ensure the facility, with the proposed changes, continues to comply with the following standards:

- Structural Standard (Section III.C., pg. 46 - 60)
- Protected Areas (Section III.F., pg. 147 - 157)
- Retirement and Financial Assurance (Section III.G., pg. 157 - 168)
- Threatened and Endangered Species (Section III.I., pg. 186 - 189)
- Scenic Resources (Section III.J., pg. 189 - 196)
- Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources (Section III.K., pg. 196 - 203)
- Recreation (Section III.L., pg. 203 - 208)
- Waste Minimization (Section III.O., pg. 235 - 240)
- Siting Standards For Transmission Lines (Section III.P., pg. 240 - 245)
- Noise Control Regulations (Section IV.A., pg. 245 - 254)
- Water Rights (Section IV.C., pg. 257 - 260)
- Removal-Fill (Section IV.B., pg. 254 - 257)

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

GENERAL STANDARD OF REVIEW: OAR 345-022-0000 (Section III.A., pg. 23 - 33)

- Recommended General Standard Conditions 1 and 2 would, consistent with OAR 345-025-0006(4) and HB 3681 (2025), require the certificate holder to:
  - Begin construction of the proposed solar facility within 6 years after the date the amended site certificate is issued, and
  - Complete construction within three years after the date construction begins.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

**ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERTISE: OAR 345-022-0010 (Section III.B., pg. 33 - 46)**

- The certificate holder would construct and operate the solar components in partnership with BIGL bn, LLC (BIGL), a subsidiary of BrightNight, LLC, under a Build Transfer Agreement.
- BrightNight, LLC is based in Florida and has designed and constructed over 6 gigawatts (GWs) of solar and storage projects across the United States.
- PGE and BrightNight, LLC commit to having stringent contracting standards to ensure that selected contractors and vendors can adequately support the construction and operation of the facility components proposed in RFA4.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERTISE: OAR 345-022-0010 (Section III.B., pg. 33 - 46)

- Recommended Amended Condition 1 (pg. 35) would require the certificate holder to provide notice of the identity and qualifications of all primary contractors and vendors involved in the construction of the solar facility, as well as the individuals at BIGL that will manage and oversee the selected vendors and contractors.
- Recommended Amended Condition 2 (pg. 36) would require the certificate holder and BIGL to contractually require construction contractors and subcontractors for the construction of the solar facility to comply with all applicable laws and regulations and with the terms and conditions of the amended site certificate.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

**ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERTISE: OAR 345-022-0010 (Section III.B., pg. 33 - 46)**

- The existing wind facility has experienced substantial equipment and maintenance issues over the past few years which demonstrate deficiency in the adequacy existing site certificate conditions providing oversight preventive maintenance and operation.
- Reported incidents include:
  - Blade detachment
  - Oil and grease releases,
  - Multiple transformer failures,
  - Multiple turbine door/hatch malfunctions

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

### ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERTISE: OAR 345-022-0010 (Section III.B., pg. 33 - 46)

- Recommended Organizational Expertise Conditions 1 and 2 (pg. 36-40) would require finalization and implementation of a draft framework Operations and Maintenance Plan, prior to and during operations.
- Recommended Organizational Expertise Condition 3 (pg. 43-44) would incorporate construction progress reporting requirements established in OAR 345-026-0080(1) but increasing the frequency of reporting from semi-annual to every three months to allow the Department to track more closely the ability of the participating entity to adequately manage site certificate compliance during construction.
- Recommended Organizational Expertise Condition 4 (pg. 44) would impose enhanced incident reporting requirements.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

### LAND USE: OAR 345-022-0030 (Section III.E., pg. 77 - 147)

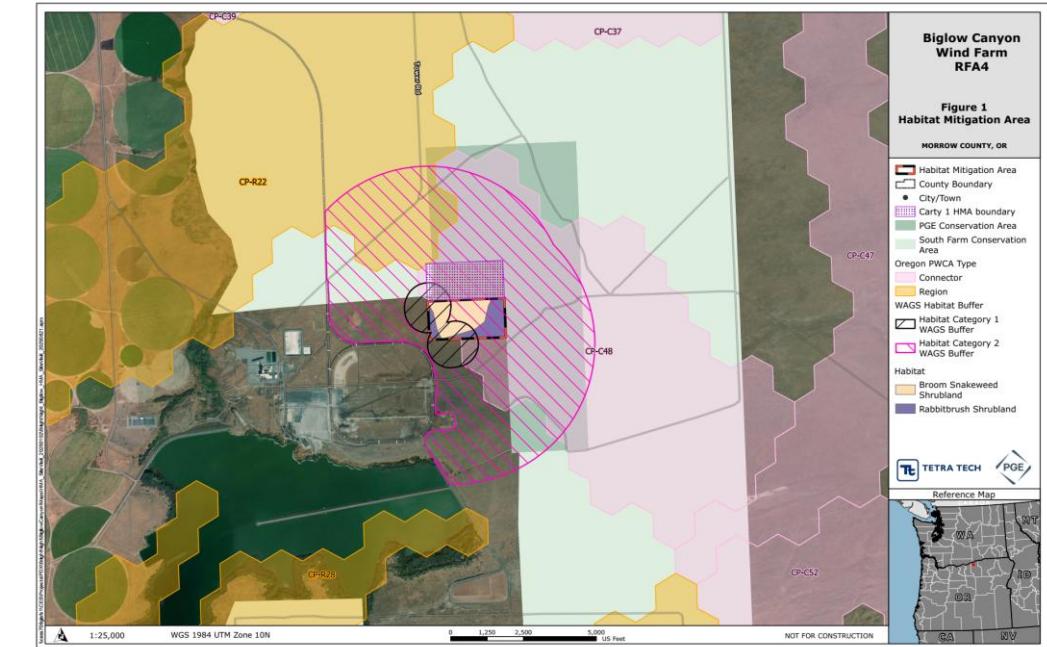
- *Goal Exception and Recommended Land Use Condition 6 (pg. 127-147)*
- The Department recommends the Council grant a goal exception based on locational dependence and rural economic development benefit reasons. The Department recommends the Council reject proposed minimal impacts to other resources and consistency with state climate goals and policies reasons.
- Recommended Land Use Condition 6 would require the certificate holder to finalize and implement the draft Community Investment Plan and demonstrate evidence that it has contributed at least \$1,600 per acre of cultivated land that will be occupied by solar facility components to a Community Investment Fund.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

### FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT: OAR 345-022-0060 (Section III.H., pg. 168 - 186)

- Recommended Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conditions 1 and 2 (pg. 174-176) would require the certificate holder to finalize and implement a draft Habitat Mitigation Plan and provide in-kind, in-proximity mitigation for habitat impacts at a 78-acre Habitat Mitigation Area (HMA), adjacent to the Carty Generating Facility in Morrow County.
- Recommended Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conditions 3 (pg. 181-183) would impose seasonal restrictions on construction work near active nest sites in accordance with recommendations from ODFW.



# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

**PUBLIC SERVICES: OAR 345-022-0110 (Section III.M., pg. 208 - 223)**

- Recommended Amended Condition 74 and 76 (pg. 210-211) would require the certificate holder to demonstrate that adequate water supply for construction and operation has been secured and that all water for all construction activities will be legally obtained.
- Recommended Public Services Condition 1 and 2 (pg. 212-214) would require the certificate holder to develop and implement a construction worker housing plan to provide strategies to minimize impacts to the local housing supply.
- Recommended Amended Condition 77 and 78 (pg. 215-218) would require the certificate holder to provide and implement an executed Road Use Agreement between the certificate holder and Sherman County Public Works Department.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

### WILDFIRE PREVENTION AND RISK MITIGATION: OAR 345-022-0115 (Section III.N., pg. 223 - 235)

- Recommended Wildfire Prevention and Risk Mitigation Conditions 1 and 2 would require the certificate holder to develop and implement a Construction Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP).
- Recommended Wildfire Prevention and Risk Mitigation Conditions 3 and 4 would require the certificate holder to develop and implement an Operational WMP and would allow the certificate holder to rely on a Wildfire Protection Plan approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission under OAR chapter 860, division 300, or another plan approved by the Department to satisfy the requirement.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Proposed Order (Select Issues)

### WILDFIRE PREVENTION AND RISK MITIGATION: OAR 345-022-0115 (Section III.N., pg. 223 - 235)

- Recommended Soil Protection Conditions 1 to 4 (page 67-72) would require the certificate holder to finalize and comply with a draft Comprehensive Revegetation and Soil Management Plan during construction and operation of the solar facility. Vegetation management for fire mitigation is included.
- Recommended Land Use Condition 1 (pg. 90-92) would require all above ground facility components to be set back at least 50 feet from all property lines to maintain compliance SCZO 3.1.4, and establish an additional buffer for fire protection.

# Agenda Item F (Public Hearing)

## **Biglow Canyon Wind Farm - Public Hearing on Proposed Order on Request for Amendment 4**

**Presiding Officer – Sarah Esterson, Senior Policy Advisor, ODOE**

January 15, 2026

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Public Comment Period

---

- The Public Notice on the Proposed Order initiated the public comment period on RFA4 and established hearing.
- Oral comments may be submitted during the hearing
- Written comments may be submitted until **5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on January 30, 2026.**

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Public Comment Period

---

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A person who contends Council should reject a request to amend a site certificate or that Council in its final order should reject or revise certain aspects of a Department proposed order for a site certificate amendment must:
  - Comment in person or in writing prior to the close of the public comment period;
  - Raise their issues with sufficient specificity to afford the Council, the Department, and the certificate holder an adequate opportunity to respond to the issue(s).
- To raise an issue with sufficient specificity, a person must, in their comment,
  - Identify the recommended findings of fact, conclusions of law or conditions of approval identified in the proposed order to which they object,
  - Specify the Council standard or other applicable state and local requirements on which their objection is based, and
  - Present facts or statements supporting that objection; and
- If a comment is not made with sufficient specificity, the Council will not make any changes in its final order based on that comment.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Comment Review Process

- All timely comments submitted during the public comment period will be subject to the following process:
  - The certificate holder must provide a written response to written and verbal comments on the request for amendment or the proposed order;
  - The Department can choose, but is not required to respond to written or verbal comments on the request for amendment or the proposed order;
  - Reviewing agencies and members of the public may submit written replies to the responses to their own respective comments
  - The certificate holder and Department may submit a sur-reply to the replies
  - Participants to the public comment process may request more time to submit their response, reply, and sur-reply to the Council or Council Chair, who shall grant the extension on a showing of good cause.

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Public Hearing

---

### WRITTEN COMMENTS

- Written comments may be submitted until the close of the Public Comment Period on **January 30, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time**. Written comments may be submitted:
- Via online siting comment portal:  
<https://odoe.powerappspartals.us/en-US/SitingPublicComment/>
- Via email: [christopher.clark@energy.oregon.gov](mailto:christopher.clark@energy.oregon.gov)
- Hand delivery or mail to: Oregon Department of Energy; 550 Capitol St. NE; Salem, OR, 97301

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Public Hearing

### ORDER OF ORAL COMMENTS

1. Certificate Holder (testimony or additions to record)
2. Members of the Public (will be called on in the following order):

- Oral in-person testimony
- Oral testimony via WebEx
- Oral testimony via phone

There is a seven-minute limit on oral comments. Council or Presiding Officer may ask clarifying questions.

3. Members of Council
4. Certificate Holder (response to comments)

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4

## Public Hearing

---

### PROVIDING ORAL COMMENTS

- If you are present in-person and would like to provide oral comments, please fill out a comment card
- Prior to providing your comments, please state the following for the record:
  - Full name with spelling
  - Name of organization or group if you are representing one
  - Physical mail or email address
- Please Note: If you do not wish to provide your mailing or email address in this format, you may provide a comment card or email the information to [christopher.clark@energy.oregon.gov](mailto:christopher.clark@energy.oregon.gov).

# Biglow Canyon Wind Farm, Request for Amendment 4 Public Hearing

## VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION

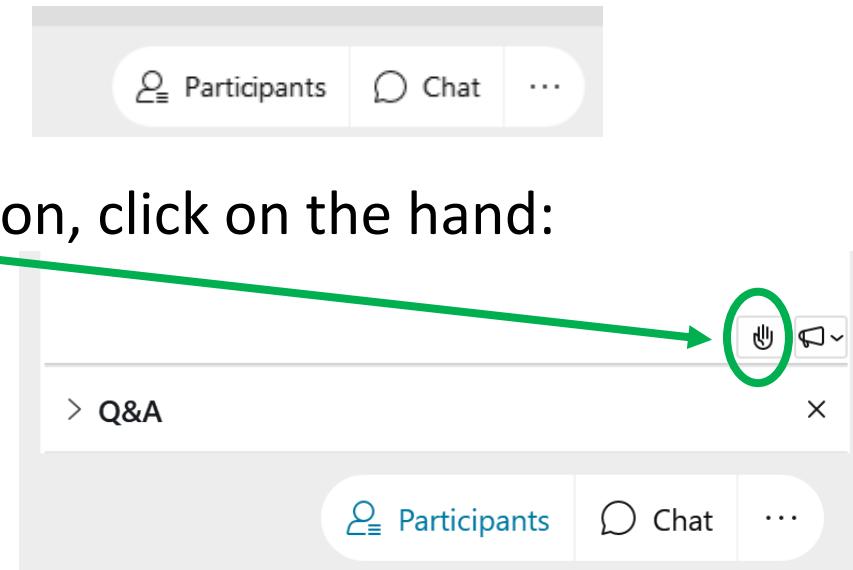
### Webinar Participants

The bottom right of the main window is a set of icons:

Click on “Participants”

The bottom right of the participant window is a hand icon, click on the hand:

Clicking on it again will lower your hand.



### Phone Participants

Press \*3 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand.

Press \*3 again on your telephone keypad to lower your hand.

# ADJOURN

